



Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League



March 2019

General Mtg:

March 13, 2019
7:00 pm @ DTS

Currently collecting:

Plastic Grocery Bags
Pill Bottles
Feminine Hygiene
Products & Toiletries
Tabs for Wheelchairs
Used Eyeglasses
Children's Sacramental
Clothing
Tin for the Bin

Seeking
new and/or
gently used

Children's Sacramental Clothing

For Northern Missions

First Communion



Baptism

Confirmation



To donate, contact:

Lucille Chay: 204-266-0154; lrcay7@gmail.com
Lacey Bernardin: 204-392-3986; laceybernardin@gmail.com

Deadline: March 31, 2019

Our Spiritual Advisor
Reverend Fr. Charles Fillion

Our Members
Lacey Bernardin, *President*
Lynne Bernier
Susan Bernier
Irene Bialek
Valerie Bonnefoy
Jacqueline Bouchard, *Vice Pres, Chair*
Lindsay Bouchard
Jolene Capina, *Treasurer*
Maryse Chartier
Lucille Chay, *President-Elect*

Crystal Chernichan
Monica Chernichan
Rolande Chernichan
Jaquelyne Cournoyer
Patricia Danylchuk
Suzanne Desmarais
Janine Durand-Rondeau
Gisèle Falk
Constance Haas
Sue Johannesson
Monique Johnson
Delaney Kolowca
Heather Kolowca
Nettie Lambert

Micki Maxwell
Madelyn McConnell
Kathleen Messner
Suzanne Moore, *Chair*
Carol Mravinec
Mary-Ann Novak
Marcia Poirier, *Secretary*
Jennifer Poitra
Marie-Ange Prevost
Mae Ross, *Chair*
Iris Swiderski
Joanne Touchette
Marilyn Toutant

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><i>The Eucharist is an event that transcends time. In some mysterious way, just as the old covenant, Passover, brought the Jewish people back in time to that first Exodus, so, too, the new Passover of the Eucharist takes us back to the night when Jesus died for us. It takes us back to the night of the Last Supper. It takes us back to his Passion and all the way to the Cross.</i></p> <p>—Dr. Brant Pitre from <i>Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist</i></p>					1 Adoration 6-7 Suzanne M.	2
3 Prayers < Mass Rolande C.	4	5	6 Prayers < Mass Kathleen M. 	7 	8 Adoration 6-7 Suzanne D.	9
10  Prayers < Mass Charity McD	11	12	13 CWL Gen Mtg, 7:00 @ DTS 	14	15 Adoration 6-7 Marcia P.	16
17 Prayers < Mass Suzanne M.	18	19	20 	21	22 Adoration 6-7 Mae R.	23
24 Prayers < Mass Maryanne R.	25	26	27 	28	29 Adoration 6-7 Jaquelyne C.	30  Rolande Chernichan
31  Maryse Chartier Prayers < Mass Lacey B.	<p><i>Christian prayer is not something you do. Prayer is permitting the Trinitarian God to love you as you learn in childlike trust to acknowledge, relate, receive, and respond within your heart to the Holy Spirit's presence, love pursuing you and desiring to communicate with you.</i></p> <p>—Fr. John Horn from <i>Heart Speaks to Heart</i></p> <p><i>A passion for God will inflame a passionate need to find his presence also in the poor.</i></p> <p>—Fr. Donald Haggerty from <i>Conversion: Spiritual Insights Into an Essential Encounter with God</i></p>					



Lacey's Address

Hello Father Charles and my Sisters in the League!

Happy March Everyone!

Let's start off with some great news. Thank you to Suzanne Moore for being appointed as Recording Secretary and to Mae Ross for being appointed as Spiritual Development Chairperson! If there is anyone else you'd like to join the Executive or be a sub-chair, there's still plenty of room.

This past month, our council hosted, Denise Poettker, who gave a very interesting and informative talk on Women's Heart Health. She discussed the different symptoms of Heart Attacks as well as the many differences in types of

Heart Attacks. Denise accompanied her talk with a great slide show presentation. Thank you to Lucille Chay for arranging Denise to come talk to us.

On February 9, we had 7 our members attending the Annual Day of Celebration. We had a viewing of the film, "Over 18". The movie was very impactful for those of us who saw it for the first time. The film was followed by a small group discussion on what we thought of several topics that were brought up during the film. In the afternoon we got to hear about the health/scientific side affects of what porn does to the brain and body.

On February 24, during the 9:00 am mass, our new Executive was officially installed. No backing out now!

We are currently in the middle of our "Spring" fundraiser. We're selling the C & S gift cards, which was sent to you this past month. If anyone is interested in helping to sell at The Marketplace again this year, we will be selling there on Friday, March 15

from 2:00 – 8:00 pm.

If anyone has any white dresses or boy clothes to donate, Lucille Chay needs them as soon as possible because she's in the process of arranging a date to deliver the clothes.

Here are a few upcoming dates/events to keep in mind. We are serving food and providing activities for the parish game night on March 9th. If you're free, come on down and join in the fun for an evening.

April 27th is our Diocesan Convention which is taking place in Morden. The Diocesan Council has procured a bus for everyone to take there. A seat costs \$25, paid to St. Boniface CWL and given to Suzanne Moore. The registration is paid by our council and the cost to you is lunch (\$20) and the banquet (\$45) paid to Jolene. The topic for the convention is Heart Health. If you wish to attend, please let Lucille Chay know as soon as possible.

And finally, remember that Lent is just around the corner. I urge you to read the several articles that Suzanne has included in the newsletter to better help you prepare yourself for the season.

Happy Almost Spring,

Lacey Bernardin

Bible Art Journaling Workshop

Introductory Bible Art Journaling workshop with Tish Hildebrand.

Date: Saturday **March 30, 2019**

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Location: Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Hall

Cost: \$30/person (cheques payable to Maryanne Rumancik), includes snacks, light lunch and supplies)

Registration or questions:

Maryanne 204-878-3901 or mnrumancik@mts.net

Space is limited – "first come, first serve."

Participants will need to bring a Bible (with wide margins), OR, a piece of heavy letter sized paper, OR, a notebook with heavy paper.

Participants will need to decide on a scripture passage that they are drawn to for the workshop. No art training is necessary as we will not be focusing on the finished "product" but rather, the process of connecting with the Word of God. Bible art journaling is a meditative and prayerful way in which we allow God to speak to us through scripture.



Our annual fundraiser is on now!

Think Spring and sell those cards!

Deadline: April 5, 2019

Pope's Prayer Intentions for March 2019

Evangelization: Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.





A fabulous day with our sisters

Provincial Day of Celebration February 9, 2019



Thanking the pioneers of Alpha House



Presentation about Alpha House beginnings



Maryse Chartier finishes the Nathanaël program

General Meeting, February 13, 2019



Denise Poettker, Cardiac Care Critical Nurse Specialist at St. Boniface Hospital spoke on Women's Heart Health



Fr. Charles shared his own heart health problems with the members.

Heart Disease and Women

#1 killer of women worldwide and it affects women of all ages

1 in 3 women will die as a result of heart disease or stroke

Heart disease kills more women than all cancers combined.

Heart disease and stroke claim nearly 400,000 women's lives each year



Singing at the Villa Youville,
February 22, 2019



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA



70th Annual St. Boniface Diocesan Convention *SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019*

Hosted by: St. John the Evangelist Parish
at the

Access Event Centre, Morden
2nd Street North

(Building is at the end of the street and is not numbered)

AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m.** Registration and Morning Refreshments
9:00 a.m. Opening of Convention and Day's Business
Noon LUNCH
1:00 p.m. Afternoon Program Speaker
2:00 p.m. Resume Business
5:00 p.m. **CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST** at
St. John the Evangelist 2 Academy Drive, Morden
6:30 p.m. Gathering Time – Access Event Centre
7:00 p.m. **BANQUET**

Please send completed forms with payment to:

Denise Aune
481 Nelson St.
Morden, MB. R6M 1P8

Contact Denise 204-822-5331 or
Yvonne at (204) 237-0978

Due Date: April 1st 2019

This is a scent free convention
Wheelchair Accessible

Round-trip bus transportation to
Morden: \$25.00

To book your seat:

smooregaap@gmail.com

Costs for Convention to be sent
to Denise:

Registration:	\$10.00
Lunch:	\$20.00
Banquet:	\$45.00



THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

Doreen Gowans
National Chairperson of Communications
C-702 Scotland Ave, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1X5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winnipeg, Manitoba—February 24, 2019—The national executive of The Catholic Women's League of Canada, with almost 80,000 members across the country, met February 22-23 for its annual winter executive meeting. Every Canadian province and territory was represented at the national table, including the Military Ordinariate.

On the heels of the meeting of the episcopal conference presidents on the protection of minors called by the Holy Father held in Rome from February 21-24, the national executive applauds the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops for its efforts to address the crisis of faith that is occurring in the Church as a result of the sexual abuse of minors by the clergy. The national executive has formed an ad hoc committee to explore *Protecting Minors from Sexual Abuse: A Call to the Catholic Faithful in Canada for Healing, Reconciliation and Transformation*. The committee will review and examine the guidelines contained within the report and make recommendations to the national executive at its next meeting on how the lay faithful can support the Holy Father and the Church as it seeks to protect minors from sexual abuse and heal past hurts to victims and the wider community impacted by the scandal.

The national executive reaffirms its endorsement of the mission of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada as the Canadian bishops' agency which supports partners in the Global South that address unjust social, political and economic structures. The investigation into the projects partners being conducted by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has not yet reached a conclusion. The national executive awaits the results of the investigation before determining when the 1% Program national voluntary fund will be reestablished. Recognizing that the 2019 ShareLent Campaign will begin on March 6th, the national executive advises League members and councils inquiring about participating to contact their diocesan chancery office as each bishop has made his own decision in regard to participation in the 2019 campaign in his diocese.

Long-term planning has begun in earnest. Three working groups have been approved to begin transforming the League. The first working group is tasked with increasing awareness of the League within the church, and marketing and positioning the League that supports Catholic women to assume their role and responsibility within the church, and has an anticipated five year timeline. The second working group is tasked with including, affirming and validating all members and has an anticipated time line of 18 months. The final working group is tasked with structural reorganization and simplification of processes and procedures, with a timeline of 30 months. Members are invited to follow the progress on the national website, *The Canadian League* magazine and on Facebook. Diocesan, provincial and national conventions will also be opportunities to hear more and participate.

The national executive thanks outgoing provincial presidents June Fuller (Alberta Mackenzie), Rolande Chernichan (Manitoba), Barbara McGrath (Newfoundland and Labrador), Anne Madden (Ontario), Linda Chisholm (Quebec), and Margaret Schwab (Saskatchewan) for their devoted service to the League over the past two years.

CWL Advice for Newlyweds

Keep the faith
 Keep Christ in your marriage
 Put your spouse first
 Never parts ways for the day (or for several hours) without kissing goodbye.
 Touch often, and not necessarily in a sexual way.
 Talk together often in a loving manner.
 Always be honest.
 Pray together.
 Do not go to bed angry.
 Listen to each other and never hold onto anger.
 Sometimes you have to agree to disagree.
 Forgive, forgive, forgive. None of us is perfect.

Do not give up on each other!
 Do not stop loving each other!
 Psalm 144: 3-4: Does He not see my ways and count all my steps?
 Romans 5:8: In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He love us and sent His son to be the propitiation for our sins.
 Help each other in becoming holy.
 Treat each other with respect in what you say and do.
 Put down/turn off all technology and focus on each other.
 Begin each day by deciding what you can do that day to make your spouse happy that he/she is married to you.
 Be the kind of spouse you would like to come home to.

You are invited...

...to hear about CCBR's proven strategy, and how a large percentage of Canadians are responding to an unique and specific message on:

**Making
 Abortion
 Unthinkable**

Changed Minds.
 Saved Lives.
 Every Single Day.

Mon, April 29th, 2019
 7:00 - 8:00pm
 Lorette Community Complex
 1424 Dawson Road, Lorette



Western Outreach Director
Cam Côté

**Partner with us to
 ENDtheKilling:**

- Gift
 - Volunteer
 - Rep the Movement



Mb Outreach Coordinator
Kyle Coffey

For questions email Kyle Coffey at:
kcoffey@endthekilling.ca



**L'ARCHE®
 WINNIPEG**

Become a Special Friend to someone at L'Arche Winnipeg Chat over coffee, play a board game, go to a movie and watch a friendship grow. As we become more aware of people in the community, we are enriched by new relationships that often become lasting and special friendships.

This opportunity is for weekly dates or as arranged with your friend. Or join our team and help

welcome guests to the L'Arche Tova Café with a menu and a warm smile, while providing support to adults with developmental disabilities in the community. This opportunity is for 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM on alternate Mondays at this time.

Contact: liz@larchewinnipeg.org or 204-237-0300 ext. 20. On-line submission forms: www.larchewinnipeg.org

An electric wire attached to the generator will give no light if the bulb is burned out. One of the reasons Christianity does not influence the world more is that few Christians shine more brightly than those who lack the faith. Is this not true also of many priests, in spite of the fact that the priest should be a different person from all the others because he is the Person of Christ? —Ven. Fulton J. Sheen from The Priest is Not His Own

Nothing in this world is of value until offered or dedicated to a higher end. What is the worth of land unless we do something with it? What is the worth of our body unless it is spent for Christ? —Ven. Fulton J. Sheen from The Priest is Not His Own

FREE Public Viewing:
Sunday, May 5, 2019
6:30 pm
Lorette Parish Hall
Refreshments Provided

The Shocking True Story

This film tells the story of the trial of Dr. Kermit Gosnell, his 30-year killing spree, and the political and media establishments that tried to cover it up. Dr. Gosnell was originally investigated for illegal prescription drug sales. A raid by the DEA, the FBI, and local law enforcement revealed crimes much darker than anyone ever expected within Gosnell's abortion clinic.

Pro-Life Movie
UNPLANNED Receives R-
Rating from MPAA

UNPLANNED is the powerful true story of Abby Johnson, a young woman who gets drawn into working for Planned Parenthood until one day she sees something that changes her mind and inspires her to become a pro-life advocate. The movie, which Movieguide® has screened and dubs an "extremely well-made movie" and "powerful," received an R-rating from the MPAA for "some disturbing/bloody images." However, is UNPLANNED grisly and disturbing enough to earn an R-rating instead of a PG-13 rating, something that could majorly hurt the success of the faith-based movie?

Movieguide® gave UNPLANNED a -1 acceptability rating, which means discretion is advised for older children. While the material is heavy, the violence and bloody images are low by Hollywood's standards. Other 2019 movies like HAPPY DEATH DAY 2U, MISS BALA and GLASS features many killings, murders, and deaths, and each of these received a PG-13 movie, allowing older teenagers to attend without adult supervision.

Writers/Directors Cary Solomon and Chuck Konzelman (GOD'S NOT DEAD) filmed UNPLANNED in secret in Oklahoma in order to avoid unnecessary protest from Planned Parenthood activists. In response to the R-rating, the filmmakers told Movieguide®, "UNPLANNED is an 'R' rated film which has no MPAA cautions for profanity, nudity,

sex or violence... except for violence directly associated with the abortion process.

Ironically, the MPAA seems to be indirectly endorsing the pro-life position: namely that abortion is an act of violence." They continued, "even more ironically, as a result of the MPAA's decision to give us a 'Restricted' rating, many teenage women in this country who can legally obtain an actual abortion without parental permission will be prohibited from going to see our film containing simulated images of abortion, without obtaining parental permission."

Despite the MPAA's decision, the writer/director duo isn't letting it squash their spirits. "But, maybe it's all for the best: As the wife of our lead film attorney put it: 'This is a movie that every mother of a teenage girl needs to take her daughter by the hand and go see with her.' So as far as we're concerned, 'R' means 'Recommended.'"

Abby Johnson is played by actress Ashley Bratcher, who shared that the message became especially important to her when her mother told Bratcher that she was minutes away from being aborted herself. While abortion has become a heated political issue again, multiple Pro-Life movies have come to fruition recently. Last fall GOSNELL (which did receive a PG-13 rating), starring Dean Cain



released in theaters about the convicted abortionist doctor Kermit Gosnell, and later this year ROE V. WADE will be released.

Konzelman and Solomon told Movieguide® that they do not plan on contesting the R-rating with MPAA. UNPLANNED releases in theaters March 29, 2019.

<https://www.movieguide.org/news-articles/pro-life-movie-from-gods-not-dead-writers-receives-r-rating-from-mpaa.html>

Why Porn Is Full Of Lies

In porn, everything—from the way people look, to the way they have sex—is a fantasy. Porn consumers often become so obsessed chasing the fantasy that they miss out on actual love and relationships.

Back in the 1950s, two researchers named Tinbergen and Magnus played a trick on butterflies. After figuring out which marks on female butterfly wings were most eye-catching to males, the researchers created their own cardboard butterfly models. They exaggerated the patterns on the wings to make them brighter and flashier than would ever be found in nature. Essentially, they created the world's first butterfly supermodels.

And the male butterflies fell for it. They went straight for the cardboard mock-ups and tried to mate with them. Ignoring the real female butterflies that were right there in plain sight, the males gave all their attention to the exaggerated pictures. Sound familiar?

Like the duped butterflies, porn consumers can get so obsessed chasing flashy fantasies that they miss out on real life and real relationships. Call it the first great lie of porn:

PORN LIE #1

You can have it both ways; you can enjoy the immediate gratification of thousands of virtual sex partners and the long-term satisfaction of a real relationship.

The truth is, porn often takes a heavy toll on real-life relationships. When they discover that their loved-one is using porn, many partners feel shocked, rejected, abandoned, humiliated, and betrayed.

But even if your partner has no problem with porn, it can still damage your relationship. Studies have clearly shown that porn erodes a person's ability to love and feel loved with a real partner. When men are exposed to porn, they rate themselves as less in love with their actual partners and less satisfied with their relationships and sex lives. They become more critical and dissatisfied with their partner's appearance, sexual performance, sexual curiosity, and displays of affection. Ironically, porn is directly related to problems with attraction, arousal, and sexual performance, as well as lower sex drive, erectile dysfunction, and difficulty reaching orgasm.

One recent study examined men who used internet porn compulsively and found that, in 11 out of 19 subjects, porn consumption had



lowered their sex drive and/or ability to maintain erections in physical relationships with real women. Oddly enough, those men were still able to respond sexually to porn. Like Tinbergen's butterflies, porn can leave people preferring internet porn over an actual partner. Chances are, your partner is not okay with that.

PORN LIE #2

Porn is just watching people have sex—what could be more natural and normal than that?

Actually, sex is natural and normal. Porn is something entirely different.

Make no mistake, porn is a product. Pornographers have a lot to gain by driving traffic to their sites, so they dress up their product to grab your attention. That "dressing up" is exactly what makes porn so unnatural.

Professional porn performers have a whole team of people to make every detail look perfect, from directing and filming to lighting and makeup, maybe even a plastic surgeon or two to thank. With some careful editing, a typical 45-minute porn flick that took three days to shoot can appear to have happened all at once, without a break. Film the right bodies from the right angles at the right moments, edit out all the mistakes, Photoshop away any imperfections, add a catchy soundtrack, and you have something most definitely NOT like "natural" sex with "normal" people. You end up with something more "cardboard" than "butterfly."

PORN LIE #3

Porn is just an innocent distraction and a harmless pastime.

Leading relationship experts, Doctors John and Julie Gottman have expressed serious concern about the effects of pornography on couple relationships. They explain, "Pornography may be just such a supernormal stimulus. With pornography use, much more of a normal stimulus may eventually be needed to achieve the response a supernormal stimulus evokes. In contrast, ordinary levels of the stimulus are no longer interesting. This may be how normal sex becomes much less interesting for porn users. The data supports this conclusion. In fact, use of pornography by one partner leads the couple to have far less sex and ultimately reduces relationship satisfaction."

Once a person is aware of the damage they are doing to themselves, their loved ones and society, using porn can hardly be called harmless or innocent.

PORN LIE #4

Porn is a safe way to learn about sex.

This lie is especially troubling because many young porn consumers really do rely on the warped fantasy of porn to form their ideas and expectations about sex. That's scary for a lot of reasons. Young people who consume porn often expect their partners to act out what they've seen, even if it's painful, degrading, or dangerous. They tend to believe that what they see in porn is normal and acceptable, even as their tastes in porn grow more extreme over time. And as people adopt the unrealistic standards of porn, they end up feeling bad about themselves and dissatisfied with their partners.

Learning about sex from porn also means absorbing a lot of dangerous ideas about sexuality and women. Amateur porn, which claims to be more natural and real, actually teaches the same attitudes and reproduces the same false stereotypes as professionally produced porn—sometimes worse!

Ultimately, porn doesn't deliver the satisfaction and healthy enjoyment it promises. It leads to damaged relationships, disappointment, and isolation. Tinbergen's butterflies were simply reacting to instinct when they were fooled by the "supermodel decoys," but humans are not victims of their evolution. You can choose to recognize porn for the deception it is. You can reject porn's lies and choose real life, real relationships, and real love.

https://fightthenewdrug.org/why-porn-is-full-of-lies/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=

DANIQUE DUPUIS' FAMILY INVITES YOU:

FUND raising EVENING

LA FAMILLE DE DANIQUE DUPUIS VOUS INVITE :

SOIRÉE DE levée DE FONDS

vendredi 5 avril 2019
Friday, April 5, 2019

CENTRE TRANSCANADA CENTRE,
ÎLE DES CHÊNES, MANITOBA

15\$ // BILLETS / TICKETS

PORTES OUVRONT À 19H

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

MUSIQUE, DANSE, ENCAN SILENCIEUX, GOÛTER
MUSIC, DANCE, SILENT AUCTION, LATE LUNCH

BILLETS OU INFOS // TICKETS OR INFO :

Suzanne Moore, call or text: 204-799-0108; smooregaap@gmail.com

Lucie Gregoire-Chartier, call or text: 204-296-3756; luciegregoirechartier@hotmail.com

VISITEZ
FIND US ON **FACEBOOK +
INSTAGRAM**

POUR LES PRIX ET MISES À JOUR
FOR AUCTION PRIZES AND UPDATES



You're invited!

TO THE 2019 ANNUAL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELIZATION
FUNDRAISING BANQUET

When

FRIDAY, MAY 10TH, 2019
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30
DINNER SERVED AT 6:30

Where

PARISH HALL OF
STS-MARTYRS-CANADIENS
289 DUSSAULT AVE., WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

Tickets

TABLE (SEATS 8) - \$350

SINGLE TICKET - \$50

*** NO TAX RECEIPTS ISSUED FOR TICKETS THIS YEAR.

Inquiries or ticket purchases

204.347.5396 - CAROLINA@CATHOLICWAY.NET



Conference on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment

- For all Church leadership, staff and volunteers -

Conference Speakers



Bishop Lionel Gendron
Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil, QC
President, Canadian Conference of
Catholic Bishops
Synod Father



Emilie Callan
From Toronto, ON
Synod Youth Auditor

Specifics...

Date

Saturday March 30th, 2019

Doors open at 9am
Conference officially starts at 9:30am

Conference will come to a close with
the parish Saturday anticipated Mass at 5pm.

Location

St. John XXIII Parish

3390 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, MB

Investment

\$30 per participant

(\$40 at door)

****INCLUDES:** lunch, snacks, and all
conference fees and materials!

Audience

*This exciting conference
is open to everyone!*

What can you expect?

**Be a part of this enriching
opportunity to hear first-hand
about the results of the recent
Synod of Bishops in Rome!**

Our guest speakers will share from
their own experience as members of the
recent Synod of Bishops on Young People,
the Faith, and Vocational Discernment,
in Rome. They will journey with us to see
how this Synod invites our local Church
to grow in our work and ministry with
young people. This day-long conference
will offer times of reflection, prayer, and
small group discussions. Participants
will be encouraged to network and
discern together where God is calling
local initiatives to grow and continue to
serve young people.

****Le gros de la conférence sera offert en Anglais,
mais une traduction simultanée au Français
sera disponible sans frais. Il y aura également
possibilité de petits groupes en français pour
ceux qui le désirent.**

Conference Presenter



www.catholicway.net
kevin@catholicway.net

Official Conference Sponsors



Register online today!

EVENTS.CATHOLICWAY.NET

or by phone: 204.347.5396

catholic school of
evangelization



Saint Malo Catholic
CAMPS
catholiques de Saint-Malo

REGISTRATION FORM

2019 Summer Camps

****Nous offrons également des camps d'été en Français. Veuillez consulter notre
site Web, www.catholicway.net, pour télécharger le formulaire en Français.**

*****PLEASE FILL ONE FORM PER CAMPER*****

****REGISTER ONLINE! WWW.STMALOCAMPS.NET****

PART 1 – Select your camp and options

WEEK-LONG CAMPS – in St. Malo, for 8 to 17 year olds (please check the desired camp)

Age Groups	Camp Dates (please check)	Registration Fees
8 to 12 year olds	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH: July 7 th to 12 th	UNTIL May 31st: 1st child*: \$250 + \$12.50 GST 2nd child*: \$200 + \$10.00 GST 3rd child*: \$190 + \$9.50 GST Additional \$10 discount per additional child*
	<input type="checkbox"/> FRENCH: July 14 th to 19 th	
12 to 15 year olds	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH: July 21 st to 26 th	AFTER May 31st: 1st child*: \$300 + \$15.00 GST 2nd child*: \$250 + \$12.50 GST 3rd child*: \$240 + \$12.00 GST Additional \$10 discount per additional child*
	<input type="checkbox"/> FRENCH: July 28 th to Aug. 2 nd	
revive retreat <i>Bilingual retreat for 15 to 17 year olds</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> August 4 th to 9 th (bilingual retreat)	*Children of same household

SCHEDULE: Camper arrival is at 7:00 PM on SUNDAY, and departure will be on FRIDAY AT 5:00 PM.
ALL ARE INVITED to our closing Mass every Friday at 4:00 PM at the Saint-Malo church.



Why does God permit the devil to tempt us?

flatter ourselves continually and esteem ourselves out of all proportion to our merit. Such presumption is so great an obstacle to our spiritual progress, that the slightest taint of it impedes us in the attainment of true perfection."

When God recognizes such pride, Scupoli explains, he permits a temptation to humble us and remind us of our need to rely on God. Scupoli gives the examples of Sts. Peter and Paul.

Did He not once rescue the erring Peter when He permitted that Apostle to deny Him, and forswear any knowledge of his Lord? Did He not grant to Peter self-knowledge and strength to cast aside his dangerous presumption? Did He not similarly deal with St. Paul when, in order to preserve him from this insidious vice and prevent him from making an improper use of the sublime revelations entrusted

to him, He permitted a troublesome temptation to constantly remind the Apostle of his weakness?

In the end, God permits such temptations for our ultimate good. This does not mean that we should embrace the temptation, but that we should resist it with all of our strength, seeing it as a test of our faith in God. His ways are often mysterious and are certainly not our ways. God is able to bring a great amount of good from evil, the prime example being the crucifixion.

The key is to always remain humble in the sight of God, recognizing our own weaknesses and trusting firmly in God's heavenly graces. God should be our rock and our strength in times of trial and while he may permit a strong temptation from the devil, he does so that we may progress along the path of perfection.

<https://aleteia.org/2019/02/16/why-does-god-permit-the-devil-to-tempt-us/>

Aleteia

7 Sins

in the Digital World



LENT IS COMING

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Ash Wednesday
is on 6 March 2019
Day of Fasting and
Abstinence



Lent lasts 40 days
(excluding Sundays)



The three pillars of Lent are:
prayer, fasting
and almsgiving.



Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
are days of fasting
(one primary meal and
two lesser meals) and
abstinence from meat



All Fridays in Lent
are days of abstinence
from meat.

HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR LENT?

1 GO TO **CONFESSION!**

We all sin, which means we all need to repent. Grace is waiting for you in the confessional!

2 **RESOLVE** TO LIVE A MORE HOLY LIFE

Make a careful examination of conscience every day and put in place specific plans for how you will overcome sinful habits.

3 **PRAY... A LOT**

Commit to praying more this Lent. If you need help, get a devotional or spend some time reading Scripture.

4 **MAKE SOME SACRIFICES**

Making even small sacrifices for God show him that we love him. They can also help make you more holy!

Daily Lenten Reflections delivered directly to your email inbox:

Loyola Press: <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/len/living-lenten-daily>

Catholic School of Evangelization: <https://cseleentenretreat.wordpress.com/>

Dynamic Catholic: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/daily-reflections>

My Catholic Life: <https://mycatholic.life/email-subscription/>

Bishop Robert Barron: <https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/blog/sign-up-for-bishop-barrons-free-daily-lenten-reflections/5061/>

Creighton University Online Ministries: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/>

Pope Francis' 2019 Lenten Message

Pope Francis invites believers to prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed:

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to “devour” everything to satisfy our voracity and being

ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts.

Prayer, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy.

Almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus, to rediscover the joy of God’s plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our

brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption and turn to Jesus’ Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ’s victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

No red meat Lent” too hard? Here’s how the Medievals did it

Here's what they did for imitation meat in the Middle Ages before there was tofu.

Environmental activists have offered Pope Francis a donation of \$1 million to the charity of his choice if he goes vegan for Lent, in a move to undo “the damage caused to people and the planet by animal agriculture.”

Pope Francis may abstain from meat during Lent as a matter of course. In any case, it seems likely that the Holy Father will refuse to be “cowed” by the group, Million Dollar Vegans, demands. There are signs, though, if posts on Twitter are any indication, that giving up meat might be the cool Catholic thing to do this Lent. Not, presumably, because of meat’s possible effect on global warming (although that is certainly possible), but because meat is so good, and giving it up for 40 days would be a real sacrifice appropriate for the penitential period preceding Easter.

For those considering hopping on the “no red meat” bandwagon, here’s a look at how Medieval Christians went without meat for Lent and other abstinence days during the year.

Their rules were actually stricter — no animal products at all were allowed in those days. As

intermittent vegans without access to tofu or Trader Joe’s, they had to resort to some pretty creative cookery.

Imitation bacon

Chefs created imitation bacon by using salmon with “fat” streaks consisting of white pike.

Dolphin sausages

As fish, and even aquatic mammals, were allowed, dolphin came in handy as a substitute for meat. As *Atlas Obscura* notes, a cookbook from a 15th-century Austrian nunnery, as translated by Melitta Adamson, offers the following bit of advice: “From a dolphin, you can make good dishes. You can make good roasts from it ... one also makes sausages and good venison.”

Beaver tails

Beaver tails, like dolphins, were considered part of an aquatic creature, and therefore a substitute for meat during Lent. An illustration in *Livre des simples medecines*, from around 1480, shows a beaver with an actual fish for a tail as an illustration of this concept.

Mock eggs

Medieval cookbooks list almonds as a useful ingredient as a substitute for milk, for making pastry, thickening sauces and even to create a

Mock Hardboiled Egg. *Atlas Obscura* notes that the Harleian MS (circa 1430) called for blowing out the eggshell with a pinhole in each end, and then refilling it with a ground almond mixture colored with saffron to mimic the yolk.

Imitation deer entrails

The ancient English cookbook, *The Form of Cury*, compiled in about 1390, contained a recipe for Nombres of Deer, a dish involving making a broth out of deer innards and adding a bit of vinegar, onions and bread crumbs to make a soup. Most helpfully, there is also a recipe for Nombres in Lent, which seems to suggest using the blood and bellies of pike, cod and eels to make the broth:

Fake roasts

Leopoldo Costa, at the blog *Stravaganza*, notes that “fish or crayfish meat, or sausages made from dolphin meat” were frequently molded into the shape of roasts. To achieve a convincing fake roast, chefs might cover the roast with ground gingerbread that had been fried or roasted. Egg white was also used to create the illusion of fat.

<https://aleteia.org/2019/02/14/no-red-meat-lent-too-hard-heres-how-the-medievals-did-it/>

2018 has passed.
2019, welcome.

Happy New Year, dear Friend of Serena!

On behalf of the Serena Manitoba Board of Directors, I would like to **thank you** for the support you have given us this past year. It has been a great year, filled with growth, adjustment, and new life.

This year, we have helped many couples increase in knowledge about their fertility, endowing them with increased independence in managing their fertility while strengthening their unity as a couple.

We were also blessed to have partnered up with some new groups – our faithful Pro-Life friends from all across Manitoba. **Healthy sexual understanding and relationships lead to society's growth into a culture of life and love.** It is so great that we can work together and be part of the building of such a culture in Manitoba.



WE WANT YOU

Serena continues to receive requests for classes from people in a variety of circumstances:



- wanting help in conceiving;
- wanting to learn more about their fertility as a couple in order to postpone a pregnancy; or
- wanting freedom from hormonal and other forms of contraceptives.
- Follow-up, post-partum and perimenopausal counselling is ongoing as couples strive to increase the knowledge of their reproductive systems.



In January of 2018, we launched the **Serena 100 Club** with the goal of having 100 people commit to donating \$10/month to make up the loss of our \$12,000+ grant funding from the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority which ended in March of 2018. While we have fallen short of our goal of 100 members, and the \$12,000, we are not at all disheartened. Our first 18 Serena 100 Club members did contribute more than \$2800.00. **Please consider joining the Club this year.** (see right for instructions)

how can I help?

How can you help Serena continue to reach more Manitoban couples?

- **Join the Serena 100 Club** by donating **monthly** through **Canada Helps**, or by choosing a monthly amount, multiplying it by 12 and **giving annually** through **Canada Helps**, by **cheque** or via **e-transfer**;
- **Invite a friend to join you in the Serena 100 Club**;
- **Sponsor a couple** who needs assistance in paying their class registration fee (\$100);
- **Join the board or help** with a one-time project (promotion, fundraising, tech assistance, social events, etc.);
- **Share your NFP experience** with your family, friends, co-workers or fellow students;
- **Like our Facebook page** and share the articles and next class dates with friends and family;

We look forward to hearing from you and for your continued support. Contact us by phone or text, via e-mail or on Facebook.

Janelle Lafrance

Coordinator, Serena Manitoba

Call or text: 204-783-0091 e-mail: mbserena@gmail.com

There were 7 parties registered for February's **Sympto-Thermal Method class** – and already, more are registering for the March 4th class! – what a great start for this new year!

Our **partnership with the province's Archdioceses** is ongoing and growing. We are pleased to announce that we will be part of their first

-Fertility Health Awareness Event-

in April of 2019. Please keep this event, all attending Manitoba NFP providers and potential future NFP user-couples in your prayers!



Many people hear about us on Facebook.

Our Facebook coordinator posts amazing articles related to Natural Family Planning from a variety of sources, as well as upcoming class dates and fertility related information. Check us out and give us a like! Here is a little something from her heart:

"My husband and I learned the Sympto-Thermal Method with Serena when we were engaged. We have since successfully planned four pregnancies! Having suffered a miscarriage, we are especially thankful for the knowledge Serena has provided us in getting back on track with charting and understanding our fertility. Not only are we blessed with 2 little boys (and baby #3 due to arrive in June) through our knowledge of NFP, but we have grown so much closer as a couple! I have had the opportunity to post articles and videos on Serena Manitoba's Facebook page from which I have learned a lot, and I hope that all those who "like" the page are benefitting from their content as well!"

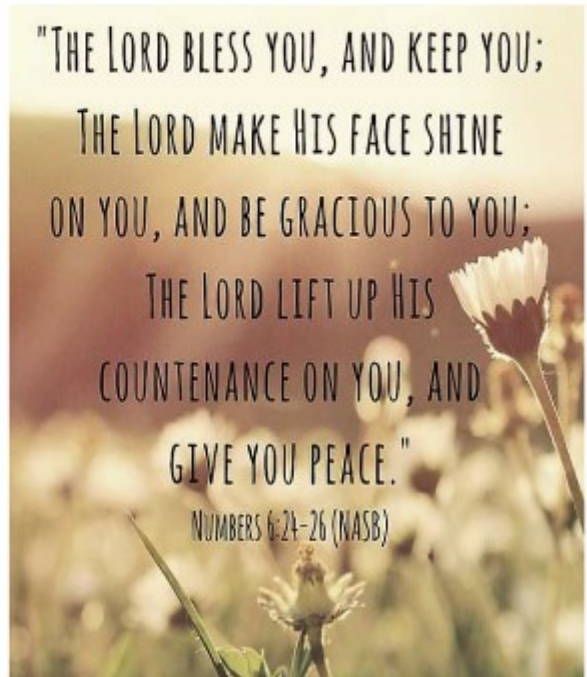


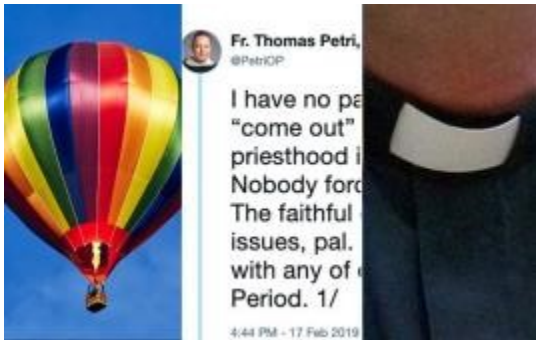
Canada Helps Instructions

1. Log on to the Canada Helps Website;
2. Find Serena Manitoba
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/serena-manitoba-inc/>;
3. Click on the **Donate Monthly** or **Donate Now** tab;
4. Choose a monthly/one-time amount, your preferred method of payment, and
5. Voila! You're done! **THANK YOU!**

"THE LORD BLESS YOU, AND KEEP YOU;
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE
ON YOU, AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;
THE LORD LIFT UP HIS
COUNTENANCE ON YOU, AND
GIVE YOU PEACE."

NUMBERS 6:24-26 (NASB)





A Brave Priest's Powerful Response to Gay Clergy: "Nobody Forced You to Become a Priest"

What a statement!

Fr. Thomas Petri, OP, of the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph posted a Twitter thread in response to the recent New York Times article, **"It Is Not a Closet. It Is a Cage." Gay Catholic Priests Speak Out.**

The New York Times report discusses interviews conducted with several priests in the United States who have "come out" as gay and insists that the ability to do so is freeing and allows them to "be themselves."

However, several faithful Catholics have responded to this article, including Fr. Thomas Petri.

Read his powerful response below:

"I have no patience for priests who 'come out'

as gay and insist the priesthood is some sort of cage. Nobody forced you to become a priest. The faithful don't need to deal with your issues, pal. They don't deserve to deal with any of our issues. We serve them. Period.

"Priests who insist they 'can't be who they are' in the priesthood mean to say 'who they are' isn't a priest as the Church has 'always' understood priesthood. The last thing the faithful need are priests who make their sexuality their primary identity.

"'Being gay' and 'coming out' may seem to you, Father, as being true to your authentic self, but that's contrary to your ordination, which makes your authentic self a person in persona Christi in the service of the people of God.

"If you can't live that way, if you can't give yourself freely, without making your sexuality 'a thing' in this equation, then be a man, be noble, and as our Holy Father Pope Francis says: leave the priesthood.

"The same is true, btw, of any priest who finds himself engrossed and completely distracted by the attention and subtleties of the fairer sex. If your priesthood is about being with women you're attracted to, your thoughts and language always sexual, you've got a problem.

"A Father cannot help his children if he's a broken distracted mess of a man requiring them to pick him up and set him aright. That's the classic role reversal of a dysfunctional family. It has no place in the priesthood and

the Church."

Catholic Church teaching on homosexuality:

The Catholic Church teaches that people with homosexual tendencies "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity," but that homosexual acts constitute "grave depravity," are "intrinsically disordered," and that "under no circumstances can they be approved." Instead, "homosexual persons are called to chastity." (CCC 2357-2359)

Catholic Church teaching on celibacy within the priesthood:

"All the ordained ministers of the Latin Church, with the exception of permanent deacons, are normally chosen from among men of faith who live a celibate life and who intend to remain celibate 'for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.'

"Called to consecrate themselves with undivided heart to the Lord and to 'the affairs of the Lord,' they give themselves entirely to God and to men. Celibacy is a sign of this new life to the service of which the Church's minister is consecrated; accepted with a joyous heart celibacy radiantly proclaims the Reign of God."

(CCC 1579)

https://churchpop.com/2019/02/20/a-brave-priests-powerful-response-to-gay-clergy-nobody-forced-you-to-become-a-priest/?hsenc=p2ANgtz-8QarnPTLbAltIPsdL5RFay_jmkC_rYpx9ckeli-VqbT5qUEZ5eX9fLmu7sYNiLuDrqXuHoMOpB9kTi9-1xndOIKsqw&hsmi=70117136



A short history of the humble pew

Churches did not always have seating. How it has evolved says a lot about how we've practiced Christianity.

If we were to walk into a church and find it completely devoid of seating, we would assume that the pews had been taken out for renovation. Pews have become so commonplace that we tend to take them for granted.

But church seating is a relatively recent innovation. Until the late Middle Ages, the naves of churches were not fitted out with

seating. Worshipers either stood or knelt or sat on the floor. Some brought their own seating, as if to a free concert in the park. Many churches in the East, especially Orthodox churches, still do not have pews, as standing is the norm for most of the liturgy.

In 13th-century England, backless stone benches began to be added along the walls of the nave, at first for the ministers of the liturgy, but in time for lay worshipers, especially for the frail and elderly. In time, more of these benches began to populate the nave, and by the 14th century, wood began to be used rather than stone. By the 15th century, these benches had become common.

What really solidified the use of pews, however, was the Protestant Reformation and the concomitant rise of the sermon as the centerpiece of the liturgy. If a sermon went on for a considerable length of time, churches could not expect their parishioners to stand through it.

Churches came to find that parishioners were willing to pay for their own private pews, especially if their seats were in prominent

places within the church. This was a handy source of funds for building and maintaining church structures. It even got to the point that particular seating areas were regarded as real estate, complete with deeds and titles and the ability to hand the property down to heirs. Pews were enclosed in "pew boxes" and locked up when not in use.

But that meant that many worshipers who could not afford to buy pews were shut out of church for lack of space. This led to modifications in church architecture, such as side balconies, and a church building boom in England in the 19th century.

Another practice that became common was the renting out of pews, also a source of income for the church. Churches in the United States especially liked this option, as they were not supported by the state, as churches were in many parts of Europe.

These practices have fallen by the wayside, and today the focus is often on how to get the pews filled up again.

<https://aleteia.org/2019/02/16/a-short-history-of-the-humble-pew/>

10 Reasons Teens Have So Much Anxiety Today

Amy Morin

The *New York Times* recently published an article called, "Why Are More American Teenagers Than Ever Suffering From Severe Anxiety?" The author chronicled several teens' battle with anxiety over the course of a few years.

The article questioned why we're seeing such a rise in anxiety among today's youth. As a psychotherapist, college lecturer, and author of *13 Things Mentally Strong Parents Don't Do*, I agree that anxiety is a widespread issue among adolescents. It's the most common reason people of all ages enter my therapy office.

Some young people are overachieving perfectionists with a crippling fear of failure. Others worry so much about what their peers think of them that they're unable to function.

Some have endured rough circumstances throughout their young lives. But others have stable families, supportive parents, and plenty of resources.

I suspect the rise in anxiety reflects several societal changes and cultural shifts we've seen over the past couple of decades. Here are the top 10 reasons:

1. Electronics offer an unhealthy escape.

Constant access to digital devices lets kids escape uncomfortable emotions like boredom, loneliness, or sadness by immersing themselves in games when they are in the car or by chatting on social media when they are sent to their rooms. And now we're seeing what happens when an entire generation has spent their childhoods avoiding discomfort. Their electronics replaced opportunities to develop mental strength, and they didn't gain the coping skills they need to handle everyday challenges.

2. Happiness is all the rage.

Happiness is emphasized so much in our culture that some parents think it's their job to make their kids happy all the time. When a child is sad, his parents cheer him up. Or when she's angry, they calm her down. Kids grow up believing that if they don't feel happy around the clock, something must be wrong. That creates a lot of inner turmoil. They don't understand that it's normal and healthy to feel sad, frustrated, guilty, disappointed, and angry sometimes, too.



3. Parents are giving unrealistic praise.

Saying things like, "You're the fastest runner on the team," or "You're the smartest kid in your grade," doesn't build self-esteem. Instead, it puts pressure on kids to live up to those labels. That can lead to crippling fear of failure or rejection.

4. Parents are getting caught up in the rat race.

Many parents have become like personal assistants to their teenagers. They work hard to ensure their teens can compete: They hire tutors and private sports coaches and pay for expensive SAT prep courses. They make it their job to help their teens build transcripts that will impress a top school. And they send the message that their teen must excel at everything in order to land a coveted spot at such a college.

5. Kids aren't learning emotional skills.

We emphasize academic preparation and put little effort into teaching kids the *emotional* skills they need to succeed. In fact, a national survey of first-year college students revealed that 60 percent feel emotionally unprepared for college life. Knowing how to manage your time, combat stress, and take care of your feelings are key components to living a good life. Without healthy coping skills, it's no wonder teens are feeling anxious over everyday hassles.

6. Parents view themselves as protectors rather than guides.

Somewhere along the line, many parents began believing their role is to help kids grow up with as few emotional and physical scars as possible. They became so overprotective that their kids never practiced dealing with challenges on their own. Consequently, these kids have grown up to believe they're too fragile to cope with the realities of life.

7. Adults don't know to help kids face their fears the right way.

At one end of the spectrum, you'll find parents who push their kids too hard. They force their children to do things that terrify them. On the other end, you'll find parents who don't push kids at all. They let their kids opt out of anything that sounds anxiety-provoking. Exposure is the best way to conquer fear but only when it's

done incrementally. Without practice, gentle nudging, and guidance, kids never gain confidence that they can face their fears head-on.

8. Parents are parenting out of guilt and fear.

Parenting stirs up uncomfortable emotions, like guilt and fear. But rather than let themselves feel those emotions, many parents are changing their parenting habits. So they don't let their kids out of their sight because it stirs up their anxiety, or they feel so guilty saying no to their kids that they back down and give in. Consequently, they teach their kids that uncomfortable emotions are intolerable.

9. Kids aren't being given enough free time to play.

While organized sports and clubs play an important role in kids' lives, adults make and enforce the rules. Unstructured play teaches kids vital skills, like how to manage disagreements without an adult refereeing. And solitary play teaches kids how to be alone with their thoughts and comfortable in their own skin.

10. Family hierarchies are out of whack.

Although kids give the impression that they'd like to be in charge, deep down they know they aren't capable of making good decisions. They want their parents to be leaders—even when there is dissension in the ranks. And when the hierarchy gets muddled—or even flipped upside down—their anxiety skyrockets.

How to Address the Anxiety Epidemic

We've created an environment that fosters anxiety in young people, rather than resilience. And while we can't prevent all anxiety disorders—there's definitely a genetic component—we can do a better job helping kids build the mental muscle they need to stay healthy.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/what-mentally-strong-people-dont-do/201711/10-reasons-teens>



known as *apocalypse*.

Within genres there are also different kinds of writings. There are five main types of Psalms, including laments and hymns. Genesis contains both literal and symbolic, or figurative, passages, and the Gospels record Jesus using parables and hyperbole. These different literary forms and expressions have their own conventions and rules. We need to understand them to arrive at the *literal* sense of Scripture; that is, what the author meant to express.

The events of the Bible took place on three continents

Most of the events of the Bible took place in what is now called "The Holy Land" or modern-day Israel and Palestine, but biblical events also occurred in Europe, Asia, and Africa. For example, Abraham lived in the city of Ur (modern Iraq); Moses freed the Israelites from Pharaoh in Egypt; and St. Paul's journeys took him to Rome, Greece, and Turkey.

The word *trinity* is not in the Bible

The doctrine of the Holy Trinity is a mystery of faith at the heart of Christianity. The mystery is disclosed in various ways in the New Testament (see, for example, 1 Jn 5:7 and Mt 28:18), and even hinted at in the Old

Testament, as when God appears to Abraham in the guise of three men (Gn 18). Yet the word *trinity* isn't in the Bible. The first to use the word was the early Christian writer Tertullian, writing in the early 3rd century.

Mass is not a substitute for Bible reading

Mass is a powerful way to encounter the Bible. But you won't hear all of the Bible at Mass. Even if you attend Mass every day for three years, you will hear less than 14 percent of the Old Testament, not including the Psalms. The New Testament fares much better. Still, nearly 30 percent of the New Testament is not included in Mass readings. If you want to learn the Scriptures go to Mass—but read the Bible too!

You can receive a plenary indulgence for reading the Bible

The Church awards *indulgences*, or remission of the penalties due to sin, to encourage spiritual practices. Read the Bible in a prayerful way for a half hour or more, and you can receive a full or *plenary* indulgence. The usual conditions (Communion, recent confession, prayers for the pope, and detachment from sin) apply.

<https://aleteia.org/2019/02/16/5-surprising-facts-about-the-bible/>

5 Surprising facts about the Bible

These are a good start to the surprises of Scripture. A new book gives many, many more.

How well do you *really* know the Bible? The Bible is the Word of God, but even on a human level it stands apart. No other book has sold so many copies; been translated into so many languages; been so often adapted, recited, and performed; or took so many years (centuries!) to write.

The Bible includes works from many literary genres

The Bible isn't only a collection of books. It's a collection of different *kinds* of books: histories, legal codes, poetry, letters, and a highly symbolic form of resistance literature



Bag-Up Manitoba - Plastic items accepted:

- o retail bags
- o newspaper sleeves
- o produce bags
- o bread bags
- o ice bags
- o bubble wrap
- o pellet bags
- o salt bags
- o dry cleaning bags
- o re-sealable food bags (Ziploc)
- o cereal bags
- o bags from toilet paper or paper towels
- o bags from cases of pop
- o potato chip and candy bags

They say please no:

- pet food bags
- bags or wrap from meat
- soiled bags

Lacey Bernardin is accepting these plastic bags and items for her daughters' school, who in turn will recycle them

Studies show that the religious are on “the right side of history”

The fact is, human choices make history, not the other way around ...

Do you want to be on the right side of history? Then reject secularism and embrace religion.

I normally don't like talk about “the right side of history” vs. “wrong side of history.” But several prominent figures have been using those phrases lately: Bernie Sanders says Trump is on the wrong side of history while Vice President Mike Pence says Russia is. Kellyanne Conway accuses the Democrats of it, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez accuses the Republicans of it.

But I was always struck by former communist Whittaker Chambers' comment that he was convinced he was joining the losing side of history by becoming Christian. Today, people say Billy Graham's spectacular career of evangelization was on the wrong side of history because he preached Christ instead of global warming.

But the fact is, human choices make history, not the other way around — and however strong secularism *feels* right now, the choices human beings are making assure that *religion*, not the rejection of religion, owns the future.

A new Pew Research study is the latest piece of evidence that religion is stronger than secularism.

Pew researcher Conrad Hackett said his organization started the study when a colleague asked why “anyone should care if people identify with a religion.” He decided to try to determine if religion matters, particularly to important signs of human flourishing such as health, happiness, voting, and volunteering.

He found that it does. In a major way.

Pew undertook a massive study of 35 countries — including a focus on the United States — and the results were astounding. Among the findings:

- Actively religious people are far more likely than nonreligious to say they are “very happy.” In America, 36 percent of the actively religious describe themselves as “very happy” while only 25 percent of the nonreligious do. They are also more likely to avoid unhealthy lifestyle choices.



- Religious people are not just more active in churches — they are more active in nonreligious community organizations. In America, 58 percent of religious people serve their communities while only 39 percent of the unaffiliated do. This matches earlier findings that religious people are more generous to nonreligious organizations like the American Cancer Society than nonreligious people.

- Religious people are also more likely to vote. In America, that means 69 percent of religious people say they vote, vs. 48 percent of the unaffiliated.

If religion is such a positive force, why are so many Americans abandoning religion? The fact is, they aren't.

While it is true that the United States experienced a post-World War II peak in religious fervor that has cooled since then, 2017 research published by scholars at Harvard University and Indiana University-Bloomington challenged the “secularization thesis,” that sees the United States as abandoning religion.

They found that, contrary to the popular narrative, religious faith is experiencing “persistent and exceptional intensity” in America.

The research of Rodney Stark at Baylor University fleshes out the story of faith's ascendance. Citing the May 2015 Pew Research Center survey showing the decline of religion in America, he points out that “the overwhelming majority of Americans who say they have no religious affiliation pray and believe in angels.”

Stark cites “surveys of more than a million people living in 163 nations,” which show that:

- Islam is not overtaking Christianity.
- Four out of five people worldwide now belong to an organized religion.

- 50 percent report that they have attended a place of worship or religious service in the past seven days.

Philip Jenkins, in his book *The Next Christendom*, reported that adherents to the four major religions included 67 percent of the world's population in 1900 to 73 percent in 2005 and will grow to 80 percent of the world's population by 2050 if current trends hold.

The future of the world — and of America — belongs to the religious, for demographic reasons, also.

As the University of London's Eric Kaufmann explains in his book *Shall the Religious Inherit the Earth?*: “The secular West and East Asia are aging and their share of the world population declining. This means the world is getting more religious even as people in the rich world shed their faith.”

Research by Pew's Conrad Hackett found the same thing: Religious people are having babies; the nonreligious aren't. That means the future is ours.

So, when you hear that one position or another is on the “right side of history” or the “wrong side of history,” take it with a grain of salt.

The future belongs to those positions that align with religious belief: Religious liberty, the right to life, stewardship of the environment, service to the poor, and respect for marriage and family.

The nonreligious look strong now, but don't be fooled. Religious people are more happy, more healthy, more community-spirited, and more generous — and they are having children who will carry their legacy forward.

https://aleteia.org/2019/02/11/studies-show-that-the-religious-are-on-the-right-side-of-history/?utm_medium=aleteia_en&utm_campaign=english_page&utm_source=Facebook#Echobox=1549919556

CAT CHAIR IN THE RYE

