



Sharing the Good News



A NOTE to Members

We hope you are enjoying the community stories about different people in our faith community.

Do you have a story to share? Tell us about your parish or maybe a project you are working on. Do you know a good Samaritan?

Drop us a line and we will gladly include it in our newsletter.

Stay safe and God Bless!



The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the gospel. - Pope Francis

OUR *stories*
BRING US
TOGETHER

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Catholic Action Update

Parish calls: We have completed all the call to the parishes, some remain closed, and we left messages. As most of us, the ping ponging of number of people and curfew (affects evening masses like the Late Sunday Mass) have many parishes frustrated.

There is a feeling that it will be difficult to bring everyone back, even with a vaccine.

Some of the secretaries, like Catholic Action's experience with the Late Sunday Mass, miss the consistency of regularly scheduled masses. Of course, they handle more phone calls than when the parishes were open in the "old normal".



Food Security: We continue to support different organizations with specific needs in this area. Chatting with Father Claude Paradis about his ministry, Notre-Dame-de-la-rue (Our Lady of the Street) which reaches out to homeless people, bringing them comfort and a Church presence, he is incredibly pleased with the continued volunteer support he receives. Since its founding in 2013, Father Claude Paradis and his assistant, Kevin, joined by volunteers, go out to the street several times a week. They meet people where they are and are primarily concerned with offering a spiritual presence and helping people to make sense out of what they are going through.

Volunteers needed – Please let us know you can help by contacting jwong@catholicaction.ca

Drivers for meals on wheels (St. Jean Brebeuf)

Graphic Artist – Catholic Action

Cartoonist – LaSalle D & D 50+ Senior Centre

Typist (English) This is a paid position, Centre for Reproductive loss.

Catholic Action and Social Action: We joined Kim Gottfried Piché - English Network Coordinator of the Archdiocese' Social Action office during her zoom gathering where, once again, we identified our different missions and objectives. Kim's topic was "sacred space", using this link as the foundation of the discussion, <https://fortheLoveofcreation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Take-a-Sacred-Pause.pdf> **If you would like to know about Kim's work, you can reach her at kpiche@diocesemontreal.org.**



Governance: Our board is working on refreshing a myriad of policies and progressing nicely.

Why is May Mary's month?



For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside **the entire month of Mary to honor Mary, Mother of God**. Not just a day in May, mind you, but the entire month.

The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity.

In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. They celebrated ludi florals, or floral games, at the end of April and asked the intercession of Flora for all that blooms.

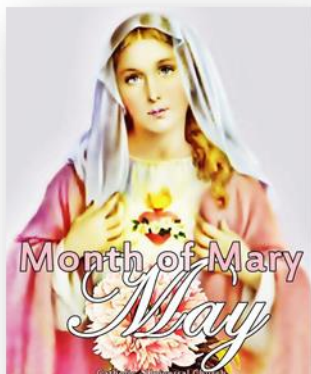
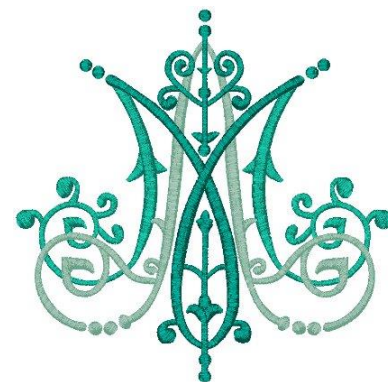
In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1 was considered the start of new growth.

During this period, the tradition of Tricesimum, or "Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary," came into being. Also called, "Lady Month," the event was held from August 15-September 14 and is still observed in some areas.

The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it wasn't always held during May, Mary Month included thirty daily spiritual exercises honoring Mary.

It was in this era that Mary's Month and May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and remains in practice until today.

This symbol consisting of the intertwined letters **A and M**, is called **Auspice Maria**, a monogram of the Virgin Mary. **Auspice Maria** is Latin for "Under the protection of Mary" and is commonly found in Catholic religious art, on churches, and inscribed on jewelry. It is sometimes (incorrectly) referred to or used as a stand-in for the salutation "Ave maria."



Our new celebrants on Team Late Sunday Mass

7:00 Pm – Our Lady of Fatima Parish 875 Marcel Laurin Blvd, Saint Laurent QC H4M 2M8

JOACHIM OSTERMANN, OFM

received his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Munich in 1990. He became a Franciscan in 2009, professed solemn vows in 2013, and was ordained to the priesthood in 2014. As a postdoctoral fellow at the Sloan Kettering Institute and Assistant Professor of Biochemistry at Vanderbilt University, he studied the mechanism of intracellular protein trafficking. Later, his career continued as a Director of Research in Canadian biotechnology companies, using proteomics to understand disease mechanisms. After entering the Order of Friars Minor, he earned a M.Div. from Newman Theological College in Edmonton, AB. Apart from his pastoral work, his interest is the Franciscan view of nature as a corrective for the place of modern sciences in contemporary worldviews. His book *Remembering Francis: Making Sense of Modern Life* is currently prepared for publication by the Franciscan Institute Publications of St. Bonaventure University. He explores the relationship between Christian faith and modern science, exploring the quintessential Franciscan concept of fraternity with all creatures. Modern science challenges us in a special way: We find ourselves with a knowledge of nature that far extends beyond human imagination in both space and time. Yet, as Christians we recognize that the human person is the image of God in creation. The Franciscan intellectual tradition offers a way to articulate the human understanding of being at home in creation despite the smallness of human existence when compared with cosmological and evolutionary history.



For Father Joachim's blog, please see <https://www.franciscanfriars.ca/author/joachim-ostermann/>

For videos by Father Joachim, please

see <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8rwb8JkTNenBGRSUpHcNX6BqfVDWmNon>



ROBERT GAUTHIER, PSS

As a member of the Society of Priests of Saint-Sulpice (PSS) Father Robert is true to his mission as an educator of seminarians. The purpose of the society is mainly the education of priests and to some extent parish work. As their main role is the education of those preparing to become members of the presbyterate, Sulpicians place great emphasis on the academic and spiritual formation of their own members, who commit themselves to undergoing lifelong development in these areas. In that spirit, Father Robert was a

Formation Team Member, St. Joseph Seminary, Co-Director of the Enculturation Program for International Priests in Edmonton. He specializes in moral theology, in 2007 he pursued a second specialization, at John Paul II Institute for Marriage and

Family - Lateran University in Rome (2007). He has a special interest for questions related to morals. He studied fundamental ethics, sexual ethics, and bioethics on a regular basis.

His calling came to him when; from 1986 to 1988 I was a lay Missionary in Rwanda. There, unexpectedly, two (mysterious) grace were given and received. I was 27. At 28, during an Easter retreat, I said YES to the Lord. This year, he is teaching « Éthique et vie humaine (Bioethics) and Éthique et sexualité. »

A Prayerful thought to Share.

Hope
for challenging
times

THE
PASSION
TRANSLATION



No matter how dark and gloomy things are, Jesus is our ever-present light. His love and compassion cut through darkness to give hope and encouragement to the weary and broken. When you find yourself during challenging times, *Hope*, will help you rest in God's eternal love.

Jesus answered him, "Love the Lord your God with every *passion* of your heart, with all the *energy* of your being, and with every *thought* that is within you."

MATTHEW 22:37-38



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The Canadian Reporting System for Sexual Abuse or Cover-up by a Catholic Bishop

The Bishops of Canada launched a national, bilingual service for reporting situations of sexual abuse either committed or covered-up by a Bishop. This service furthers their commitment to responsibility, accountability, and transparency in matters of clergy sexual abuse and their commitment to facilitate healing and justice for victims-survivors.



The Canadian Reporting System for Sexual Abuse or Cover-up by a Catholic Bishop is a direct response to Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter entitled Vos estis lux mundi (You are the light of the world). In this Letter, the Pope calls on dioceses and eparchies throughout the world to establish "...one or more public, stable and easily accessible systems for submission of reports...". With Vos estis lux mundi, the Pope indicates what procedures must be followed in the universal Church when allegations are made against a Bishop. In doing so, he updates, clarifies and standardizes practices around the world. The reporting system for Bishops introduces an additional level of accountability for Church leadership in Canada, alongside the existing diocesan/eparchial protocols for reporting and responding to sexual abuse or other sexual misconduct by priests, deacons, religious, and mandated lay pastoral personnel. For more details check out this link.

<https://diocesemontreal.org/en/news-and-info/latest-news/new-canadian-reporting-system-sexual-abuse-cover-catholic-bishop-furthers>

For your Purse or Wallet



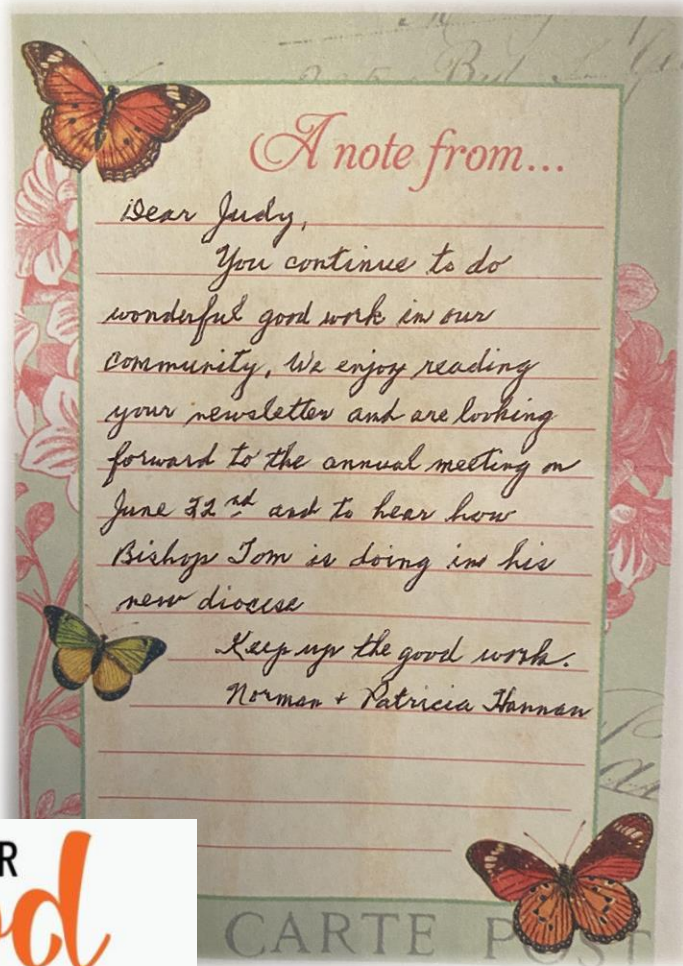
Notes of Thanks

As people continue to renew their memberships, we sometimes receive heartfelt notes from you, our members. It is important for us that you feel free to reach out with any need. With the Late Sunday Mass as our core source of funding, we have been extremely limited in celebrating due to the limitation imposed by the protocols and **curfew**.

Please remember to renew your membership or donate to Catholic Action using these links:

Membership Renewal: [Membership Join or Renew below – Catholic Action Montreal](#)

Personal Donations: [Please DONATE – Catholic Action Montreal](#)



One Voice Update – Supporting English Speaking Seniors



Our One Voice Group is busy on many fronts. If you recall, this group started with the English-Speaking Senior Centres, that were partners with the Father Dowd Foundation. It was apparent, early on, that there was no means for these important groups to share their best practices, collaborate on innovation and collectively represent the interests of the diverse and multicultural English-speaking seniors in the Greater Montreal region. At the behest of the Father Dowd Foundation, Catholic Action partnered with ESCC and Father Dowd to create the “One Voice” coalition to serve the needs of the English-Speaking Senior.

We continued to host weekly “friendly zoom gatherings” for a couple of groups, which allows seniors to at least speak to their friends (there is a call-in feature for those without computers).

We also host the “Frugal Friday” initiative at the LaSalle D & D 50+ Centre. This is a virtual project that has a nutritionist sharing recipes that are inexpensive with foods that assist the seniors with various health needs. The food is purchased in bulk where possible, divided and delivered by volunteers. These recipes will be consolidated into a fund-raising book in the future.

From the Fulford Residents: Several of the organizations who support our efforts belong to One Voice, a coalition of groups supporting anglophone seniors. Following calls made by our volunteers some seniors were moved to their first-choice facilities when they were originally told there was no availability. We received a really nice email from Christopher Holcroft, May 21st, “there are a few residents left - and will reiterate that there are other resources available to them if they need additional assistance. I am so grateful for your support. Thanks. Chris.



The Montreal Council of Women acknowledge one of our “**One Voice**” members. Their “**Women of the Year**” (WOTY) Committee are thrilled to have **Miranda Potts** as their 2021 Woman of the Year. This year’s WOTY theme and focus was on identifying an “Unsung Champion”: someone who has made a significant difference in the lives of people during these unprecedented times. Miranda’s contributions to society, as a volunteer and as a professional through her actions and initiatives have been a source of inspiration and motivation for women and girls in the larger community. She not only meets all the requirements of a “Champion”, but she surpasses them! You can learn about Amanda here: <https://montrealcouncilofwomen.ca/en/woman-of-the-year/>

Is English losing protection in Quebec?



Bill 101 Changes Override Fundamental Rights



May 13, the Quebec government tabled *Bill 96: An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec* – proposed legislation that is more far-reaching than we could have ever imagined. The Quebec Community Groups Network expressed deep disappointment that proposed changes to the Charter of the French Language (Bill 101) override the fundamental human rights of all Quebecers and threaten to erode the vitality of our English-speaking minority community. Quebec Premier **François Legault** and Language Minister **Simon Jolin-Barrette** had assured our community that the government's objective was not to take

away or diminish the rights of English-speaking Quebecers, divide the two language groups, or act to the detriment of the institutions of our community. Unfortunately, we believe that Bill 96 will have the opposite effect. The bill pre-emptively invokes the [notwithstanding clause](#) and shields the Charter of the French Language from all the rights and freedoms Quebecers enjoy under both the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. The QCGN is also taken aback that the Coalition Avenir Québec government is proposing to unilaterally amend the Canadian Constitution to recognize the linguistic specificity of the Quebec nation. We are entering uncharted waters. This type of language in the Constitution would change the way courts interpret our rights and could fundamentally alter our linguistic minority community's relationship with the Government of Canada. The QCGN will take the necessary time to fully examine the details of this bill, given that it would amend 25 separate provincial statutes including the Charter of the French Language, the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, and the Civil Code of Quebec. Notably we will evaluate any and all parts of the bill that will have the effect of limiting access to government services in English. (Read our [press release](#).) There is far too much coverage to share in this update, but I recommend you read this editorial in [The Montreal Gazette](#), these opinion pieces by former Senator and journalist [André Pratte](#) and [Clifford Lincoln](#), and these columns by [Allison Hanes](#) and [Thomas Mulcair](#). Townshippers' President **Gerald Cutting** reacts in Sherbrooke's [La Tribune](#). Also listen to QCGN President **Marlene Jennings** on [CTV Montreal](#) with **Maya Johnson**, on [Global News Morning Montreal](#) with **Laura Casella**, and on CBC Radio's flagship show [The Current](#) with longtime political journalist **Michel C Auger** and the CBC's chief political correspondent **Rosemary Barton**. As always, there is full coverage of all the news that impacts our community in the QCGN's Daily Briefing.

Kingdom Mindset



Mark Your Calendars and Please Join

Adam Paterno Lay Minister & Mental Health Advocate & Catholic Action for

Pray, **S**cripture and **S**haring working towards a **K**ingdom **M**indset.

May was Mental Health month. As we work toward “Mental Wealth” we must learn to “forgive” ourselves. This month we focused on self-forgiveness using prayer, video, and discussion around this “Mindjournal” example. We were grateful to welcome participants from the Philippines and California.



“Using scripture to navigate your fears and anxiety.”

Please join our community as we share and pray & discuss together.

When: June 17, 2021, 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdu2gqTwqGt0OEuzTCXe67kou3_ws9IEj](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?from=addon&url=https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?from=addon&url=https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpdu2gqTwqGt0OEuzTCXe67kou3_ws9IEj)

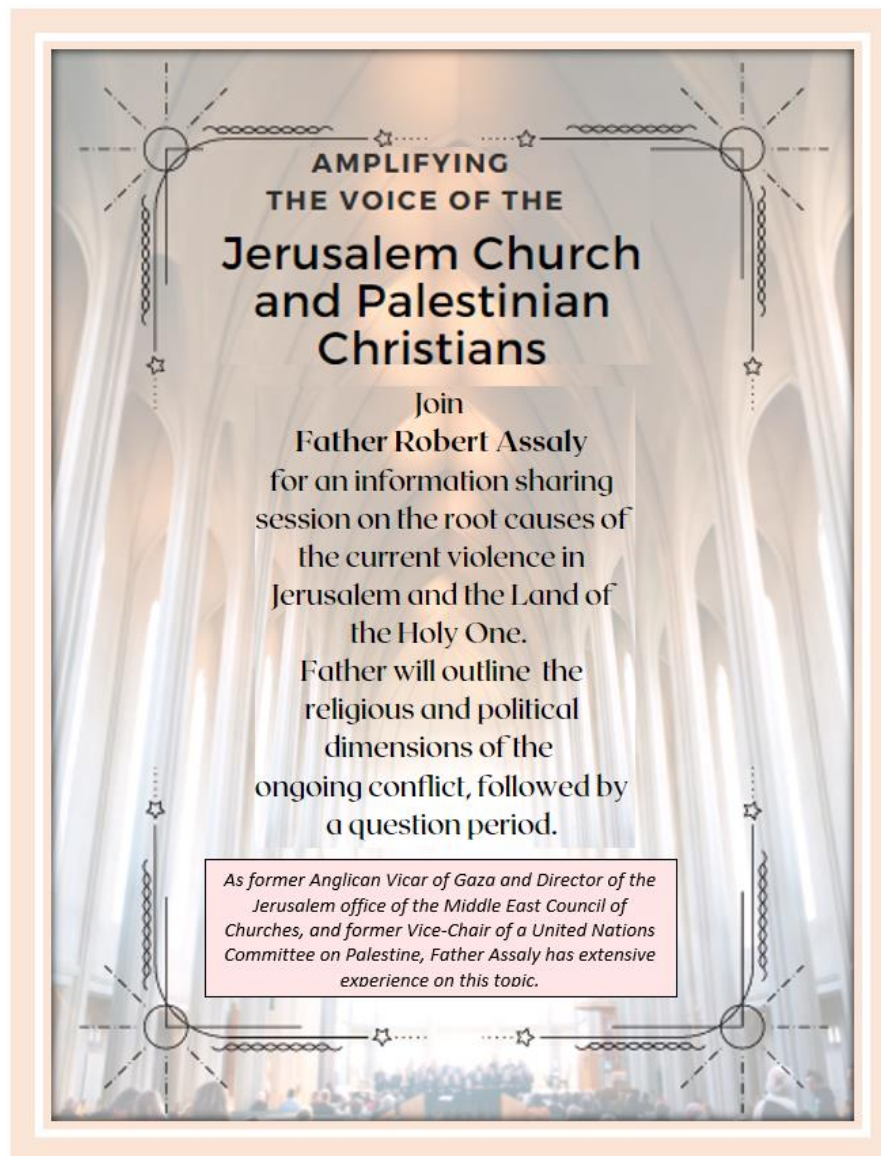
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the link for the meeting.

In the meantime, please join our Facebook group: [The Kingdom Mindset Community | Facebook](#)

Or contact us via email: mindsetkingdommtl@gmail.com

Save the Date – June 10th 2021

Amplifying the Voice of Palestinian Christians



You are invited to a discussion:

Amplifying the voice of the Jerusalem Church and Palestinian Christians

***Facilitated by Catholic Action
When: Jun 10, 2021 07:00-8:15 PM***

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMldO2vrDMiHdR7xiqqDt1QsA8uvZi9vpbd>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



*Save the Date- June 22nd, 2021.
Catholic Action's Annual General Meeting!*

Save the date!

June 22nd, 2021
7:00 PM

Catholic Action
invites you to hear
their Good News

Please Join us via ZOOM
for our AGM
and our very special guest
Bishop Thomas Dowd



Dear friends of Catholic Action

You are invited to Catholic Action's Annual General Meeting
When: Jun 22, 2021, 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

You must register in advance for this meeting, please use this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwodOGspj8jHt2LDToXkioZGLgkKXimQeCR>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the link to the meeting.



How Can you Help Catholic Action?



PRAY for Catholic Action

REGISTER your gifts on our website: www.catholicaction.ca

SHARE your gifts by emailing us on how you can help jwong@catholicaction.ca

LET US KNOW how & where you serve in the community.

VOLUNTEER in a new area of interest!

BECOME A CA MEMBER [Membership Join or Renew below – Catholic Action Montreal](#)

Attend out AGM and **TELL OTHERS** about Catholic Action

LET US HELP! If you know of a group that needs assistance, contact us

jwong@catholicaction.ca



The Season of Easter - Did you know ?

Celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord

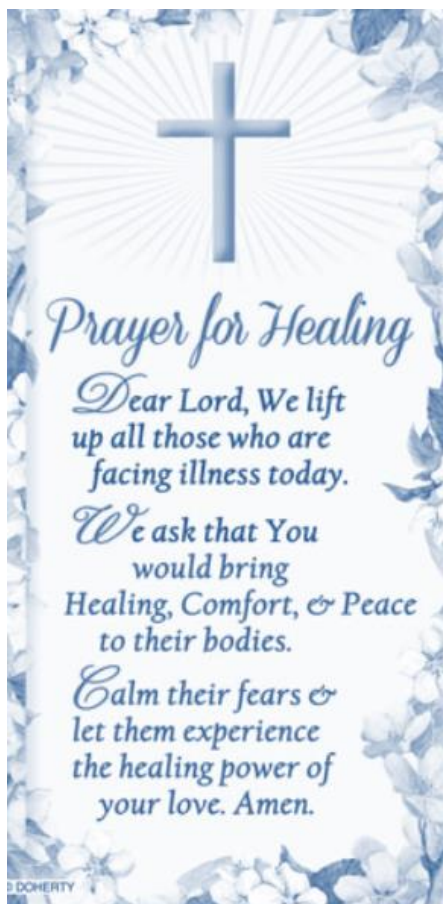
Easter Season began on Easter Sunday and lasted for 50 days, ending on Pentecost.

This year it began on April 4th, 2021 and ended on the 23rd of May 2021.

The altar decorations are usually white, gold, or white and gold.

White represents the angels who announced the resurrection, while gold symbolizes triumph.

Bible Trivia



Bible Trivia May-2021

1. What was the name of Adam's third son?
2. How many books are there in the Old Testament?
3. What relation was Jacob to Abraham?
4. What did Joseph's brothers do to Joseph?
5. Who was Moses' successor after his death?
6. How many books are in the New Testament?
7. Who were the first apostles called to follow Jesus?
8. Who is the author of the Book of Revelation?
9. To what city was Saul traveling when he encountered a great and blinding light?
10. In the Gospel of Mark, how does the Virgin Mary learn of her pregnancy?

Click below for the answers:

[Bible Trivia – Catholic Action Montreal](#)

HELP US
help others.



*The term ‘Charity’ is an old-fashioned notion often generating pity.
“We are a Catholic organization, and we don’t want pity, we want partners to do the
Lord’s work.”*

Please consider Catholic Action in your annual charitable giving.

Help us to continue helping others in Jesus’ name.

God Bless!

<https://catholicaction.ca/give/>

Blessings to you and yours !!