

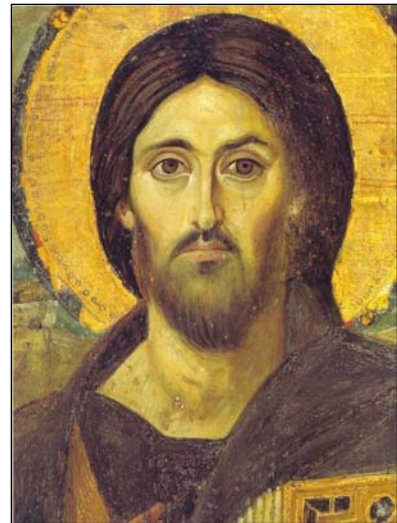


Invitation to a New Encounter with Christ

**... For we are what He has made us, created in Christ Jesus
for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
(Ephesians 2:10)**

The Beauty of the Human Person, created by God and saved in Jesus Christ: this is the mystery upon which I invite the faithful of the Archdiocese of Edmonton to pray and reflect with me in this, our first year of the **Nothing More Beautiful** process of new evangelization.

I am pleased to announce the schedule for a series of special Encounters where we will be given an opportunity to know Jesus Christ and the treasury of our faith in a new way. It is my hope that you come away from each experience thinking about your own relationship with Christ and how it might change your daily life.



Each event will focus on a different aspect of the year's theme with music, prayer, a keynote catechist and a lay witness. All have different but compelling perspectives on the beauty of our faith. Each encounter is scheduled for 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Basilica. Come, join us!

In Christ,

✠Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton



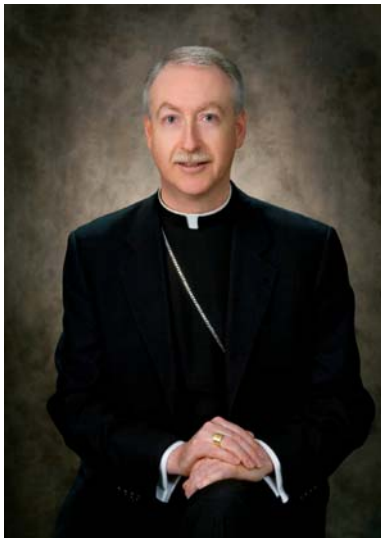
Encounters 2008-09

In the Image and Likeness of God

Friday, Dec. 12, 2008

Catechist: Most Rev. Richard Smith, Archbishop of Edmonton

Witness: Lea Singh, Assistant Director, Catholic Organization for Life and Family



Archbishop Richard Smith, a native of Halifax, was ordained to the episcopate on June 18, 2002, and served the Diocese of Pembroke before being appointed to the Archdiocese of Edmonton in 2007. He was struck by the words of Benedict XVI in the homily at his papal inauguration Mass: *“There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know Him and to speak to others of our friendship with him.”* This was the inspiration for *Nothing More Beautiful*, the name Archbishop Smith has given to a five-year process of reflection and renewal in the Archdiocese.



Lea Singh is Assistant Director of the Catholic Organization for Life and Family (COLF), a national nonprofit organization devoted to education and intervention in the Canadian public square on life and family issues. Lea grew up in Edmonton, where she attended Archbishop MacDonald High School. She completed her university education in the United States at Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School. In 2003 Lea passed the New York bar and worked as an associate in a major New York City law firm. A year later, she decided to work more directly for the Church, and worked as Legal Counsel of the Catholic Family & Human Rights Institute (C-FAM), on whose behalf she lobbied the United Nations.

The Human Body in God's Creative Design

Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009

Catechist: Sister M. Timothy Prokes, F.S.E., Professor of Spirituality and Theology

Witnesses: Michael and Terese Ferri of Pembroke, Ont.



A Franciscan Sister of the Eucharist, **Sister Timothy Prokes** has published *Towards a Theology of the Body and Mutuality: the Human Image of Trinitarian Love*, in addition to several articles. She has taught at many universities in the U.S. and Canada, and frequently lectures at conferences on the themes of theology of the body, bioethical issues and the spiritual life. She is also a professor of the Permanent Diaconate Program of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., conducts retreats for both religious communities and the laity, and delivers lectures and short courses for parish, diocesan, and professional groups.

Photo to come

Michael and Terese Ferri live in Pembroke, Ontario. Michael is a psychiatrist and medical chief of staff at Pembroke General Hospital. Terese practises family law. They will share how the beauty of the Gospel, particularly as it finds expression in Pope John Paul II's theology of the body, has inspired and guided them in their personal and family lives.

Our New Life in Jesus Christ

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Catechist: Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.

Witness: Mary Rose Bacani, Producer, Salt + Light Television



Archbishop Charles J. Chaput is spiritual leader of almost 385,000 Catholics in 120 parishes in the Archdiocese of Denver. A member of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin, St. Augustine Province, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1970 and to the episcopate in 1988. Pope John Paul II appointed him Archbishop of Denver on February 18, 1997. As a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe, Archbishop Chaput is the second Native American to be ordained bishop in the United States, and the first Native American archbishop. In his new book, *Render Unto Caesar: Serving the Nation by Living our Catholic Beliefs in Political Life*, Archbishop Chaput calls for Catholics to deepen their commitment to Church teaching on abortion, the death penalty, immigration, poverty and other matters of social justice, and to carry their faith-rooted convictions into public life.

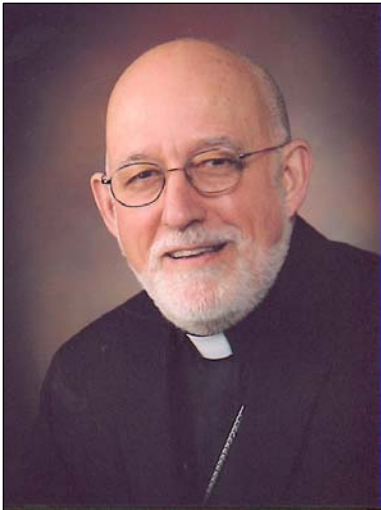


Mary Rose Bacani remembers three special transitional moments in her life when she felt called by God to do something: one was to go to Rhode Island to join the Regnum Christi movement as a consecrated member after one year at the University of Toronto, the next was to go to California to attend Thomas Aquinas College for her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts, and the third was finally to go back home to Toronto. There she did what she felt in her heart she had to do – check out Salt + Light Television. Since then Mary Rose has produced several shows and documentaries for S+L, including *Journey of Light* and *Catholic Women's League: for God and Canada*. Her most recent project is *The World I Know: Virtues in Action* series co-produced with the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board.

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Catechist: Most Rev. John Corriveau, O.F.M., Cap., Bishop of Nelson

Witness: Patrick Stewart, Director, Marian Centre, Edmonton



Bishop John Corriveau grew up in small-town Ontario and went on to become the worldwide leader of his religious order, the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor Capuchins, in 1994. During his two terms as Minister General of the Capuchins, he was based in Rome but travelled widely. Upon his return to Canada in 2006, he was assigned to work at St. Francis' Table, a restaurant for the poor in Toronto's Parkdale area, where he greeted guests and waited on tables. He was serving as Provincial Minister of the Capuchins' Province of Central Canada in November 2007 when Pope Benedict XVI appointed him Bishop of Nelson. The diocese, located in the beautiful Okanagan and Kootenay regions of British Columbia, is home to about 78,000 Catholics.



Patrick Stewart has spent the last 11 of his 18 years in the Madonna House community serving at the Edmonton inner-city apostolate known as the Marian Centre. He was born in Frankfurt, Germany, and raised and educated in the United States. He spent 11 years serving as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy, a period in which he abandoned his Roman Catholic faith and committed himself to a secular vision of life. Six months before ending his naval career however, Patrick was profoundly confronted by the shallowness of his personal life and the emptiness of his heart. A Roman Catholic priest in North Carolina, a friend of his family, stepped into this void and helped Stewart recover his faith and claim a long-denied call from the Lord. Patrick is also an accomplished artist with an international patronage.



Archdiocesan Prayer for 2008–09

Heavenly Father,
we come before you in praise and thanksgiving
for you have called us to be your own.

You sent your Word
to bring us truth
and your Spirit to make us holy.
Through them we come to know
the Beauty that is You.

Draw us to a new encounter with Jesus, your Son.
Deepen our love for His Church.
Help us to embrace anew
the beauty of our faith in all of its richness.

Empower us to see there is nothing more beautiful
than our relationship with You,
so that we may reflect to others your image,
in which we have been created.

We pray that, rooted and grounded in your love,
and through the healing power of the Cross of your Son,
we may be strengthened for mission
by your Holy Spirit.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.