

St. Edward the Confessor

February 25, 2018
2nd Sunday of Lent



Income Tax Receipts

Income tax receipts for your 2017 offering are available to be picked up after Mass.

In Memorial

Ronald Foley, brother of Deacon Gerry Foley, died this past week in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Your prayers for the Foley family would be much appreciated.



Parents of children in second grade or higher are asked to meet with Fr. Ernie at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 6 in the south wing to talk about receiving First Holy Communion this year.



There are still 'Give it up for the Earth' pledge cards and postcards available at the back of the church for any who have not yet picked one up. This Lenten project challenges all of us to give up something during Lent that will reduce our personal contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and to pressure the federal government to 'give up', that is, stop all subsidies to the fossil fuel industry. Fossil fuel exploration, extraction and consumption are a huge contributor to greenhouse gasses. Please fill out the postcard letter and place it in the offering. All cards collected at St Edward's will be packaged together and sent on to the national campaign. Further information can be found on the St Edward's bulletin board in the south wing corridor. What can you give up this Lent for the sake of our earth?

Violinist Carlissa Klopoushak In Concert

"On Sunday, March 4, at 4 pm Carissa Klopoushak, violinist from the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, will present a concert here at the church accompanied by Jan Krejcar on piano. Carissa has performed across Canada, Australia and in the Ukraine. Tickets are \$15 and children 12 and under are free.

The Book Nook

Did you know there is a small library just off the south wing corridor? The books include topics in theological analysis, Christian themed novels and books to appeal to younger readers. You may sign out any book that interests you at any time.

St. Joseph Oratory Peace Be With You Lenten Retreat

All are welcome to join Fr. Jomon Kalladanthiyil, CSC, with Fr. Arul Jayaraj, CSC, for a Lenten retreat on Saturday, March 3 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm in the Basilica at St Joseph's Oratory. Cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch and parking. RSVP by Feb 25 at jkalladanthiyil@osj.qc.ca

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian, any more than standing in a garage makes you a car."

REFLECTION

The season of Lent is once again upon us. For some, it is a time of sacrifice and repentance, while others use it as a nudge to get back on track with New Year's resolutions.

When we first began to develop ***Give it up for the Earth!*** – CPJ's Lenten climate campaign – it prompted me to think seriously about my personal Lenten journey. Reflecting on my carbon footprint in the context of Lent led me to a deeper sort of engagement. In 2017, I decided to “give up” over packaged goods, and, as much as possible to purchase food in bulk, using reusable jars and bins. Over the last year, I've managed to maintain this practice to a large extent. Doing so fed into a larger conversation in our home about “stuff” – how much we have, where we get it, and what kinds of practices our purchasing supports.

Increasingly, I'm prioritizing quality over quantity, adopting a “buy it once” sort of philosophy when it comes to clothing and household goods. I also make a lot of things myself, and when I do, I endeavour to only create with ethically-produced, sustainable materials.

All of this comes from an understanding of integral ecology – the interconnectedness of all things – and a recognition that as humans we are a part of the Earth community. Our well-being is inextricably linked to the well-being of the planet.

The way we spend our money reflects what we deem important. What we buy and where we invest are a reflection of our values and priorities. It follows that if *our* spending reflects what we value, the same is true of government spending.

Since the climate summit in 2015, our federal government has repeatedly declared its commitment to climate action. True, some steps have been taken to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, but there are still problems with Canadian climate and energy policy. Among the most egregious are the subsidies to the fossil fuel industry. Through a series of tax breaks and direct grants, the federal government continues to provide \$1.6 billion in public funds to oil and gas companies each year.

That is why ***Give it up for the Earth!*** is calling on the Canadian federal government to end all subsidies to the fossil fuel industry right away. The \$1.6 billion saved annually can then be invested in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and skills development for workers currently employed in the oil and gas sector. This would help put Canada on course for a just transition to clean energy by 2050.

Karri Munn-Venn, CPJ