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You're reading "The Column" by Pillars Trust!

Welcome to the first issue of our newly christened newsletter, "The Column" by "The Column" ... Get it? "Column" ... synonymous with "pillar" and suggesting *news*?

The winning name was submitted by Fr. Robert Clark, Pastor at Annunciation Parish and Pillars Trust Board member. Thank you to all who took the time to give it some thought and submit a proposal.

First, ... the Good News

Yes, good news indeed. Our 2016-2017 fundraising campaign collected \$173,271.00, which represents a little over \$40,000.00 more than we raised in 2015-2016. While we fell short of our campaign goal, we were encouraged by the increased support and are deeply appreciative of the generosity of all of our loyal and new donors.

Rest assured that your dollars will be disbursed in a way that best serves the ever-changing needs of Montreal's English-speaking Catholic Community.

In this year of Montreal's 375th Anniversary, we look back at the huge impact Religious and lay groups have had on our history. We thank you for honoring this proud tradition of living the Gospel by your support of Pillars Trust.

**A BIG
THANK
YOU!**

Pillars Trust raises and manages funds to support initiatives fulfilling the spiritual and temporal wants and needs of Pastors, Priests, Parishioners and Catholic Organizations across the Diocese of Montreal.

Now the Better News

Over the past couple of years, the Pillars Trust Board members have worked diligently to refine the mission, vision and strategic goals of Pillars Trust. Last year, we focused on "reconnecting" with Parishes and Priests through better communications. These informative exchanges enabled us to more fully understand the needs of our community.

As a result, in 2017 we will be focusing the mission of Pillars on "Parish Vitality" or, more specifically, the promotion of activities that support and promote more engaged and financially viable local parishes. In his Prayer Intentions for September 2017, Pope Francis prays "*That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.*"

To this end, Pillars Trust is very pleased to announce the hiring of **Terrel Joseph**, as a full time **Parish Vitality Consultant**, effective as of July 1, 2017.

Terrel comes to Pillars with excellent experience, combining a business education and background with over 12 years of experience in active ministry as Campus Minister at the Newman Centre of McGill University and as the Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation and Youth Minister at St. Willibrord's parish.



Terrel's priorities will be to improve the financial viability of our parishes through greater parish vitality. He will aim to implement various "common experience" pastoral tools and programs to help parishes transform their own culture by finding, inspiring and equipping their local leadership to engineer their own renewal in vitality. We will have more details about Terrel's role in our next issue of The Column.

The hiring of Terrel marks another significant step along the path towards spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ by building a stronger Montreal Catholic community. It also complements the activities of Lay Evangelist, **Corey Jolly**, whose work involves the evangelization of groups, ministries, organizations, apostolates and individuals across the Diocese and those of the **Youth Ministry Office**, which promotes outreach to Catholic youth, aged 13 to 35 through coordination, communication, animation and formation. Both the ministries performed by Corey and **Holly Eugenio** of the Youth Ministry benefit from the financial support of Pillars Trust.

Also Powered by Pillars Trust

- **The Montreal Catholic Challenge Movement.** In March, 60 young Catholic adults from



across the Diocese of Montreal participated in a three-day retreat at Loyola High School. Witness talks, music, group building activities, faith sharing discussions and fellowship. Another example of Pillars Trust supporting initiatives which promote the

vitality of the English Catholic community.

- Sponsored in part by Pillars Trust, the 2nd gathering of the **Catholic Business Professionals Networking Conference** took place on March 16, 2017 in the early evening hours at the Grand Séminaire de Montréal. This event is for professionals in all kinds of different sectors: Whether you're

in management or finance, entrepreneurship, or law or medicine, if your work is in some way linked to the business world, this event is for you. Guest speaker was Caroline Pilon, Vice-President, Client Services and Strategy at Tuxedo agency, a marketing firm specializing in fashion, beauty and retail. Caroline talked about the power of faith and the fruits of the action of the Holy Spirit in her daily life and working environment. Admission for this event is free. To find out when the next conference will be held, sign-up for “The Grapevine”. It’s a weekly newsletter sent out through the Office of English Pastoral Services at the Archdiocese of Montreal. Google “The Grapevine” Catholic Church Montreal, for more information.

- **Camp Caritas**

Supported by Pillars Trust, this year Camp Caritas marks its 45th season. Founded and Directed by Father John Baxter, the 2017 camping session runs from August 1st to August 15th. The two-week camping session costs only \$500 – and for parents - that is a great value.

Situated on Lac La Belle in the Laurentians, ‘The Caritas Experience’ creates great summer memories for active and sports minded boys between the ages of 12 and 17. Caritas is a summer sports camp with a difference – communicating vital human, spiritual and fraternal values leading to long lasting friendships.



Check out the [New Camp Video](http://www.campcaritas.ca) at www.campcaritas.ca and find everything that you need to know about Camp Caritas at this site - as well as a registration form.

Need more information: don't hesitate to call or email. Contact Camp Co-Director, Deacon Richard Brisebois, at 514-826-0278 or dcan1000@gmail.com.

Pillars Trust AGM

We held our Annual General Meeting on June 21st.

The Pillars Trust Board of Directors welcomes **Father Raymond Lafontaine**, recently appointed Episcopal Vicar and Director of the Office of English Pastoral Services. Father Ray replaces **Bishop Thomas Dowd**, Vicar General of the Diocese. Congratulations to both Bishop Tom and Father Ray.

Three new Board members were elected and two did not renew their terms. The new Board members are:

- **Alberto Pesce**, International Tax Partner at BDO Montreal, a parishioner at The Holy Name of Jesus Parish. Albert will be bringing his talents to the Treasury function, replacing Paul Stauch (see below);
- **Alexander King**, Director of Advancement at McGill University Desautels Faculty of Management, a parishioner at Notre-Dame-de-la-Consolata. He brings to our Board a wealth of experience in building relationships and fundraising.
- **Paul Gareau**, retired Executive Director and long serving staff member of the Montreal Association for the Blind. Paul is a member of St. Thomas à Becket. His credentials and experience in social work and community involvement ensures continuity on our Board in this important area.



We extend heartfelt appreciation, and our prayers for success and happiness, to **Mary Jo Gascon** (St. Veronica Parish) and **Paul Stauch** (St. John Fisher Parish). Mary Jo has been a Pillar among “Pillars” for a decade, active on the Communications, Campaign and Beneficiaries Committees and dynamic collaborator on numerous special events hosted by Pillars over the years.



Since 2000, Paul has served perhaps as the longest standing member on the Pillars Board, a valued individual from the firm of Deloitte, Paul faithfully served Pillars Trust as a Director, Treasurer, Vice-President, President, Past President, and this year serving a final year as Director.

Thank you both for your tireless application of time and talent to Pillars Trust.

How “Long in the Tooth” are you? *The Pillars Trust Fund is Celebrating 45 Years.*

Conceived and founded by the late Bishop Leonard J. Crowley, **The Pillars Trust Fund** came to be under a “Deed of Establishment of Trust” on May 1st, 1972, stating that the purpose and mission of the Fund *is to solicit moneys annually from amongst the English-speaking Catholic community of the Diocese in aid of Apostolic and Charitable activities in said Diocese.* The first Board meeting of the members of the Pillars Trust Fund took place on May 31st, 1972. Over the years, the Pillars Trust has had a close working relationship with the clergy of Montreal particularly through the Office of English Pastoral Services at the Archdiocese of Montreal. We cherish this relationship and remember fondly the following Bishops and priests who have served and who are serving now on the Pillars Trust Board of Directors.

How far back does your memory go?

Honorary Chair, Bishop Leonard Crowley (1972-1997); Rev. Charles Cahill (1972); Rev. Peter Timmins (1972); Rev. John Brennan (1972); Rev Barry Jones (1975); Rev. Richard Griffin (1978); Rev.

Francis Toby McGivern (1979); Msgr. Russell Breen (1986); Rev. David Fitzpatrick (1991); Rev. Murray McCrory (1996); Honorary Chair – Auxiliary Bishop Neil E. Willard (1997-1998); Honorary Chair – Rev. Anthony Mancini (1998) *ordained Auxiliary Bishop on February 18, 1999*; Rev. Francis McKee (1999); Msgr. Sean Harty (2004); Rev. Robert Clark (2004-2009)(Reprise 2014); Rev. Stephen Otvos (2009); Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Dowd (2011); Rev. Raymond Lafontaine, E.V. (2017).



**Enjoy the summer and stay tuned
for more news from Pillars.**



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Have an idea for a project we could help with or would you like to volunteer your services?

Contact us at: ptf@catholiccentre.ca or at 514-937-2301 ext. 255

Check out our website: www.pillarstrust.org

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