



MARTYRS' SHRINE

SHRINE MESSAGE

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A Message From **the Director of Martyrs' Shrine**

“ As we prepare for the coming spring, I sense among the Jesuits and returning staff a spirit of gratitude for what has been, and what is to come. It is indeed our privilege to welcome you, and to serve you, and we very much look forward to journeying alongside you, walking with St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions towards a deeper union with Christ Jesus. “

My dear pilgrims and faith-filled supporters,

Since my last *Relation* to you in September, the brisk golden hue of autumn gave way to winter's scape. As it were, 'holding down the fort', I have been working with a skeleton crew of staff, the volunteer support of members of the Board of Trustees, and the Fathers here, to maintain our church, grounds, and administration of Martyrs' Shrine. Let's just say, shoveling snow is a fine form of exercise! Meanwhile, the Jesuit Fathers have done, what we can, and what is permissible, serving Simcoe county, in

parishes and health centres. We also prepare to once again offer Lenten Missions in parishes that welcome us, and are working on new programmes to offer pilgrims when we open.

I am sure that it has been difficult for many people, as our country, mid-September, entered into a 'second wave' of COVID-19, and has, since then, strived to be so conscientious of what needs to be done to keep everyone healthy and safe. Our efforts to help during this pandemic have been two-fold. First, each Sunday, at 11:00 AM the bells of St. Joseph Church toll every minute, for one

hour, in honour of the courageous labours of front-line workers and for those who either suffering with, or have died from, COVID-19. Second, we have offered many Masses and prayers, both at the request of pilgrims and of our own initiative, for those suffering from the virus. Indeed, all sorts of intentions have continued to come to us, on-line, as pilgrims asked that we light candles for them, asked us to offer Masses for them, or simply shared with us their prayers for the world. It is, after-all, our mission here, to pray with St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions, for peace, healing and renewed faith in





our world – and we have been doing so with great intention!

As you will read, another great consolation has been the success of our first on-line fundraising event, *Faith, Fire, and Flavour*, that, in the end, raised for us the incredible amount of \$92,662.12! This is not only the most money that has ever been raised by Martyrs’ Shrine in a single event, but also, I do believe, testament to the loyal devotion of so many to our mission here. It is this money that will help us to keep going during these winter months ahead, and, along with other generous gifts

received, ensure we are all the readier to welcome you this coming season.

You will also see that we have two new Jesuits that have joined our team: Fr. Louis-Martin Cloutier, SJ, and Fr. Robert Foliot, SJ. Two fine men that will add much to our labours here. You will also see how the generous labours of the Knights of Columbus has brought our look-out tower closer to opening. And, read of our efforts to prepare for the re-opening of the Church of St. Joseph after a year of closure due to the current pandemic.

Surely challenging times for us hear,

yet so filled with hope. I thank all of you that have contributed to help keep us going! As we enter into the Novena of St. Joseph, I invite any reader who has yet to do so, to consider helping us. We still have several months to go before we open, and any contribution would be most helpful to us. Meanwhile, we stand together, united in prayer, with St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions, looking to Christ Jesus our Lord.

St. Joseph, patron of Canada, pray for us.

Fr. Michael Knox, SJ



PREPARING TO RE-OPEN IN 2021

In the next month, staff will be returning from a 5-month lay-off and no time will be spared preparing to welcome the many thousands of pilgrims eager to return to the holy grounds of our National shrine.

With the effects of the pandemic on travel to our shrine still for the most part unknown, various plans and contingencies will be implemented to ensure that pilgrims can be welcomed back safely.

Of course, the impact of the pandemic on a visit to the shrine will not go unnoticed. Pilgrims will be greeted with hand sanitizer stations upon entering any building, enhanced cleaning of facilities built-in to our daily schedule, and even reduced facilities and staffing to accommodate the financial realities we now face.

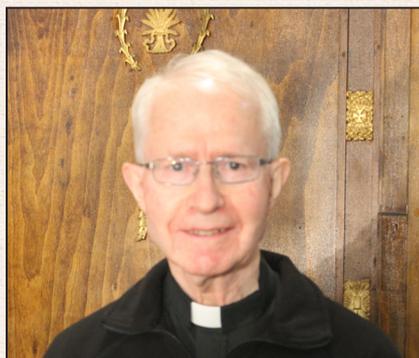
The 'experience' one is accustomed to at Martyrs' Shrine will be changed,

but together, with our staff, we will do our best to be open to our pilgrims in a way that is safe and responsible.

We look forward to our reopening on May 1st 2021, and hope that you will join us throughout the season, to walk our grounds and pray next to the relics of the Canadian Martyrs on the holy site where they once walked and lived.

WELCOME TO FR. BERT & FR. LOUIS-MARTIN

Please join us in welcoming two Jesuits who have been assigned to Maison + Sainte-Marie + House, the Jesuit Community at Martyrs' Shrine. Both Fr. Bert and Fr. Louis-Martin arrived in September.

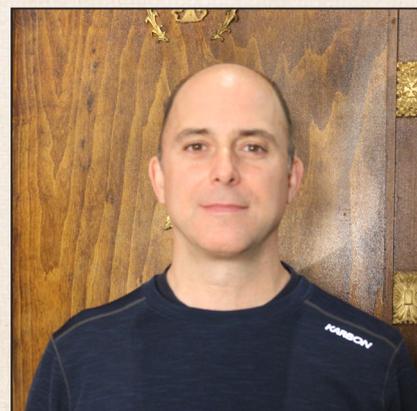


FATHER ROBERT FOLIOT, SJ was born in Montreal, entered the Jesuits in 1962 and was ordained a priest in 1973. He was the pastor of numerous parishes – St. Ignatius Parish in Winnipeg for 15 years, Our Lady of Lourdes Church in downtown Toronto for a total of 10 years, and among the Indigenous people of Manitoulin Island for 7 years. He was the Rector of Regis College in Toronto and Director of the Jesuit Development Office. Before coming to Martyrs' Shrine, he was the Superior of the Pickering Jesuits and the Director of the Jesuit Infirmiry.

Welcome Fr. Bert!

FATHER LOUIS-MARTIN CLOUTIER, SJ was admitted in the Society of Jesus in 1996, was ordained in 2006, and pronounced his final vows in 2014. Fr. Louis-Martin spent 11 years working in two secondary schools founded by the Society of Jesus in the province of Québec, that were named in honour of the Canadian Martyrs: St. Charles Garnier, and St. Jean de Brébeuf. Fr. Cloutier worked mainly as a spiritual life and community engagement facilitator. He spent three years at Saint Joseph Oratory (Montréal) working as part of a collaboration with the Society. Fr. Louis-Martin is a returning Jesuit having already shared in the mission Martyrs' Shrine in 2016-2018.

Welcome back Fr. Louis-Martin!





THE MAGIS GUESTHOUSE

The Magis is a guesthouse that is open only to priests and members of religious clergy. This 14-room facility was opened in early 2019 and has since welcomed many hundreds of visitors who have journeyed to Martyrs' Shrine for a getaway to rest both their body and spirit on our holy grounds.

As we look forward to reopening in 2021, we will begin to once again promote the Magis Guesthouse to priests, sisters, and other vowed members of religious orders for overnight stays at our National Shrine.

~ **GIVE YOUR PRIEST A BREAK!** ~

Does your local priest need a well-deserved getaway? Many pastors have been navigating the complex challenges of ministering during the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Consider gifting your priest a stay at the Magis Guesthouse for between \$85 and \$95 per night.

www.themagis.ca

LOOKOUT TOWER UPDATE

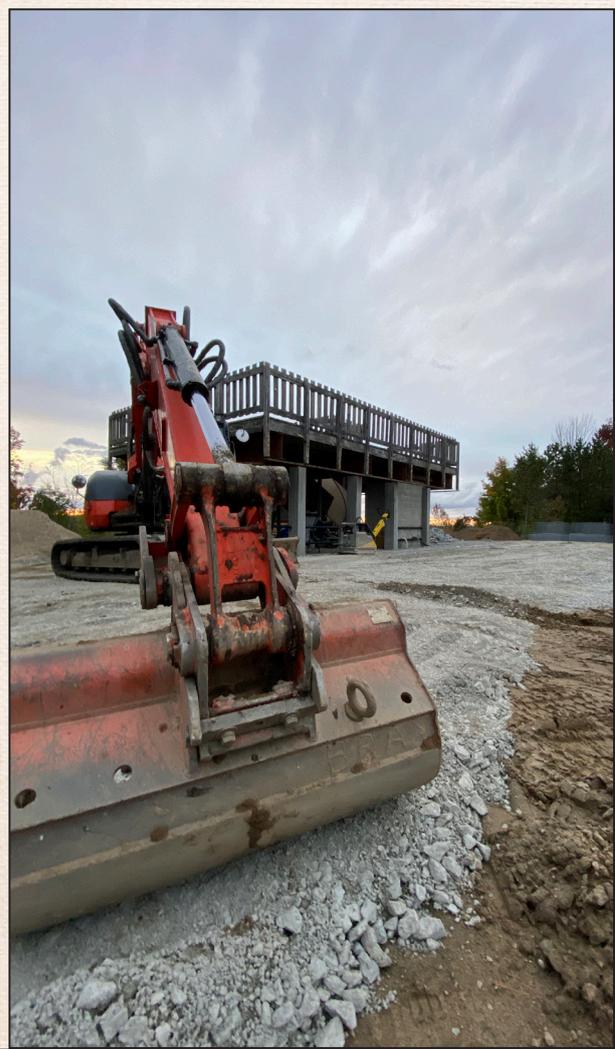
Over the past few months, members of the Knights of Columbus have been taking advantage of the unprecedented closure of Martyrs' Shrine to continue the Lookout Tower project.

A revised plan that incorporates the existing structure into a more natural landmark has been re-imagined to better align with its landscape. This remodeled structure will be fully wheelchair accessible to ensure that people of all abilities can take-in one of the most marvelous views of God's creation.

Phase one of three has been completed, and the new supporting walls have been laid around the structure. These will provide the base on which the new wrap-around ramp will be supported.

Also part of this initial phase, was the construction of a gable wall to extend and support the structure over the ravine that allows for such a view to Georgian Bay.

The Lookout is expected to be completed by September of 2021.



FAITH, FIRE & FLAVOUR: VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING



With the new realities of the global pandemic we've been facing, an urgent need for donations became apparent and critical to the continued operations of Martyrs' Shrine.

Members of our Advancement Committee along with staff and Jesuits brainstormed ideas of how we could create a virtual event to both fundraise and continue to connect with our pilgrims in a new and 'COVID-safe' way using the technology, and resources we had at our disposal. We are fortunate to have a diverse range of talent on our staff and quickly brought them together to create *Faith, Fire & Flavour*. This 'cooking show' starring our Chef, Jason Reynolds, and hosted by Fr. Michael Knox, SJ, Director of Martyrs' Shrine, was no small feat, nor did it yield small fruit.

\$92,662 Raised!
For Our Mission

With the help of our committee, staff spent a day of filming and numerous following days editing, to put together a 90-minute cooking demonstration of Niçoise salad, Coq au vin, and cherries jubilee.

The event, which saw over 300 people register, and over 115 devices connect the night of the programme, was met with incredible outpour of generosity from our faithful pilgrims who answered Fr. Michael's plea for support.

Together, we raised \$92,662.12 dollars to protect our Mission and help us ensure that we can be all the more present to pilgrims come our re-opening in May of 2021. We thank everyone for the generous support and participation through this initiative.

THANK YOU! to Brooklea Golf and Country Club, Mom's Restaurant, Royal Homes, H. S. St. Amant and Sons Inc., Realty Executives On The Bay Inc. Brokerage, Blakeney Henneberry Murphy & Galligan, and GVS Metals for sponsoring our Faith, Fire & Flavour virtual fundraising event.

MESSAGE FROM MR. BRIAN BEAL, CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Dear Friends, Supporters, Pilgrims, Donors, and Benefactors of Martyrs' Shrine:

I am pleased to write to you in my role as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Martyrs' Shrine.

It is a blessing for me to be able to serve with such a dedicated team that is so committed to promoting and protecting the mission and vision of Martyrs' Shrine.

Like each of you, our Board has had to look at everything we have always done, and wish to do, from a new perspective, as we continue to respond and adapt to our covid

reality. It was an incredibly difficult decision to decide to remain closed for the 2020 season, and yet we knew that for the health and safety of everyone involved, it was the only decision we could have made.

Despite our gates being physically closed to the public, the sacred work of the shrine has continued. Our Jesuit Fathers have found new ways to reach out to our communities, and we, in turn, have been so blessed by the outpouring of support from countless people who love our national shrine. It has been actually quite humbling to witness, firsthand, this power of faith.

The Board of Trustees has been overwhelmed not only by the generosity of everyone who believes so deeply in the sacred works of Martyrs' Shrine, but by the outpouring of support for our beloved Jesuit Fathers.

The physical closing of the gates has caused countless stories to be told about blessings received over the

years through encounters with our current and former Jesuit Fathers, and through visiting these sacred grounds. Many of these stories might not have been shared under normal circumstances, and so for these stories we are grateful.

Like you, we pray, and we prepare for, a successful re-opening in May 2021.

We thank you for your prayers. We thank you for your generous financial support of our mission. We ask you to continue to support us financially.

I ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers, as you shall be in ours, between now and opening day. I encourage you to continue to check out our website at www.martyrs-shrine.com for ongoing updates.

Sincerely,
Brian Beal
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Martyrs' Shrine

VISION

That all people have joined St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions in building a culture of love with Jesus Christ.

MISSION

Martyrs' Shrine offers a holy and historic space of education, spiritual conversation, and Sacrament, sharing with people, of every faith and community, the divine mystery of self-sacrificing love, witnessed in the lives of St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions, and fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

VALUES

Loving Service
Sacramental Life,
Stewardship,
Hospitality, and
Education

2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & PILGRIMAGES

MASSES

Schedule for Holy Mass

1 May - 11 October

SAT & SUN 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon, **3:00 PM** & 7:30 PM

May, June, September and October

MON - FRI 9:00 AM, 12:00 Noon & **3:00 PM**

July and August

MON - FRI 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon, **3:00 PM** & 7:30 PM

Daily Life at the Shrine

- Outdoor Stations of the Cross (Individual, and/or Group)
- Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Wednesdays during July & August) in the St. Ignatius Chapel
- Praying and Blessings with the Relics of the Canadian Martyrs
- Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated throughout the day and upon request
- Café, and Gift Shop, Open Daily

Mass is celebrated at 3:00 PM every Wednesday during July and August at St. Ignace II, site of martyrdom of Sts. Brébeuf and Lalemant.

Special Events

APRIL 2nd, GOOD FRIDAY

Outdoor Stations of the Cross at 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM

May

1st OPENING DAY (Mass 12:00 Noon ONLY)

9th Mother's Day Blessing at all Masses

June

6th Blessing of the Community Friendship Gardens (10:30 AM Mass)

20th National Indigenous Peoples Day *

20th Father's Day Blessing at all Masses

July

1st Canada Day Mass (10:30 AM)

31st Feast Day of St. Ignatius Loyola (12:00 Noon Mass)

August

14th Polish Rosary Candlelight Procession (8:30 PM)

12th Memorial Mass at Caragouha (2:00 PM)

20th Mass of the Anointing of the Sick (2:00 PM)

September

18th-26th Novena to the Canadian Martyrs

26th Feast of the Canadian Martyrs Celebration (Mass 12:00 Noon ONLY)

26th Tiawenk Fundraising Dinner

October

11th CLOSING DAY (Last Mass at 12:00 Noon)

FIRST LIGHT * : Nov 18-20, Nov 25-27 & Dec 2-4

* Event presented in partnership with Sainte-Marie among the Hurons

New Programmes Launching in 2021!

Walk & Reflect | Prayer Groups | Ignatian Yoga | Art Programmes | Retreats

Watch our website at www.martyrs-shrine.com for more information.

PILGRIMAGES

OPENING DAY: SATURDAY, MAY 1ST 2021

JUNE

Saturday	05	Byzantine Romanian Mission
Saturday	05	Czech Walking Pilgrimage
Sunday	06	Czech Pilgrimage
Sunday	06	Blessed Trinity Pilgrimage
Saturday	12	Vietnamese Pilgrimage
Sunday	13	Slovak Pilgrimage
Sunday	13	Belarusian Pilgrimage
Saturday	19	First Nation Pilgrimage
Sunday	27	Italian Pilgrimage

JULY

Saturday	03	Korean Pilgrimage
Sunday	04	Holy Crucifixion Pilgrimage
Saturday	10	Chinese Pilgrimage
Saturday	10	India/Pakistan Pilgrimage
Saturday	10	Syro Malabar Pilgrimage
Sunday	11	Croatian Pilgrimage
Saturday	17	Tamil Catholic Community of Toronto
Saturday	24	Konkan Family Pilgrimage
Saturday	24	Holy Family Pilgrimage
Sunday	25	Sri Lankan Pilgrimage

AUGUST

Saturday	07	Filipino Pilgrimage
Friday	13	Biking Pilgrimage
Saturday	14	Walking Pilgrimage
Saturday	14	Hispanic Pilgrimage
Sunday	15	Polish Pilgrimage
Saturday	21	St. Josephine Bakhita Pilgrimage
Saturday	21	Irish Pilgrimage
Saturday	28	Hungarian Pilgrimage
Sunday	29	Goan Pilgrimage

SEPTEMBER

Sunday	05	Dolorosa Group Pilgrimage
Sunday	05	Albanian Pilgrimage
Saturday	11	Slovenian Pilgrimage
Saturday	11	Western Pastoral Pilgrimage
Sunday	12	Rosary Sunday (Knights of Columbus)
Saturday	18	Lithuanian Pilgrimage

CLOSING DAY: MONDAY, OCTOBER 11th 2021

Gate Fees

We ask a modest gate fee from our pilgrims and visitors to help support our Mission, and continue to deliver a quality experience through well-maintained grounds, and programming.

Adult (12 years+)	\$6.00
Parish Bus	\$95.00
Tour Bus	\$225.00