This week, many staff, students, and faculty have been working hard at the University of Alberta to respond to the crisis in Fort McMurray and I wanted to let you know what is being done.

Since Tuesday, our Emergency Operations Centre has been coordinating efforts with staff across campus to prepare for the anticipated arrival of evacuees from Fort McMurray. Our Reception Centre Team has welcomed approximately 450 evacuees at Lister Centre and St Joseph’s College has taken in several families. Evacuees are receiving food, housing, and parking, and have free access to the U of A’s recreation facilities and libraries. Our Crisis Counselling team is also providing services.

We continue to work in coordination with the City of Edmonton and Alberta Emergency Management Agency. We will now hold our remaining spaces to co-ordinate any longer-term housing needs that are identified through the city’s emergency reception centre located at Edmonton Northlands.

In addition to these activities, Provost Steven Dew and Vice-Provost and University Registrar Lisa Collins have been working in coordination with the six Edmonton-area Campus Alberta post-secondary institutions. In partnership, the six institutions sent out a statement this afternoon to assure all applicants, who may have difficulty completing their coursework or getting official marks or transcripts due to the Alberta wildfires, their applications will continue to be processed. The U of A, along with our six partners, will continue to work closely with Alberta Education, the post-secondary institutions that have been affected by the fire, as well as applicants themselves to ensure that they are able to receive admission decisions.

In faculties across the university, every effort has been made to account for students, faculty, and staff who were living or working in Wood Buffalo region. All are safe. However, we also know that the fire has disrupted many field placements, research projects, coops, and internships and we are working to address these longer term impacts.

Throughout this week, I heard from many in our community that they would like to do something to respond to the emergency. I have seen repeatedly how quickly this community can come together to help others.

Thanks to the volunteer efforts of many across campus, a fundraising BBQ is being organized in support of Fort McMurray for early next week. I invite faculty, staff, students, and alumni to join us.

Where: North Campus Quad
When: Tuesday, May 10 from 11 am – 1:30 pm

More details will be sent on Monday, but I can let you know now that evacuees being accommodated on campus and throughout the city will be asked to join us. We will also have booths available to accept:
- cash donations for the Red Cross
- non-perishable food items for the Edmonton and Campus Food Bank
- personal hygiene, clothing, and domestic items needed by the Edmonton Emergency Relief Services

My warmest thanks to everyone for your hard work and dedicated efforts throughout this week and over the weeks ahead.

Thank you,

David H. Turpin
President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Alberta

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**A Prayer for an End to Storms**

O God, to whose commands all the elements give obedience, we humbly entreat you, that the stilling of fearsome [fire] storms may turn a power menace into an occasion for us to praise you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, you Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

- The Roman Missal, pg 1294

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**Chapel Bulletin**

**St. Joseph’s College**

Administered by the Basilians. The Roman Catholic Chaplaincy at the U of A.

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**Prayers for our Refugee Families**

Please keep our Syrian Newcomers in your prayers. We are still waiting for SJ3b and SJ4 to arrive.
SJ1: The Dalaa Family
SJ2: Al Haidar Family
SJ3a: Bassel and Majed
SJ3b: Zeidan Family
SJ4: Bassel’s Parents and Brother

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**Weekend Mass**

(Located in Main Chapel)
Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 9:30 am & 11:00 am

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**Weekday Mass**

(Located in Women’s Residence)
Mon - Thurs 12:10 pm

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**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

(Located in Main Chapel)
Tuesday: 11:30 am - Noon, or by appointment

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**Chapel Bulletin**
History of St. Joe's

At the invitation of Henry Marshall Tory, first president of the University of Alberta in 1926 the Catholic community under Archbishop John Joseph O'Leary founded an affiliated College on the University campus. Guided by the Christian Brothers, St. Joseph’s College housed up to one hundred men in a handsome brick building that included a chapel, dining room, classrooms and library. Through its affiliation agreement, the College offered university credit courses in Christian apologetics, ethics and philosophy. Beginning with the College's first rector, Brother Rogatian, in those early years Christian Brothers on staff taught in several faculties of the University.

In 1963, Archbishop John Hugh MacDonald invited the Basilian Fathers to assume administrative responsibility for St. Joseph’s College. During the next decades, its academic offerings were considerably expanded. Further, chaplaincy services assumed greater prominence on campus. Only recently, its residence gained an annex, St. Joseph’s College Women’s Residence. Today, with a core faculty of Basilians, lay women and men and excellent library, St. Joseph’s College offers undergraduate courses for credit in all U of A degree programs. Of particular importance are offerings in religious education for future teachers in the province’s Catholic school system. Other areas of instruction include philosophy, science and religion, history, ethics and theology.

Alberta March for Life – Thursday, May 12

Join us as we pray for a culture of life. This year’s appeal, as Canada legalizes euthanasia and assisted-suicide is especially urgent. We need your presence as a visible contribution to promote a culture of life. Please join us this year on Thursday, May 12: 10 a.m. – Mass at St. Joseph’s Basilica with Archbishop Smith. 11:45 am – Gathering at Sir Winston Churchill Square. 1:15 pm – March to the Alberta Legislature.

Text To Save A Life

There is nothing more powerful than prayer. The Back Porch invites you to become involved in their life-saving ministry. Please pray for their clients as they make life and death decisions. To sign up for this prayer ministry, please text your full name to 587-785-1242, or call their office at 780-421-9941.

About The Back Porch: “Reaching out to abortion-minded women and men by promoting life-affirming and healthy options.” Located in Edmonton, The Back Porch is a friendly, non-judgmental environment staffed by volunteers, some of whom have personally experienced unplanned pregnancies. They have a network of support organizations for pre- and post-abortion counseling. Coping with an unplanned pregnancy is difficult, and whatever decision you make is life changing and irreversible. Feel free to drop by at the corner of 109A Avenue & 124th Street Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., or phone 780-421-9941. For more information visit www.thebackporch.info.

Festival of Sacred Music

This could make a beautiful Mother's Day gift ...St. Joseph Basilica is hosting a series of concerts as part of a Springtime Festival of Sacred Music. You are invited to visit this sacred space and experience the Holy through divine sacred music. Our next concert is Peter Anthony Togni's Responsio on Sunday, May 8, at 2:30 p.m., featuring Luminous Voices; Jeff Reilly, bass clarinet; Timothy Shantz, director. Tickets available at www.tixonthesquare.ca or at the door (cash or cheque) on concert day. Adults $30/Students & Seniors $20/under 16s FREE.

Music Ministry

Can you sing or play an instrument? Music ministry is always looking for new recruits.

9:30 & 11 am Masses

Tegan Hryciw
StJoesc.music@gmail.com

7 pm Mass

Theresa Robinson
Theresa.Robinson@ualberta.ca

4:30 pm (Sat.) Mass

Cerina Lee
jlee7@ualberta.ca

Sunday Coffee or Brunch

There is often free coffee in the Boardroom following the 9:30 am mass. Brunch is served in the cafeteria follow the 11 am mass for a cost of $9 person. Why not join us?

Hi, my name is....

Fr Terry Kersch
President

Brian Maraj
Dean

Theresa Robinson
Campus Minister

St Joseph

O God, you love your people and bless the ordinary lives we quietly live. As you blessed Saint Joseph, bless what I do, however hidden and simple it may be, and let all I do be done with love. Amen.

Music

9:30 & 11 am Music

Tegan

4:30 pm Sat. Music

Cerina

Fr. Glenn
Chaplain

Fr. Don
Lecturer

The Ascension of the Lord

As the liturgical year—and this Jubilee Year of Mercy—unfolds, we reflect on what Jesus’ ascension meant for the first disciples and means now for us. Stay in Jerusalem, Jesus had instructed, awaiting “the promise of the Father. In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:4–5). Despite Jesus’ absence, they wait “with great joy . . . continually in the temple praising God” (Luke 24:52–53). But as we join them, waiting and worshiping, the enduring challenge—theirs and ours—is delivered by “two men in white” (Acts 1:10). In every age, disciples must stop looking at the sky, head down the mountain, and go back into the world, “commissioned,” says Pope Francis, “to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel,” inviting everyone to find “in our parishes, communities, associations and movements . . . wherever there are Christians . . . an oasis of mercy” (Misericordiae Vultus, 12).

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Canadian Bishops speak to Parliament

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has submitted a brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, which is currently considering Bill C-14 (“medical assistance in dying”).

"Bill C-14, no matter how it may be amended, is an affront to human dignity, an erosion of human solidarity, and a danger to all vulnerable persons—particularly the aged, disabled, infirm and sick who so often find themselves isolated and marginalized," the bishops stated. "Moreover, it is a violation of the sacrosanct duty of healthcare providers to heal, and the responsibility of legislators and citizens to assure and provide protection for all, especially those persons most at risk. The passage of Bill C-14, occasioned by the seriously flawed Carter decision, will have devastating effects on the social fabric of our country that cannot be predicted today."