"Her Centre was Jesus'"  

Sisters, family, friends and colleagues filled St. Joseph Basilica on October 29 for a Memorial Mass for Sister Annata Brockman, a beloved educator, catechist and counsellor who served in the Archdiocese for more than 50 years. In his homily, Archbishop Richard Smith recalled that Sister Annata spoke many times about serving Jesus through serving others.

"Her centre was Jesus, and she wanted nothing other than for people to know his love and the transformation of life that happens when we live in and from that love," he said. "I cannot remember any conversation I had with Sister Annata in which she did not speak of Jesus and his tender love, of her wonder that God had poured into her heart a great love for others, of the needs of God's people and her desire to be of some help to them, and of her readiness to do whatever the Lord asked of her. And no conversation ever ended without a word of encouragement. I expect that anyone whose life was touched by hers has had the same experience."

Even in her final hours, Sister Annata's thoughts went to others. "Her niece Bernice shared with me that Sister began her final conversation with these words: 'I have offered my whole life that every person in the whole world would come to know the Lord and that His Love is unconditional.'"

Reformation 500  

While we can’t change the past, we can profoundly transform the way we remember it. That was one message of the joint statement signed in Lund cathedral on Monday by Pope Francis and by Bishop Munib Younan, president of the World Lutheran Federation. It’s also a theme at the heart of a 2013 Catholic-Lutheran publication called From Conflict to Communion, which laid the foundation for the historic signing and a number of other ecumenical events in Sweden this week.

"With this Joint Statement, we express joyful gratitude to God for this moment of common prayer in the Cathedral of Lund, as we begin the year commemorating the five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation," the declaration reads. "Fifty years of sustained and fruitful ecumenical dialogue between Catholics and Lutherans have helped us to overcome many differences, and have deepened our mutual understanding and trust. Through dialogue and shared witness we are no longer strangers. Rather, we have learned that what unites us is greater than what divides us." The statement includes a pledge to work toward common Eucharist for Catholics and Lutherans, and renews the mutual commitment to continued theological dialogue.

Warm Clothing Needed  

The wind and rain are here, and so are the knocks at the door of the Marian Centre in inner-city Edmonton. We are currently looking for donations of warm clothing items for men: T-shirts, blue jeans, coats, hoodies, sweaters & sweats, & underwear. Toques and gloves will be needed in the near future. New or gently used items are accepted. Thank you from all of us at Marian Centre. For more information, call 780-424-3544.

Teen STAR Training  

Teen STAR is a curriculum that offers educators the tools to deliver developmental, self-discovery programs to teens through fertility awareness using a holistic approach. Gianna Centre (formerly the Pregnancy Crisis Centre) is pleased to present a five-day training program in Teen STAR for teachers, catechists, youth leaders and parents. Nov 14 – 18, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, at Catholic Social Services, West Office, 12431 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton. Registration is $300. Contact Vera Fischer at 780-482-5111 or gianncentre@cssalberta.ca.
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 the leadership of 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 regained 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.

Holy Door of Mercy Closes Soon
In declaring the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis asked that Holy Doors be opened in every diocese in the world, to allow the faithful everywhere to experience the Mercy of the Father in its fullness. In this video, Archbishop Richard Smith invites you to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Door at St. Joseph Basilica. There’s not much time left -- the Holy Door will be formally closed by the Archbishop during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, November 13. The Holy Year will be formally closed in the Archdiocese of Edmonton the following week, on Sunday, November 20, the Solemnity of Christ the King, during the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Basilica.

Remedy!
Young adults (ages 17-35) are warmly invited join us on Friday, November 18, (and continuing every third Friday of the month) from 7 to 9 p.m. for a night of Prayer & Worship, a sharing, Reconciliation and more. Let this be a place where you are restored and renewed! We gather at St. Charles Parish, 17511 - 112 Street, Edmonton. Follow our Facebook page "Remedy Young Adults Group" to keep up to date on Remedy.

Anxiety Management Group
Anxiety can really make it difficult to go about your regular day in a way that is joyful and that feels fulfilling. It is possible to learn strategies and coping skills that will help you and face your day with more confidence and enthusiasm. If you would like to learn how to bring about this kind of positive change, Catholic Social Services will be offering an anxiety management group during November and early December. For more information, contact Mercy Counselling at 780-391-3233.

Are you U of A student interested in receiving spiritual direction? Contact Sr. Elizabeth Potlievre, FCI elizabethfcj@gmail.com

Hi, my name is....
Fr Terry Kersch
President

Denise Young
Interim Dean

Brittney Nurse
Director of Campus Ministry

Catholic Education Sunday: ‘Be His Hands and Feet and Eyes’
The Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories have chosen the theme of discipleship for their annual message for Catholic Education Sunday, which falls on November 6 this year.

They write: "Catholic education takes its lead from Jesus Himself: ‘Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.’ (Mt 28:19-20) Simply, this means announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ and helping one another to become His disciples."

"We do this by first listening to the proclamation of the Gospel. Then, after having received the Word, we begin to integrate it into our lives. We let Jesus’ words and actions shape us and form us to be his disciples, his witnesses to others. Then, as Jesus’ disciples, we can be his hands and feet and eyes to spread the Good News."

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE FALL ACTION
At the COP21 climate change conference of countries Canada committed to investing $2.65 billion by 2020 to support countries of the Global South that are severely affected by climate change. While there are many ways to respond to climate change, we believe that agriculture must be at the heart of proposed solutions. Let’s support an agricultural model that enables these stewards of the earth to live in dignity and feed their communities in a way that respects our common home, the Earth. Join our Fall Action on November 19/20 by signing our action against climate change postcard to the Prime Minister asking him to take into account the vital role of small family farmers in the Global South in feeding and cooling the planet and to ensure that their voices are heard. To learn more about the Fall Action campaign go to: devp.org/campaign

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
Join Father Terry Kersch CSB on a 12-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land from February 12 - 25, 2017. The cost of the pilgrimage is $3921 per person (based on double occupancy) and includes airfare, air tax, accommodations, all meals, and tour guides. For more information contact Jackie Abello at 780-229-4171 or jackiea@uniglobeone.com.

Rome and Constantinople
In 1965, in parallel ceremonies in Rome and Constantinople (Istanbul), the Bishop of Rome and the Ecumenical Patriarch lifted the excommunications each Church had pronounced on the other after generations of increasingly bitter and bewildered estrangement that had led to the Great Schism of 1054. The first steps toward reconciliation of modern Roman Catholics and Eastern Orthodox had been taken, but were they enough? Join Myrna Kostash for an evening exploring the ecumenical relationship between these two rich faith traditions on Wednesday, November 9, at 7 p.m. Call Star of the North Retreat Centre at 780-459-5511.