



Archbishop Thomas Collins.

Archbishop Speaks On Health Care

by Tom Scura

“Health care ultimately fails and death comes,” said Archbishop Thomas Collins at a dinner on May 31 at the Knights’ hall in Thunder Bay. “Where do you go then?”

Toronto’s Archbishop, who spoke on the theme of Catholic health care, was the featured speaker at the event — a fundraiser for St. Joseph’s Foundation. He also helped lead the priests’ retreat in Thunder Bay, May 30 to June 3.

“Our lives on earth are short; eternity is long. Catholic health care must be focused on that reality,” he said.

The Archbishop’s main point was that Catholic health care workers must treat everyone, from the moment of conception until natural death, with reverence. “We must love people and use things, not the other way around ... Love is shown in treating others as ‘who’ not as ‘what.’”

God, apart from creation, is in relationship, he said. It’s a relationship of love among the three persons of the Holy Trinity. This mystery must be the example of Catholics who seek to imitate

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Two Men Ordained As Priests

by Tom Scura

Fr. Terry Sawchuk and Fr. Victor DeGagne were ordained to the priesthood on Friday, June 4, by Bishop Fred Colli. St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Thunder Bay, was filled to capacity with people, and many priests and deacons joined the celebration.

After the service, the two new priests received gifts from representatives of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women’s League.

Later, Fr. Terry and Fr. Victor were congratulated by a very long line of well wishers in the Cathedral auditorium. Coffee and cake were available during this time of fellowship.

The next evening at 5 p.m., Fr. Terry celebrated his first Mass at the Cathedral, and Fr. Victor celebrated his first Mass at St. Dominic’s Church.

The event coincides with the closing of the *Year for Priests* (June 19, 2009 to June 19, 2010) which was proclaimed last year by Pope Benedict XVI and has

been celebrated by Catholics throughout the world.

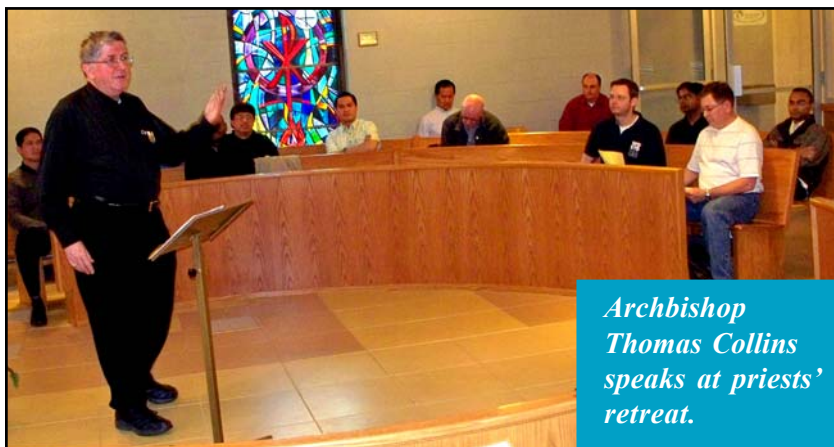
Fr. Victor DeGagne, from Fort Frances, is 30 years old and Fr. Terry Sawchuk, from South Gillies, is 28 years old. Both have completed their studies for the priesthood at St. Peter’s Seminary, London.

On July 1, Fr. Victor became associate pastor at St. Dominic’s Parish, Thunder Bay, and Fr. Terry became administrator of St. Peter’s Parish, Thunder Bay, both for three-year terms.



Photo: R. Plovesana

Bishop Fred Colli presides at the ordination ceremony of Fr. Terry Sawchuk (left) and Fr. Victor DeGagne.



Archbishop Thomas Collins speaks at priests’ retreat.



Olivia McInnis, Grade 6, speaks at the prayer service at Holy Cross School.

by Tom Scura

Two Thunder Bay Catholic schools remembered Fr. Lino Santi, C.S. during prayer services on May 13. The long-time priest of St. Anthony's Church died last October.

The staff and students of Holy Cross School gathered in the gym for World Catholic Education Day and focused on the theme of compassion, as modeled by the Blessed Mother.

A highlight of the event was a short

Continued from front page.

Christ as missionaries of His love. Each Catholic must be in relationship with God and with others and that relationship must be animated by love, he said.

The Archbishop used the black holes which exist in outer space as symbols of those who do not love God and others. "They emit no light. Their 'Holy Trinity' is 'me, myself, and I.'"

When we truly love others, we treat them as persons created in God's image and not just as things, he said. Catholic health care workers should not see the human heart as just a mechanical pump which pushes blood through the body; the heart is a symbol that we are created in God's image and that we are children of God.

Catholic health care workers, and all Catholics, are called to show God's love in practical ways. In doing so, we find the true joy of life, the Archbishop said.

talk by Olivia McInnis, Grade 6, who recounted her memories of Fr. Lino as a large picture of him was projected on the wall. Olivia, like many Holy Cross students, was baptized by and received her first communion from the priest who ministered at nearby St. Anthony's Parish for many years.

In spite of the rain, the teachers and students went outside and quietly walked by the memorial tree in front of the school which was planted to honor the priest. They solemnly made the sign of the cross as they walked by.

Fr. Lino was also honoured at Our Lady of Charity School. The school community gathered in the school's "town square" (foyer) for a dedication service during which the area was renamed the *Father Lino Santi Town Square*.

Before the event, each class had written letters about how Fr. Lino had touched their lives and these were read during the service. One letter told the story of an autistic Grade Two student who had asked his mother to buy him helium balloons for his birthday. He wanted one of them be blue because, he says, Fr. Santi loved that colour. He wanted to send the blue balloon to heaven for that would make Fr. Santi happy.

Fr. Maurizio Maifredi, C.S. of St. Anthony's Church, who succeeded Fr. Lino, blessed the square with holy water.

Fr. Lino served as a priest for over 50 years.

Board Recognizes Employees

The Superior North Catholic District School Board held its annual *Celebration of Excellence* in Red Rock on May 15. Approximately 75 board employees gathered to honour many of their coworkers.

This year's *Award of Merit* was given to Ellie Melanson, Secretary for Holy Saviour School, Marathon. She was recognized for her excellent work at the school and at Holy Saviour Church and, especially, for her kindness and patience with children.

The award for *Service In Catholic Education* is given to a person who contributes to the Catholicity of the staff, students, parents or community. This year's recipient was Debbie Arola, a teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes School, Manitouwadge. In addition, she was honoured for her 30 years of exemplary service and received her retirement gift from the board.

Five retiring employees were also recognized and pins were awarded to those who have worked 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years.

Attendees were treated to a liturgical dance performed by kindergarten students of St. Hilary School, Red Rock, and a solo vocal performance by St. Hilary Grade 7 student Cassidy Houston. It was an evening enjoyed by everyone.

— submitted by Superior North Board.

Autumnburst Bazaar

St. Dominic's Church, 130 Redwood Ave., Thunder Bay, September 26. More details to come...





Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko

Polish Priest Beatified

by Tom Scura

On June 6, the congregation of St. Casimir's Polish Church, Thunder Bay, celebrated the beatification of Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko as part of a Mass followed by a Corpus Christi procession.

During his homily, Fr. Andrew Deptula described the life of Fr. Jerzy who was involved with the Polish "Solidarity" movement and was murdered by secret police on October 19, 1984.

On the same day in Warsaw, Fr. Jerzy was beatified by Archbishop Angelo Amato on behalf of Pope Benedict XVI. One hundred and fifty thousand people and 100 bishops attended the event. Fr. Jerzy's mother Marianna, who had celebrated her 100th birthday a few days earlier, also attended.

The Polish faithful had waited for this day for almost 26 years.

"Fr. Jerzy was a hero. He knew his own life was at risk, yet he didn't stop speaking out against all the wrong in that [Communist] regime. He refused to be silent," said Edward Borowiec, a parishoner at St. Casimir's.

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Remembering Abortion Victims

by Tom Scura

About 100 people gathered on May 10 at St. Andrew's Cemetery, Thunder Bay, to pray for the unborn victims of abortion.

The annual service was hosted by the local Knights of Columbus and led by Bishop Fred Colli. It took place in Our Lady of Charity Mausoleum and featured short talks by four representatives of local pro-life groups, a message from Bishop Colli, the singing of hymns, and the praying of the rosary.

Later, the assembly was invited to take part in a silent procession to the priests' plot and then to the Monument for the Unborn. Bishop Colli led the prayers for priests buried at the priests' plot as well as the prayers for unborn victims of abortion at the monument. The bishop invited two representatives of St. Patrick's High School Life Support to place a wreath made by the prolife group at the monument's base. The monument features a very large cross that is highly visible to motorists at the corner of Balmoral Street and Oliver Road.

Other clergy who attended were Fr. Francis Blazek, Fr. Luigi Filippini, Fr. Richard Kowalchuk, Fr. Maurizio Maifredi, C.S., Fr. Terry Sawchuk and



Representatives of St. Patrick's High School Life Support Joseph Wenzell and Meaghan Verardo with Bishop Fred Colli at the Monument for the Unborn. The wreath was placed there by the students.

Rev. Mr. Steve Hanson.

Joseph Wenzell represented St. Patrick's High School Life Support. Liz Bortolussi represented the CWL. Mary Carr represented Birthright, and Cathy Galle represented Right to Life, Thunder Bay.

Rosaries Given To Students In Nipigon

by Doris Williams

St. Edward School, Nipigon, held a *Living Rosary* in the school auditorium during *Catholic Education Week* in May. The students, staff, parents and Deacons Dave Dupuis and Gerry Rhodes prayed for world peace. K of C and CWL members also attended. After the Luminous Mysteries, Deacon David Dupuis asked the children to help bless many rosaries which, together with rosary instruction booklets, were later given to the children. Deacon Dupuis encouraged the children to continue to pray the Rosary.



Knights of Columbus present a Rosary and Rosary booklet to a young student.



Fr. Michael Murray S.J. operated the Native Ministries Office with the assistance of Carol McKerral.

Jesuit Returning To Quebec

by Tom Scura

After 12 years in the Diocese of Thunder Bay, Fr. Michael Murray, S.J. is moving to Quebec.

He was head of the Native Ministries Office at the Catholic Pastoral Centre in Thunder Bay since arriving in 1998. For the same amount of time, he was pastor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Armstrong, and Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Gull Bay. Fr. Michael was also Superior of the Jesuit Community in Thunder Bay since 2001 and oversaw the building of the new church in Armstrong in 2003.

He will now be taking on an administrative position at a high school in Montreal.

The local Native community held a farewell party for Fr. Michael on June 23 at the Victoria Inn, Thunder Bay. Also, the Catholic Pastoral Centre staff attended a farewell party for him at the Jesuit Retreat House near Chippewa Park on June 25.

Fr. Michael was born in Sherbrooke, Quebec, in 1937 and was ordained in 1970.

School Hosts Clothing Swap

Recently, St. Martin School, Terrace Bay, hosted the biannual clothing swap that has generated a considerable amount of interest in the Terrace Bay area.

For three weeks, in preparation for the event, parents from Terrace Bay and Schreiber brought children's clothes and some adult clothes to the school.

Event organizer Kathie Shermack sorted the clothes by gender and size and arranged them for display on long tables in the school gym.

On the day of the clothing swap,

parents were encouraged to take whatever clothes they needed for their children and to donate clothes they didn't need. Many children also attended the evening event and were thrilled to shop for their own clothes. The clothing that remained at the end of the event was donated to the Diabetes Society.

The Terrace Bay area clothing swap is held in the Fall and the Spring. Donations have grown from 30 bags of clothes to more than 50 bags.

— submitted by Sue Borutski.

Confirmations In Schreiber

On Sunday, May 9, sponsors, family, friends and a large congregation at Holy Angels Church, Schreiber, witnessed the confirmation of Grade 7 students from Holy Angels School and Schreiber Public School.

The celebration was led by Bishop Fred Colli; assisted by Fr. Alex Barrion and Fr. Ronald Ravago. The students received certificates and gifts from the staff of Holy Angels School and the CWL.

The students had prepared for the event by deepening their understanding of their faith and experiencing the true meaning of being Stewards of Christ through various activities during the year.



Confirmants in Schreiber with Bishop Fred Colli.

Following the celebration, everyone was invited to the Schreiber Recreation Center to enjoy a wonderful lunch, compliments of the CWL.

— submitted by April Moore.

Discovery Camp

Sunny Cove Camp, five miles east of Fort Frances. August 16 to 20. Space available for junior and senior boys. Cost: \$175. For more information or application forms, contact Deacon Bob and Betty Grynol (807) 274-4874; deaconsden@sympatico.ca.

NWOC

Northwestern Ontario Catholic is published nine times a year by the Diocese of Thunder Bay, P.O. Box 10400, Thunder Bay ON, P7B 6T8

Next deadline: August 15, 2010
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