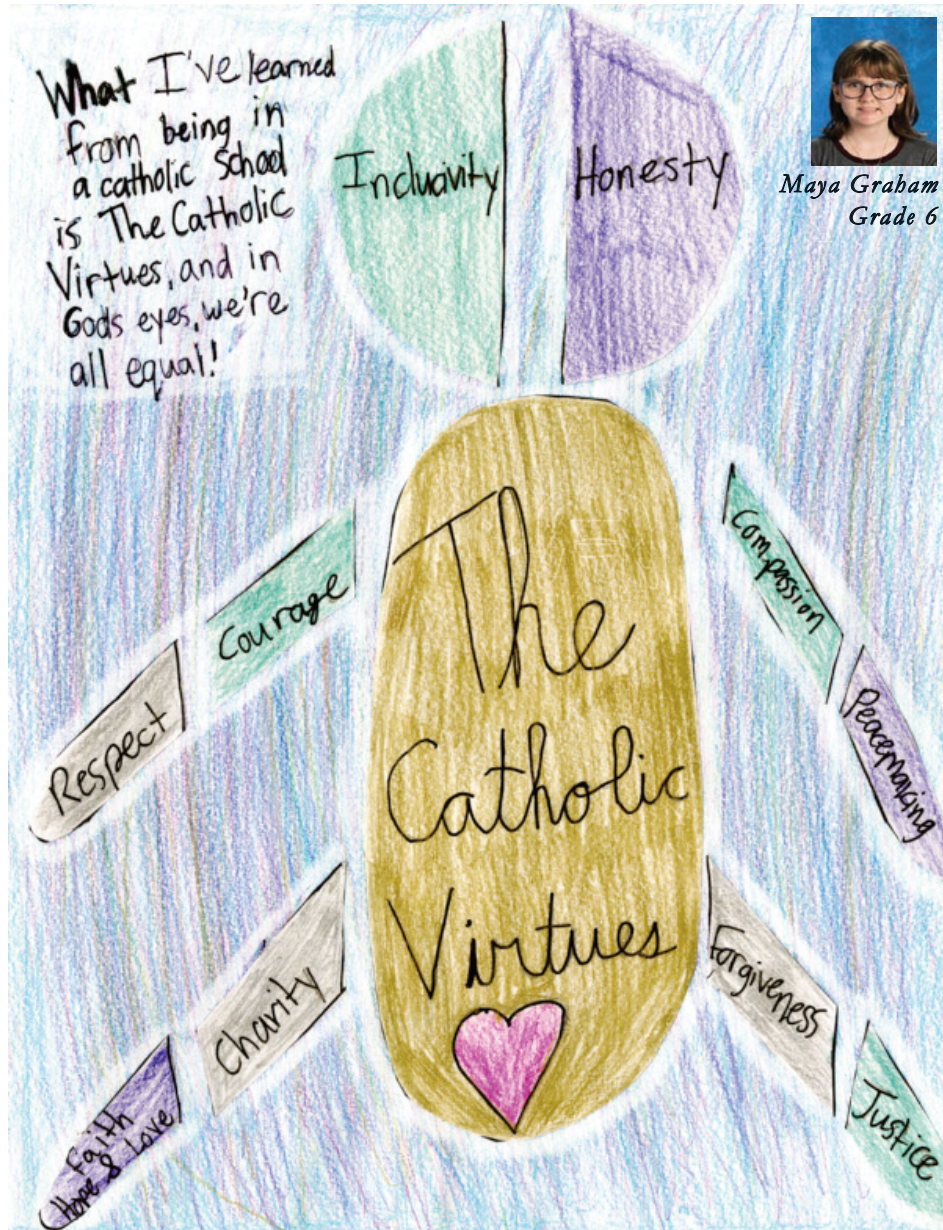




Diocese of Thunder Bay Newsletter

Catholic Pastoral Centre | 1222 Reaume Street | P.O. Box 10400 | Thunder Bay, ON. P7B 6T8. | www.dotb.ca 2019: Volume II



Maya Graham
Grade 6

Catholic Education Week

Four classes at St. Paul Catholic Elementary School in Thunder Bay participated in an art contest on the theme of Catholic Education.

Of the three top picks made by the school staff, Bishop Colli chose this picture to be printed on the front cover as it depicts so well the different facets of Catholic education.

The pictures drawn by the two runners-up are printed inside (see p. 5).

Joyful Disciples

During the week of May 5-10, 2019 we celebrated “Catholic Education Week” in all our schools and churches across Ontario. The theme for this week was “Living as Joyful Disciples”. This theme is important for a few reasons. Firstly, it is important for us to see ourselves as disciples of Jesus, people who follow the teachings of the Lord, and people who live their lives according to the example Jesus has given us. Secondly, it is important that we live our lives with the joy that accompanies being a disciple. Jesus did not promise us that He would make life easy, and he told us that there would be challenges along the road. He did promise that He would be there with us, to help us in our journey.



The children of our schools during this week reflected on how prayer is an important component of discipleship, how we live in community and must be respectful of one another, how we should seek to do good and to help others in a just and loving way, how we are together on this journey of life, and faith lights our way, and finally how we live the message of the Gospel or the Good News with each other. Catholic Education week helps all our students in all school levels to reflect on what it means to be a Catholic and to live as a disciple of Jesus. This helps form them in faith for their future lives. This is why Catholic education and our schools are so important for us as a Catholic community. Our schools and their staffs deserve our support and thanks.

Parents especially, and our entire community, see the importance of Catholic education in our society. It has been a strong and vibrant part of our education system in Ontario for over 160 years. With hundreds of thousands of students in our system, Catholic parents are indicating their wish to have their children educated in a Catholic school environment. Our schools provide this environment. In union with the priests and deacons in our parishes, they work together to provide the best Catholic education possible for each and every child. Our system is not without its challenges from government, from society, from those who want to do away with Catholic education. This is why each of us in our Catholic community, whether we have children in our schools or not, must

work to support our Catholic school system so it may grow and provide the education we desire for all our students.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter, we began the Bishop’s Annual Diocesan Ministry Campaign for 2019. Once again, as the bishop, I ask for your support and look to your continued generosity for the many ministries and works supported by this annual campaign. The challenges do not change from year to year, but I have noticed the need for funding increases with each ministry. Our theme is “Together on the Road” based on the biblical story of Jesus and the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Just as the students learned during Catholic Education Week, Jesus also accompanies us along the road, to teach us, to support us, and to encourage us in our actions. May the Lord encourage all of us to support our parishes and communities in need, through our generosity to this campaign. I am truly grateful for this generosity.

May and June are months when many secondary students are preparing for graduations and are sharing some discernment about their future vocation. To see the many graduates of our Catholic secondary schools going out into the world to use their education, their gifts and talents, is proof of the importance of our school system. It helps to form disciples of the Lord who desire to build a better and more just world for all. As the bishop of the diocese, I am proud to see all those who work to make this possible through Catholic education in our diocese, with a special thanks to administration, staffs and parents.

After a long and cold winter, we greet the spring and summer joyfully as we plan for our holidays, some rest and some recreation this year. May the Lord continue to guide us along the road, supporting us in all things, and may His goodness help all our students to develop into true disciples joyfully living their faith with their families and community.

**THE MOST REV. FRED J. COLLI
BISHOP OF THUNDER BAY**

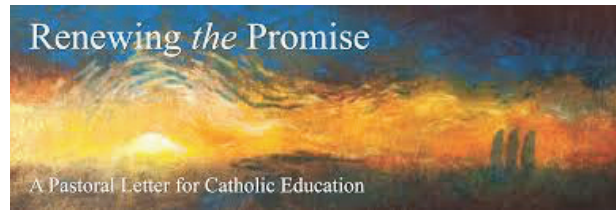


We recently had the opportunity to join Faith Formation personnel from Catholic school boards across the province in order to reflect on the primary importance that Adult Faith Formation must have in Catholic Education.

Stress was given to the shift that has occurred in how we reach both children and adults. In a former model, the order of our attention was mind, hands, and heart. In other words, we imparted knowledge first, then behaviour was to flow from what was learned, and lastly relationships with God and others would be nourished.

Now, however, the model has shifted to *heart, hands*, and then *head*. I really appreciated how the speaker used Jesus as our model for this. He would always enter into relationship with people first, meet them where they are, get to know them. Only then would he perform his miracles of healing the sick or feeding the hungry. Finally, his teaching would happen after the encounter and action. The speaker added a fourth element that is also crucial: after Jesus spent time with people, acted and taught, he always went off to a quiet place to pray and be renewed in spirit. He *retreated!*

I believe, at the core of my being, that this is what



we are to be about. *All* elements are important. However, in terms of Catholic education, we often have a tendency to put the stress on the teaching of religion content and acts of outreach, leaving the relationship piece to the saying of prayers and attending Masses and services. This is all *good*. I think God wants even more: for our students and staff members to *know God* as a loving God who wants to be in a personal relationship with each one of us. Only then will knowledge and actions make real sense. And finally, if Jesus needed time apart for prayer and renewal, how much more do we.

Let us continue our shift to this new model of *heart, hands, head* and *retreat* as we move forward in our mission of Catholic Education.

SISTER STEPHANIE ROMITI, CSJ
FAITH FORMATION CATHOLICITY COORDINATOR
SUPERIOR NORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Students at Kenora Catholic District School Board are wrapped in warmth and security because the board's Elder in Residence, Isobel White, is on an important mission to bring comfort to the children. She's delivering a sacred blanket to each school at Kenora Catholic.

"The blankets are a sacred gift to the schools, and that is what we prayed to the Creator for in a pipe ceremony at my house," explained White. "We did a ceremony for the blankets asking for them to become sacred, for the children to get warm."

White explained the story behind the blankets. "I am a firm believer in dreams and visions because my grandpa was a drum carrier, and that is how I grew up. When I started working for Abinoonji Child and Family Services, there was a blanket sitting there so I asked about it. The Director told me it was a vision and a dream from a lady at Wauzhushk Onigum who dreamt about the

blanket. The dream was to keep the children warm and there had to be a blanket. So there was a blanket made."

Five blankets were gifted, one to each school at Kenora Catholic, to bring comfort and support to the school community. White explains that the blankets

are not just for the children.

"I hope the schools will use the blankets for the children when they are acting up or sad. You can tell when they are needed and when the children are going through something. They aren't just for the children; they are there for everyone."

Isobel White joined the Kenora Catholic District School Board in September 2018 as the Elder in Residence. She has been visiting classrooms, sharing knowledge, stories and traditional teachings with students and providing guidance to staff and teachers since her arrival. Kenora Catholic is blessed to have her as part of the family.





The foyer at Pope John Paul II School in Kenora was alive with dancing and music as students and trustees honoured Phyllis Eikre (second from left in photo above) on January 15th, at her final Board Meeting as Director of Education. The Board of Trustees presented Eikre with a

Papal Blessing acknowledging her dedication, leadership and commitment to Catholic education. Following the presentation, Grade 6 students from PJP, along with former Superintendent Mary Cunningham in the lead and a handful of staff and guests, surprised Eikre with a lively flash mob dance performance set to the song “Go Make a Difference” by Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek.

"It is so amazing to realize that the Pope actually recognizes the years that I spent in Catholic education," said Eikre. "I loved the performance by the students and staff. I had no idea what everyone had planned for me today and it was such a great surprise."

Phyllis Eikre was Kenora Catholic's fourth director of education and held the position for 11 years. She retired on January 31, 2019 after a 34-year career in Catholic education at the Kenora Catholic District School Board. The new director of education, Derek Haime, began on February 1, 2019.

Students from Madam Froese's and Madam Nason's Religion Classes at École Ste-Marguerite in Kenora took on the Director of Education, Derek Haime, in a Bible Challenge.

It was a race to the bell between Grade 1 student, Werner, and Director Haime to see who could answer the question the quickest and advance to the next level. Werner tapped the bell seconds before Derek Haime, and answered his question correctly, knocking the Director out of the challenge.

"We play the game like Family Feud," says Froese. "We teach everyday things and then the students have fun challenging each other to see who knows the answers. It's exciting for the students, and it's

amazing how many biblical facts they know."

Students from École Ste-Marguerite have been challenging each other and anyone who wants to play the game.





*Ribanna Jackson
Grade 6
St. Paul School*



*Emerson Todish
Grade 1
St. Paul School*



A Letter from Fr. Maurizio Maifredi

Serving in Colombia (previously at St. Dominic Church)



Greetings to all of you from the deep South!

I am doing well and slowly becoming adjusted to the "Colombian way of life". Occasionally, I do miss the great and white Canadian winter, as you can imagine!

Here it's like spring but nights are rather chilly (we are at an altitude of 2630 mts. above sea level) and since there is no heating system we have to rely on some providential blankets. Above, I am sharing a photo of our Scalabrini students - my new community - which is quite international: 9 Vietnamese, 5 Indonesian, 2 Mexicans, 2 Brasilians and 1 from Peru'.

You may have heard that on January 17 there was a terrorist attack at the National Police Academy here in Bogota'. It was an unusual and vicious act perpetrated by a guerrilla movement called ELN (National Liberation Army). It resulted in the death of 22 young cadets and a number of people being injured. This is a smaller guerrilla group, but still dangerous, mostly present in isolated and rural parts of the country. A larger leftist guerrilla organization (FARC) fortunately, a couple of years ago, ended their hostilities and entered into a peace agreement with the government.

The other issue we often hear about is the political crisis in Venezuela. In the last year or two, almost a million people from Venezuela crossed the border seeking refuge in Colombia. On weekends, our seminarians are working in local parishes providing food and support for some of these refugees.

I just wanted to share a little about my new missionary experience.

Cordially Yours,
Fr. Maurizio
February 2, 2019



Rite of Election 2019



Diocesan Archives

The 2019 Rite of Election took place on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at St. Patrick Cathedral.

Pictured above from St. Agnes Church are: (l to r) John Piotrowski, Sponsor; Scott Findlay, Candidate; Bishop Fred Colli; JoAnne Rob, Catechumen; Doris Rossi, Sponsor; and Wanda Major, Catechist.

Pictured at left from St. Elizabeth Church are: (l to r) Deacon Michael McBride, Catechist; Elizabeth Ainsworth, Team Member; Bishop Fred Colli; Diane Rusnak, Catechumen; and Tesa Fiddler, Sponsor.

Pictured below from St. Patrick Cathedral are: (l to r) Anne Roch, Sponsor; Stephanie Himanen, Catechumen; Bishop Fred Colli; Samantha Kaminski, Catechumen; (missing: Eric Kaminski, Sponsor); and Pauline Krupa, Catechist.



Diocesan Archives



Diocesan Archives



Permanent Deacon Formation Program

The ministry of a Permanent Deacon is a ministry of service: service at the altar of the Lord, in particular the ministry of the Word, and service to charity, which is an outreach to the poor and needy. The next formation program for this ministry is scheduled to begin in February 2020. Bishop Colli will instruct the candidates in their first session. There is generally one weekend session each month held at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Thunder Bay.

We are looking for men who are interested in becoming a permanent deacon for service in our diocese. You must be between the ages of 35 and 65 years. You must be a confirmed Roman Catholic, and if married, your wife

must agree with this direction. We also look for support from your parish priest.

Men who are involved in parish ministry and who might feel the call to the Permanent Diaconate are asked to call: 807-343-9313 and leave their contact information. Information concerning this ministry will be sent to them including the steps involved.

Please consider this ministry if you feel the Lord prompting your heart for more involvement in your Catholic faith and parish community, and if you feel a special call to serve your church and the poor and needy. You can also contact us by e-mail at: diaconate@dotb.ca.



Development and Peace

On March 23, 2019, a full day of teachings, deepening practices and informative dialogue on the theme of this year's Share Lent campaign called "Share the Journey" took place at the diocesan centre, under the capable guidance of Janelle Delorme, Animator for Manitoba and Thunder Bay (back row, far left), and Luke Stocking, Deputy Director of Public Engagement (front row, second from left). A good footing was set for the future of Development and Peace in the diocese and the day concluded with the election of the 2019 Diocesan Council. Participants left revitalized and renewed.

**EVELYN MARCON, CHAIR
THUNDER BAY DIOCESAN COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**



Introducing the 2019 Thunder Bay Diocesan Council: (front row, far left) Evelyn Marcon, Chair; (front row, second from right) Marlene Pavletic, Treasurer; and (front row, far right) Liz Bortolussi, Secretary.

Not present: Natasha Tsevende, council member from Kenora; and council member from Marathon to be announced later.



Indigenous Ministries Office

Under the direction of Bishop Fred Colli, Rev. Larry Kroker s.j. and a Council of Elders, we are presently working on a “Vision Statement” that will embrace all we are meant to be.

VISION: To impact First Nations, Inuit and Métis with the gospel and to see First Nations, Inuit and Métis leaders empowered to coach and provide leadership to current and emerging leadership.

The greatest difficulties between Aboriginal People and those of other ethnicities is this: while others may eventually blend with mainstream Canadian society over the course of one or two generations, Aboriginals will always – and in fact are encouraged to – retain their culture and values. Aboriginal values of family, land, community and tradition are often at opposite ends of the spectrum from the values of mainstream society. Without compromising truth, Aboriginal leadership in our fellowship embraces these values as a means to fulfill its vision statement.

I encourage all who have questions regarding the availability of resources, spiritual needs of their communities, or native spiritual leadership training to call the Indigenous Ministries Office* for more information. I would truly love to hear from you.

As this office grows, I pray it embraces the present and future needs of the Indigenous peoples. Please let us journey as one in Christ.

PENNY FITZPATRICK
OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

*This office is staffed by Penny Fitzpatrick. The office will help coordinate Indigenous Ministries throughout the Diocese of Thunder Bay, sharing and communicating diocesan resources and enhancing ministry to Indigenous parishes and people. Someone will be available in this office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Please call for an appointment at (807) 343-9313 or email the office at indigenous@dotb.ca.



*Back (l to r): Deacon John Semerling, St. Anne Church, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church (Gull Bay), Our Lady of the Snows Church (Armstrong); Deacon Michael Robinson, St. Kateri Church
Front (l to r): Penny Fitzpatrick, Minister of Service, Office of Indigenous Ministries; Grace Esquega, Minister of Service, Director of St. Kateri Church*

Next Issue

2019: Volume III

Please send news items and stories to chancery@dotb.ca

*Please ensure that all images are sent in JPEG or TIF format

Deadline for submissions: *July 5, 2019*



Bishop's Diocesan Ministry Campaign: 2019

One of the most compelling stories from the scriptures is found in St. Luke's gospel, chapter 24 verses 13-35, the Emmaus story. We are familiar with the story of the two disciples who encounter the risen Lord on the road to Emmaus and they discover much about themselves and their call through this encounter. I want to use this story to highlight our Annual Bishop's Ministry Campaign for 2019.

While they were talking and discussing along the road, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. v. 15-16

This verse helps us to realize that in our life's journey, the Lord also accompanies us along the way, but often we do not recognize him. As a church family in the Diocese of Thunder Bay, we are on a journey together, like the disciples, and we are sharing that journey with one another. We have an individual life journey, but also one as a church or faith family. That journey can be filled with questions and some confusion, as the disciples experienced, but the reassurance we have is that Jesus is there with us, even if we do not recognize him. Our journey prompts us to be aware of the needs and struggles of our brothers and sisters in our family, and of our need to respond to them when we can.

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus taught them all things about Himself in all the scriptures. v. 27

This verse reminds us that in our journey we discover and learn. We learn about our faith and church, we learn about the Lord Jesus and his teachings for us, we learn about one another and our link or connection to each other through our baptism and in our faith or parish family. This learning is important and is possible through our experiences, our encounters, through formal teachings, and through our Office of Adult Faith. Formation and learning are important

for everyone, especially for our priests and deacons and young people. Our annual campaign seeks to provide opportunities for learning and formation for many. Learning helps us to grow in faith and in recognition of our responsibilities as Catholic Christians.

When he was at table with them He took the bread, blest and broke it and gave it to them, and their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus...they said, were not our hearts burning when He was talking to us on the road...that same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem. v. 30-33

These verses of scripture remind us that we too are given insights into our relationship with Jesus through Mass and in our encounters with others along the road. These experiences prompt us to

Together



On the Road

action and make sure we adhere to our mission like disciples. We share in our annual campaign through our donations and in this we help our sisters and brothers who journey with us along the road.

As the bishop I am very grateful to everyone who donates to this campaign. I thank my priests for their support in encouraging you to participate. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to

recognize Jesus in our encounters along the road. May you see this as an important part of your journey of faith and outreach to your brothers and sisters in our diocesan faith family. I ask God's blessing for you and your family.

THE MOST REV. FRED J. COLLI
BISHOP OF THUNDER BAY



Diocesan Ministries

Education

Adult Faith Office (\$50,000). Provides support for liturgical ministers and the resource library at the Catholic Pastoral Centre that offers a wide variety of religious materials for workshops, conferences, study programs, and sacramental preparation programs for children and adults.

Office of Worship (\$20,000). Encourages liturgical understanding through programs designed to enhance the quality of religious celebrations.

Catholic Education Office and Native Ministries Office (\$10,000). Supports and encourages a close relationship between the Diocese and Catholic school boards throughout northwestern Ontario and communication links for native ministry projects and events.

Youth

University Chaplaincy (\$35,000). Provides a full-time chaplain (Sister Alice Greer, C. S. J., Ed. D) for all students at Lakehead University. Program includes counseling, support workshops, liturgies, and religious services.

Youth Ministry (\$25,000). Provides training for youth leaders, retreats, and resources for such programs as NET, Salt and Light, and parish youth programs.

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) (\$5,000). Supports and assists the programs of the Sleeping Giant TEC retreat program within the Diocese of Thunder Bay.

Social Services

Family Support Services (\$70,000). The Catholic Family Development Centre offers a variety of programs to assist those in need of counselling and support.

Diocesan Marriage Tribunal (\$20,000). Provides help to those who need to reconcile their marriage with the Church through annulments.

Refugee Settlement (\$20,000). Through the operations of D.O.O.R.S. the Diocese assists needy immigrants with clothing, housing, and their relations with the Government of Canada.

Catholic Support Programs (\$50,000). Financial support is given to organizations such as the Dew Drop Inn, Catholic Action Centre, Birthright, and Mission to Seafarers, Serena, Cursillio, etc.

Diocesan Aid (\$45,000). Supports missions and smaller churches and their clergy operating in remote areas of the Diocese.

Clergy

Vocations (\$5,000). Promotes vocations to the priesthood within the Diocese of Thunder Bay.

Permanent Diaconate Program (\$15,000). Supports the training of those seeking to become permanent deacons and ministers of service within the Diocese.

Ongoing Education for Permanent Deacons (\$10,000). Provides formation programs that continue to educate our deacons in their ministry.

Ongoing Education of Priests (\$25,000). Provides workshops and training programs for priests in the Diocese.

Priests' Infirm Fund (\$25,000). Assists retired priests who are in special care facilities.

Priests' Pension Fund (\$20,000). Supplements the pension fund of our priests for their future retirement needs.

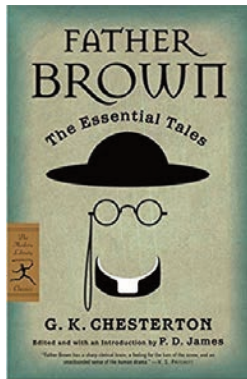
\$450,000 Total Goal

Through your parish, please give to:
Bishop's Diocesan Ministry Campaign

Please make your cheques payable to:
"Diocese of Thunder Bay/ (Your Parish)"

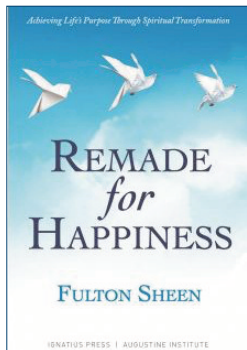


Available at the Catholic Pastoral Centre



G.K. Chesterton's Father Brown may seem a pleasantly doddering Roman Catholic priest, but appearances deceive. With keen observation and an unerring sense of man's frailties – gained during his years listening to confessions – Father Brown succeeds in bringing even the most elusive criminals to justice.

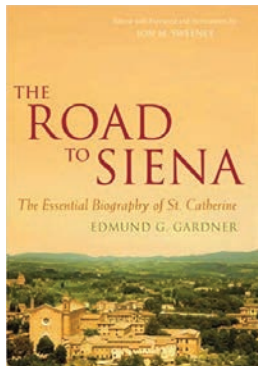
This definitive collection of fifteen stories, selected by the American Chesterton Society, includes such classics as “The Blue Cross”, “The Secret Garden”, and “The Paradise of Thieves”. As P.D. James writes in her introduction, “We read the Father Brown stories for a variety of pleasures, including their ingenuity, their wit and intelligence, and for the brilliance of the writing. But they provide more. Chesterton was concerned with the greatest of all problems, the vagaries of the human heart.”



When asked “What’s wrong with the world?” G.K. Chesterton famously replied simply, “I am”. We want to be happy and yet we often seem to be the source of our own unhappiness, as well as that of others. Even when that is not the case, our lives – as blessed as they may be – have their share of sadness and disappointment ...

In this classic work, Fulton Sheen explains the secret of authentic happiness: being spiritually remade. A genuinely spiritual life ... consists in being recreated and incorporated into a new, higher kind of life – the supernatural life of grace ...

What does it look like to be a Christian? Christianity is not a system of ethics; it is a life. It is not good advice; it is divine adoption. Being a Christian does not consist in just being kind to the poor, going to church, singing hymns, or serving on parish communities, though it includes all of these. It is first and foremost a love relationship with Jesus Christ.



Meet the fourteenth-century woman who fed the poor, challenged bishops and kings, and perhaps even saved the papacy.

Catherine of Siena's story is told in this landmark biography, first published a century ago and praised by Evelyn Underhill as the best modern biography of a saint ever written. This new edition has been slightly abridged and generously supplemented with the reflections of other biographers, historians, and artists – who shed more light on what we know about an amazing woman.

“The Road to Siena is a fairly brief-but-concentrated book illustrating a rather brief-but-concentrated life ... The book brings the reader into close contact with Catherine’s flame; one feels the heat that singed the consciences of popes and monarchs alike.” -Elizabeth Scalia



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Thunder Bay

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