



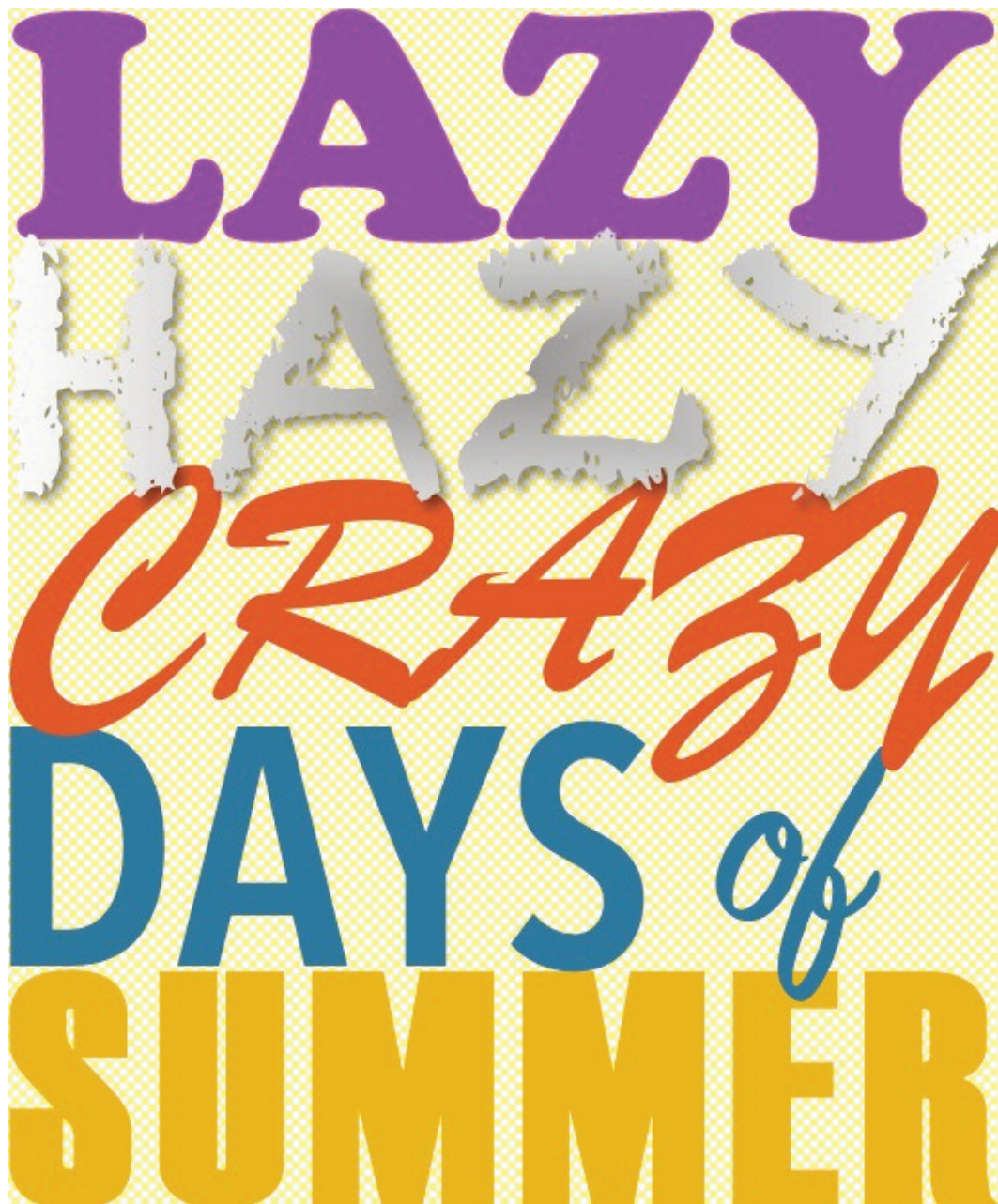
**Diocese of Thunder Bay**

*Newsletter*

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Catholic Pastoral Centre | 1222 Reaume Street | P.O. Box 10400 | Thunder Bay, ON. P7B 6T8. | [www.dotb.ca](http://www.dotb.ca) 2019: Volume III

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## Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer

The summer months are usually times for rest and relaxation, for spending some down time at the camp, or on a summer vacation, or visiting people, family and friends we don't see very often during the year. The summer months begin with all the school graduations and assemblies and the feel of anxious excitement in the graduates as they plan their futures. I attended many graduation celebrations for our Catholic schools and usually we have a graduation Mass and then the graduation ceremony. The Mass helps us to give thanks to God for the things we have received and for the graduates, asking the Holy Spirit to guide them along a right path into their future vocation. The Masses are always dignified and contain the enthusiasm of our young people.

The summer months of July and August do not mean that the Church closes its doors for two months. The Pastoral Centre in Thunder Bay is open and ready to welcome any visitors to the city. We have a specialty shop with religious goods and unique gifts in our centre and many people have found that unique gift for a family member or friend in our specialty shop. It is open during office hours from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Sometimes special events are held, highlighting the gifts and the shop. Notices are sent to parishes about these special times.

During the summer months, as the bishop, I visit some parishes on weekends and do some fill-in priestly work for any priests who are away. I also take some relaxing time to visit friends down east in the Niagara Peninsula, and sometimes I go to Ottawa to visit my sister's family. These off days are a treat for me, where I can relax and enjoy the company of family and friends away from the diocesan office and its needs.

As you spend some time relaxing this summer, I would recommend that along with Church on Sunday, which doesn't stop in the summer months, you might think of reading a religious book or watching religious movies. Netflix has a new movie, *Pope Francis: A Man of His Word*, or watch the movie *Risen*, or the series *A.D.* which shows the development and struggles of the early Church. I found this series interesting and informative.

Perhaps read a religious book this summer, like *Rediscover Jesus*, or *Beautiful Hope* or *Beautiful Mercy*, which are all available at the specialty shop at the diocesan centre. There are many other books on display there also that might be of interest to you. The most important book to read, however, is the sacred scriptures or the Bible. Just going through the New Testament Gospels would be a good summer read for Catholics and it would also aid in developing your prayer life.

Summer is a time for relaxation, yet the Catholic Women's League of Canada have their national convention during the summer months. It will be held this year in Calgary, Alberta from August 18-21 with the theme "Caring for our Common Home". The Knights of Columbus also hold their international convention in the summer. This year it is in Minneapolis, Minnesota from August 6-8. These gatherings are important for the life of the church since both groups help to bring about changes in our society for the good of others, and their outreach to the poor and homeless is most notable in their many charitable works. The theme of the Catholic Women's League is in response to Pope Francis' document on the environment and on maintaining respect for all of creation, a good theme for the summer.

Finally, during the summer months we must remember to pray. Prayer with the family at the dinner table, prayer in our personal prayer life, prayer in our gathering with others at Sunday Mass, and prayer for those who are less fortunate than ourselves. This could include some active prayer, like assisting at a food bank, or a shelter, or helping to distribute food to the hungry at a food kitchen. These are all events in prayer that can make our summer memorable and prayerful, giving us a chance to put our faith into action in a special way. With these thoughts I close, wishing everyone a wonderful lazy, hazy, crazy summer vacation.

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



## LAZY, HAZY & CRAZY SUMMER

I was reflecting on past summers from when I was young and how much things have changed. Back in the day, we couldn't wait for school to be over so we could start spending our days at The Point (Pither's Point Park in Fort Frances) and hang out all day with our friends. They were wonderful, carefree days with no worries and a lot of fun!!!

Once I graduated from High School, life became all about making money to be able to go out and have fun. At that age, anything and everything that was fun cost money! The joy of summer wasn't quite the same once that happened!

### HAZY & CRAZY SUMMER

Then I met my future husband and all that mattered was getting married and starting a family. We had some wonderful, special times out in the boat, fishing and camping with our daughters. Seeing the joy and wonder in our kids' eyes as they took in nature and our district made me appreciate it even more. We are very fortunate to live in a beautiful area that has so much to offer.

### LAZY SUMMER

Now that our children are grown and have moved out, our new focus in the summer is our garden! It is not a very big garden but it gives us such satisfaction to watch it grow over the season. And we all know there is nothing like fresh vegetables from the garden!

I have always strived to take the time to thank



Photo by Sara Roth

God for all the benefits I have living where I do. We need to remember that all we have is thanks to God!!! Do not hurry through life and forget to, as they say, 'smell the roses'!

**TINA ROTH**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**  
**ST. MARY CHURCH, FORT FRANCES**

## Men, do you feel a special call to serve the church?

The vocation to the permanent diaconate is a call from God and enriches the Church's ability to carry out her ministry of Word and Liturgy, of Charity and Justice. This ordained ministry is open to men between the ages of 35 and 65. A new 4-year formation program will begin in 2020 in Thunder Bay. For additional information, call 807-343-9313 or email [diaconate@dotb.ca](mailto:diaconate@dotb.ca).





## KOOL-AID, BLACKFLIES & BLUEBERRIES

**N**at King Cole sings of “soda, pretzels & beer” in the classic “Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer”. That song came out as I was growing up in the 60’s in Terrace Bay, a town carved out of the Northwestern Ontario bush. The summers of my childhood were lived in an era of great social unrest and change, but while the Vietnam war, racial riots and protests of all kinds raged, and hippies zoned out on ‘free love’ & LSD, we shrugged it off as we took advantage of every precious moment of summer. After all, we live in a region of 8 months of winter ... so enough of gloom and doom.

We had battles of our own to fight, primarily the Battle of the Blackflies. I always felt God was a little tough on us kids of the bush. How we could hardly wait for school to be out so we could have our summer adventures, but alas, when school was out so were the blackflies, and mosquitoes and no-see-ums. The hungry hordes of blackflies were relentless. It was hard to breathe without inhaling some. They would fly for our eyes and any bare skin. Eating ice cream without blackfly ‘sprinkles’ was impossible, for they would land right on it and freeze up in the ice cream.



A spray truck used to go about the town belching out a fog of DDT. It was like a weird Pied Piper for throngs of kids would be chasing after it on bicycles and on foot enjoying the respite from the bugs. The respite would only last a few hours, for the blackflies were invincible. Sadly everything else died, but not the blackflies. I recall being upset with my mom for she would not let us chase the truck, but years later I was thankful for her prudence.

Yet as St. Paul says in Romans 8: 28, “We know that God makes all things work together for the good...” Well, turns out blackflies are good for blueberries —



they pollinate them. No blackflies, no blueberries; and that would be a disaster. My favorite aunt and uncle used to come down from Thunder Bay during blueberry season to stay with us and pick berries. It was always, for us kids, an adventure with them and also for my poor mother as we had a 2-bedroom house with 6 of us, plus now the relatives and dogs, of course. Yet she fed all of us with great hospitality and humour, while we camped on the floor, giving up our room and beds when necessary.

Despite the bugs, we spent most of our time out of doors. Terrace Bay would be fogged in but that wouldn’t deter us at all. By noon the sun would burn it off. We played backyard baseball, night-time hide & seek, and ‘bike gangs’ of us pedaled about town and the bush roads. We’d hike to Lake Superior with picnic lunches of Kool-Aid, peanut butter & jam sandwiches. We’d swim in water so cold it would hurt (until we went numb), then come out shrieking and thawing out by clambering on the rocky shores and exploring.

Our stay-at-home moms would make us homemade popsicles from Kool-Aid or Freshie and we went wild over slabs of juicy, dripping watermelon with the bonus of seed spitting contests. We would pick sweet wild strawberries down by the train tracks and wave at the passengers on the Canadian as it streaked by us like a silver bullet. We would sit on the knoll by the highway and watch for cars with licence plates from other provinces or the USA.

I also spent many hot weeks in Fort William at my maternal grandparents’ home on Heron Street. We got to visit Chippewa Park as well as the CLE. We used to walk to the fairgrounds in the evening when it was cooler. I spent most of my time in the barns, especially the horse barns. We would watch the trotters racing and various equestrian events and I loved all the good food. I have a lot of great memories of summer in the city. All my family from Fort William are long gone, but the memories of them live on in my heart.

My work is seasonal, May to Thanksgiving weekend in October, so I don’t have much time off to enjoy our fleeting summer. My days are more crazy than lazy but as long as I’m in Terrace Bay, they are still hazy when the fog rolls off Lake Superior. On my few days off, I slow down to savour the fullness of summer and all the beauty of creation and life around me. I catch up with friends and family. But mostly, I am so grateful to be exactly where God has me today with such great memories of yesterday.

**LORRAINE PAYETTE**  
**HOLY ANGELS/ST. MARTIN OF TOURS**  
**SCHREIBER/TERRACE BAY**



## SUMMER IN ATIKOKAN

The summer of 2019 will be a special time for our parish of St. Patrick, Atikokan. Our church building was abruptly 'closed to the public' on Wednesday, April 12, the day before the annual Chrism Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, by order of a structural engineer contracted to repair damaged roof trusses. All Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations since, including the Triduum and Easter Sunday, have been held in the adjacent St. Pat's Separate School gymnasium/foyer, and weekday celebrations in the basement of the rectory. Back to the title of this article: through the summer, the plan is to complete the work needed to stabilize the walls of our church before the engineer will lift the 'closed to the public' order.

One might think this is all bad news, but as always where God is concerned, there is a silver lining. Traditionally an overnight D&P youth event, Thinkfast is held at St. Pat's school on Holy Thursday after the evening Mass. Parishioner Bushra Jabri, mother of four, Syrian refugee and our resident Rexall pharmacist, created a computer slide presentation about the Triduum to share with the youth in the afternoon at the church. When the church was unavailable, Father Nonso gave us permission to present the slide presentation during Holy Thursday. The responses from fellow parishioners about the information gleaned from the presentation were all positive.

The Triduum was a special time as we all participated in the institution of the Holy Eucharist, the Passion and Easter Vigil in our new venue. The first week of our eviction, our parish priest, Father Nonso (officially Father Chinonso Alaribe) spoke to us on Easter Sunday before the final blessing. He asked us to stop the coffee shop talk around town that the Catholic church was closed. He told us the church can never be closed. The church is in us. The church is wherever 2 or 3 of us are gathered in His name. Leaving the school that day, our heads were held high as we understood that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit.

Next came June 2nd: First Communion. Grade 2 teacher, Mrs. Bowes, requested the Holy Eucharist be celebrated in the school foyer, followed by a cake and ice cream celebration in the gymnasium. The sitting was tight but the closeness of the venue made the celebration. The school foyer is designed with a high



ceiling and natural light from three sets of overhead stained glass windows. The hand-painted mural of Jesus with several children on the sun-drenched wall behind the temporary altar made a great backdrop for the Holy Eucharist.

The following Sunday, June 9, another Bushra computer slide presentation, this one on Pentecost (including a 5-minute video re-enactment), gave us pause again. Who knew this was the Birthday of the church? Of course the descent of the Holy Spirit would be the start of Christ's church as He promised at His Ascension. More cake and ice cream after Mass while sharing our own personal journey with others at our tables.

The rest of the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer, if the heat ever gets here, will be spent relaxing on or near the water if possible. Here in Atikokan, we will remember that when things don't go as planned, look for the silver lining.

**RICK GEURTS**

**ST. PATRICK CHURCH, ATIKOKAN**





# Bishop Fred Colli



Diocesan Archives

Birthdays and anniversaries invite reflection and celebration. On Monday, June 17, a group gathered at the Catholic Pastoral Centre to celebrate Bishop Fred Colli's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Since he took possession of the Diocese of Thunder Bay in March 1999 he has had the honour of serving three Popes – Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis. In his twenty years as shepherd of this diocese Bishop Colli has delivered homilies in almost every parish in northwestern Ontario, confirmed hundreds of young people, and ordained priests and deacons to serve in various ministries. In the years ahead, we all wish Bishop Colli good health and abundant energy to continue his important ministry in the Diocese of Thunder Bay.



Diocesan Archives



Diocesan Archives



Diocesan Archives



Diocesan Archives





Colli Turns ...

70!



1. 70th birthday party, 2019
2. Our Lady of Charity Mausoleum expansion sod turning ceremony, 2013
3. Unveiling of photo at Sister Leila Greco Apartments, 2014
4. Rite of Election, 2013
5. Presenting Catholic Student Award, 2013
6. CWL Provincial Convention, Stratford ON, 2016
7. Diocesan pilgrimage to Rome, 2002





***St. Joseph School, Dryden, ON***

*On November 21, 2018, with the assistance of CWL members Fatima Davidson and Kathy Bryck, Fr. Al Campeau presented the New Testament to the students. He encouraged them all to read the book, use it, and "live what you learn".*

***Editor's Note:*** *Regrettably, this photo was overlooked for the last edition of the newsletter on Catholic Education.*



*The parish community of the Immaculate Conception in Ignace joined Fr. Al Campeau in blessing their new grotto in preparation for the month of May.*







Every Thursday morning, Fr. Al Campeau celebrates Mass at Princess Court Long Term Care Home in Dryden, along with residents from Patricia Gardens Minimal Care Home and community members. This Mass has been appreciated by residents and family as some may have difficulty getting to Mass otherwise. Approximately 25 people attend weekly. On May 2, 2019, Doris Skillen organized a spring tea after Mass to celebrate spring and fellowship with each other. Thanks, Fr. Al, for continuing to support our seniors in their care facilities!

**KATHY BRYCK**

### Next Issue

### 2019: Volume IV

Please send news items and stories to [chancery@dotb.ca](mailto:chancery@dotb.ca)  
 \*Please ensure that all images are sent in JPEG or TIF format

Deadline for submissions: *October 4, 2019*





*60th Anniversary ~ St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Class of '59: This celebration was held July 5-7, 2019. Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral with Monsignor Pat Stilla, pictured above with (l to r): Marlene Ryan, Isabelle Lemay, Vianna Tookenay, Fran Adderley, Valerie Gigliotti, Florence MacArthur and Mary Danis. Pictured at left are some of the '59 graduates gathered at the emblem of the nursing school motto: "Quod minimus mihi fecisti", from the original Latin translation of Matthew 25:40: Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.*





## Looking Back: 1926

### St. Patrick Cathedral Parish C.W.L. Council Charter

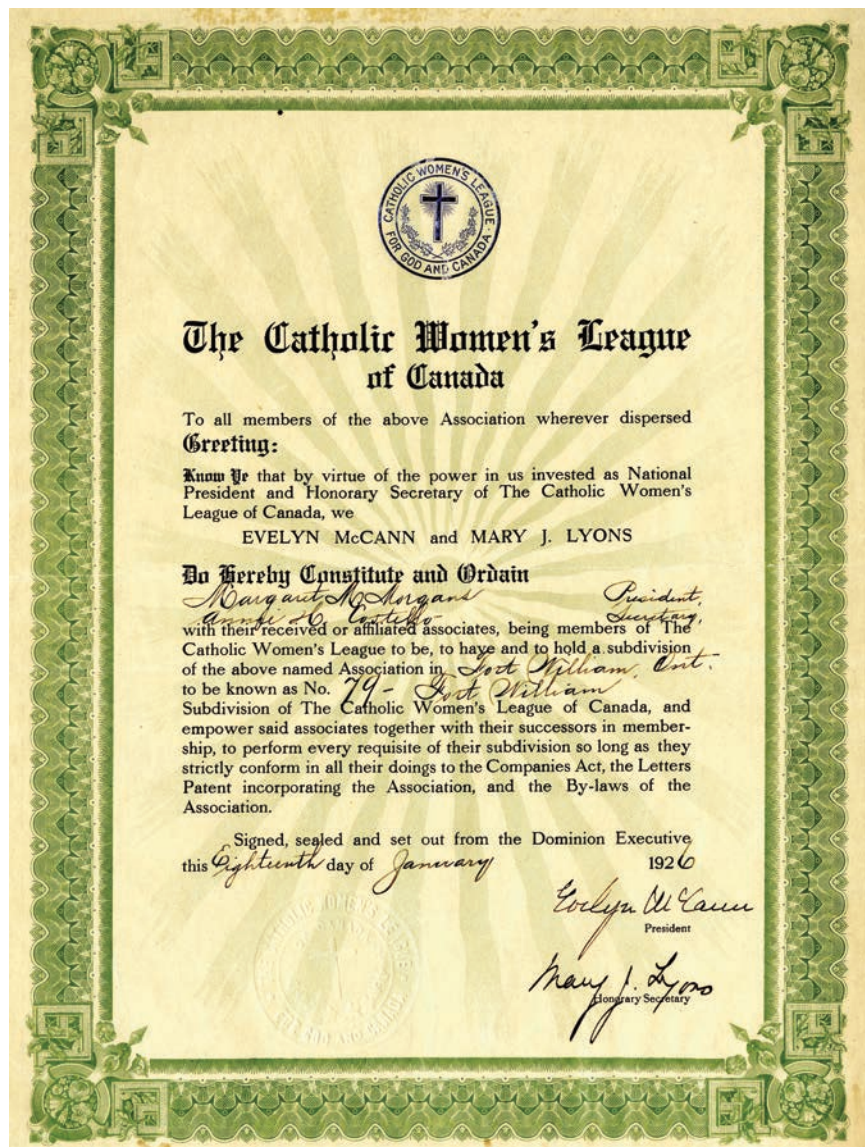
The ladies of St. Patrick Parish in the one-time City of Fort William organized a Catholic Women's League in 1921 under Charter No. 79 with Margaret M. Morgans as first President and Anne H. Costello as first Secretary. The date on the charter below is January 18, 1926. The discrepancy in the date of organization could be that the Subdivision never applied for a Charter until 1926, and, as was the practice in early years, Charters were given the date on which they were mailed out from the National Office.

The first Subdivision of St. Patrick's C.W.L. was disbanded and reorganized as a new Council on

February 22, 1939 under Charter No. 889 with Mrs. S. D. Lamont as first President, Mrs. E. P. Kelly as first Secretary and Rev. Dean P. McGuire as first Spiritual Director.

The document below was donated to the Archives of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Thunder Bay by Joan Joubert of St. Patrick's Catholic Women's League in October 2011.

ROY PIOVESANA  
ARCHIVIST / HISTORIAN  
DIOCESE OF THUNDER BAY



## From the Adult Faith Formation Office

How can it possibly be August? I say it every year at about this time. Summer is supposed to be a time to relax, to renew, and to reflect ... before the craziness that is September arrives. So far this summer my youngest child graduated from high school, my mom came to visit for three weeks, we put a conditional offer on a house, we put a "For Sale" sign in front of the house we built 24 years ago, and I attended a funeral of a woman most would consider far too young to die. I feel neither relaxed nor renewed, but I am feeling quite reflective.

"Teach us the brevity of life, that we may grow in wisdom."

I feel as if I have just completed a crash course on the brevity of life. If a beach represents eternity, then a single grain of sand represents a life here on earth. The devil would have us believe the lie that we have all the time in the world. He loves when we get bogged down in the drudgery of daily life, and find it hard to maintain the discipline of our spiritual life and commitments

to God. We must be mindful of the reality of death. We are here for a brief time. How are we using this time that God has given us?

I have spent much of my precious time trying to control all things. I am not sure why it has taken me so long to learn that I am not in control, nor should

I desire to be. I must trust and find that sweet spot where I live in the present moment and desire only God's will to be done. It sounds easy, but it is not. It is uncomfortable because you have to live in the unknown, and sometimes you have to sit there for quite some time resting in the unknown ... resting and trusting. Taking one step at a time knowing that God is beside me, guiding me.

"Pray, hope, and *don't worry*. *Worry* is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer." Padre Pio

HANNAH HAY  
ADULT FAITH FORMATION OFFICE



Recommended read to help in this quest, available at the Pastoral Centre.

