



Monday Memo

Diocese of Thunder Bay

News ♦ Notices ♦ Upcoming Events

May 20, 2024

Retirement on the Horizon: Bishop Colli will be 75 years old in June and will most likely be retired by the end of June. His last public Mass in the Western Region will be on Sunday **May 26, 2024** at St. Joseph's Church in Dryden at 3:30 pm. This will be a Mass honouring those in ministry and a farewell to Bishop Colli from the Western region. Everyone is welcome.

Knights of Columbus : All Council dinner Honoring Bishop Fred Colli. **6:00pm Thursday May 23rd**. Tickets Available at the Columbus Center 807-623-3252

The Knights of Columbus invites all men of faith to the next COR PROGRAM Session to be held on Saturday, **May 25th** at 9 a.m. at the Columbus Centre, 301 May St. S. This program offers men an opportunity to explore their faith and enter into a deeper relationship with Christ by focusing on the three elements of prayer, formation and fraternity

Development and Peace Annual General Meeting – Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30pm via Zoom The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace – Caritas Canada for Thunder Bay invites you to their Annual General Meeting that will take place on Tuesday, June 4 via Zoom from 6:30-8pm (EST). To register, please click here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkdu-tpjssHNy48R4LzI0_K8sV1RmTFkNP

St. Andrew's Parish is holding a **PICKEREL DINNER** on **Sunday, June 9th at 5:30 p.m.** in Saunders Hall. The cost is \$25.00 and children under 5 eat for free. The meal includes: fresh pickerel, baked beans, potatoes, coleslaw and dessert. A take-out option is also available with pick up in Saunders Hall from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Dine-in and Take-out tickets can be purchased at the parish office Tuesday through Thursday during office hours. For more information, please call (807) 345-5202. Be sure to get your tickets early so you don't miss out!

Holy Family Church – Children's Bible Camp: We will be holding our Bible Camp this summer for children ages 4 to 9. Children will be learning about our Holy Mass, our Apostles and our many Traditions, using art and music. The weekly classes will start on **July 4 to August 29th**, from 9:00 am until Noon. The registration fee is \$50 per family. Please contact our office at 807 473 9722 or holy.family@shaw.ca and we will send you a registration package.

Sacred Medicine Teachings: Sweetgrass-Part 1 - Sweetgrass, also known as Hierochloa odorata, is a sacred plant used by many Indigenous cultures across North America, particularly among the Plains tribes, the Anishinaabe, Cree, and Haudenosaunee peoples. It holds deep spiritual significance and is integral to various rituals, ceremonies, and everyday practices. Here are some key aspects of the teachings on sweetgrass. Sweetgrass sits on the "Southern Door". **Spiritual Significance:** **Sacred Plant:** Sweetgrass is considered one of the four sacred medicines, along with tobacco, cedar, and sage. It is often referred to as the "hair of Mother Earth" and symbolizes love, kindness, and purity. **Healing and Purification:** The plant is used for its purifying properties. It is often burned in smudging ceremonies to cleanse spaces, objects, and individuals of negative energy and to invite positive energy. **Connection to the Creator:** Sweetgrass is believed to help establish a connection with the Creator, facilitating prayers and meditation. The sweet, aromatic smoke is said to carry prayers to the Creator and attract good spirits. **Ceremonial Use:** **Smudging:** During smudging ceremonies, sweetgrass braids are burned, and the smoke is fanned over the body and surroundings using a feather. This practice is meant to cleanse the mind, body, and spirit, and to create a sacred space for prayer or other rituals. **Braids:** Sweetgrass is often braided into three strands, each representing mind, body, and spirit. The act of braiding itself is a spiritual practice, symbolizing unity and connection. **Offerings:** Sweetgrass can be offered to the spirits during ceremonies as a sign of respect and gratitude. It is also used in sweat lodge ceremonies and other purification rituals.