



Catholic Action Montreal

"Using our Gifts to Serve our Neighbour"

Newsletter – August 2019

ASYLUM SEEKERS

Catholic Action continues to work in partnership with Le Pont, Welcome Collective and other asylum seeker services. Recently we have heard of some of our volunteers' refugee claimant cases being rejected by the government. Two have been told that other places in their country could be safe for them to return to. The claimants say this is untrue, that they would be prosecuted if they return.



In both situations they are working and volunteering for more than one organization. One has been volunteering to assist other refugee claimants, Catholic Action has written letters of support for these individuals in support of their appeal. Please pray for them.

Isolated Senior's

We continue to assist breaking isolation for these very important people in our community. Trips to Camp Kinkora, and various spots around the island are making seniors very happy and have experiences they have not had in decades!



Our second trip to Camp Kinkora was an amazing opportunity to leave the big city behind, relax and be in nature. The sights were beautiful, the food was great and the Camp Kinkora staff treated us like royalty!



Contactivity Community Outreach Program – Seniors Apple Picking in Rougemont



“We never leave the city,
thank you so much, it was a
great day!”



Catholic Action was asked to assist Avatil get to camp Kinkora given their limited budget. Avatil is a group that respects the fundamental rights of intellectually handicapped adults to be recognized as equal members of society and promotes their integration into the mainstream. We were thrilled to assist, and one camper had a bucket list dream fulfilled, he wanted to get a cream pie in his face. The councillors did not let him down.

“Thank you so much Catholic Action for arranging the use of a minibus last week and for finding a really nice volunteer bus driver, Gino, who brought the Mile End Mission's Leadership Team out for a wonderful day at the Verdun Beach. Our Leadership Team of Mission members works so hard every day to make sure that we're able to provide over 15,000 free hot meals per year, distribute over 8,000 bags of groceries through our weekly food bank, etc etc and they really deserved this special day!”



Catholic Action's volunteer drivers served their neighbours with sixteen trips in August 😊



We are still looking for volunteer drivers to assist with these very impactful trips. Our volunteer drivers take vacation as do most people, but it happens when the demand is the highest. If you have or are interested in obtaining a 4B classification license (all expenses paid by Catholic Action once obtained) you will join our fabulous team of volunteer drivers. Please contact jwong@catholicaction.ca for more information!



"Renew the Face of the Earth"

Following up on last month's report, Peter LeBlanc continues his good work at the Loyola Chapel. This work is similar and in the spirit of the initiative known as Green Churches which is very inspiring:

<https://greenchurches.ca/>

If you recall, Peter's background has led him to work as an Environmental and Global Justice Deacon in the Catholic tradition. Catholic Action has assisted with working with the Chapel management and marketing the good work that Peter is doing. The

ultimate goal is for partners to manage this project together as a community. This will be transparent and self sustaining.

Tiny House movement for Seniors, Students, Homeless and Refugees; totally self sustainable Earthship Movement.

Plants, sunflowers and plants that attract butterflies and pollinating Bees.

The Leblanc's garden tower is proof of the potential, the beauty, potential and prosperity of the project.

Would you like to plant something? Contribute for the greater good?

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact jwong@catholicaction.ca





Center for Reproductive Loss: We continue our work with Kathleen Gray, executive director, of the center. Reproductive loss is usually not recognized as an event to grieve in our society today. The Centre for Reproductive Loss acknowledges the reality of this grief and provides professional support services to those persons whose lives have been touched by these painful events. She addresses real issues including, forced abortion, infertility in general, miscarriage and other events surrounding this topic

that can lead to significant grief. Kathleen is well known in North America and has many groups asking to be a resource to her website and have hers be part of theirs. We are working on a Reproductive Health Care Options training presentation for schools. We are also working on a succession plan. If you or someone you know would be interesting in joining the team please contact jwong@catholicaction.ca. Whether you are “prolife” or “prochoice”, we can help because we are “prohealing”! We want to assist with the grief related to reproductive loss.

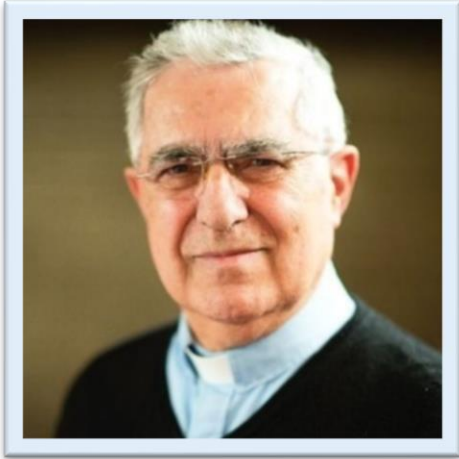


Catholic Action continues to assist in the development of a retreat which will be titled the **“Kingdom Mindset”**. This inspiring project, initiated by Adam Paterno, is close to completion. We have some professionals reviewing it before we set a date for the workshop. The purpose of the retreat will be to **assist people living every day with GAD (Generalized Anxiety Disorder)**. We will be showing how faith, the Gospel readings and listening to the “Word” can assist in dealing with this illness. You are not alone! Stay tuned as we finalize the content and set the date!

We are our thoughts; they create the landscape of our emotional and spiritual lives



Meet Father Fugalo, the pastor of Madre dei Cristiani (MDC), a Catholic mission church in La Salle. For Father there's really no such thing as retirement. During a conversation with him earlier this month we were introduced to a potential Scalabrinni project he is working on bringing to fruition.



The former Provincial (Director) of the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo, also known as Scalabrinians - a religious order dedicated to helping immigrants and migrants - is what he loves to do.

They are looking to establish residences for immigrants. We have already shared our MBA project with Father Fugalo and we will be meeting to assist them where we can as he builds the framework for this very important project.

Other activities:

- † Afghan Women: Catholic Action continues to work with this group as they are establishing themselves.
 - They will be starting computer courses in the fall for their membership.
- † NEW MEMBERSHIP: Another new member has joined our ranks, please spread the news of our work and invite your friends to learn about us.

Looking for support? Need advice? Starting a project and need some expertise?

Contact our executive director Judy Wong jwong@catholicaction.ca

She will be happy to help!

How can we help?

We continue to support various groups:

- † Volunteer Board advisors to LaSalle D & D 50+
- † Volunteer Marketing assistance for the Afghan women
- † Montreal Region Catholic Education Co-op initiative – AN expansion of Ex Corde Schola (strengthening existing Catholic Education) Stay tuned!
- † 2 volunteer website site managers for 2 non profit groups have joined forces ☺

Come celebrate the Eucharist with Bishop Thomas Dowd at the Late Sunday Mass at our Lady of Fatima Parish 7:00 pm : <http://www.our-lady-of-fatima.ca/>

Please remember to renew your membership

Please tell your friends about us

www.catholicaction.ca