



The Nativity scene from the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria

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## Midnight Mass

The annual broadcast from the  
Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria

**NEWTALK**

**610**  
C K T B

Christmas music by the Cathedral choir  
directed by Lucas Chorosinski  
choir conducted by Timothy Marrie  
Begins at 11:30 p.m.

# GO TO THE MANGER TO CONTEMPLATE DIVINE LOVE

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

Life is full of signs and symbols that can either teach, warn or inspire us. Some are familiar and easily recognized. Others are more obscure and require greater reflection. A very few are mysterious and require deep contemplation. We find an example of this at Christmas.

In the Gospel of St. Luke we are told that on the night that Jesus was born an Angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds to reveal to them a great sign. The angel states, "...this will be a sign for you; you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:12)

After going to the manger and seeing Jesus, we are told that the shepherds "...returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen, as it had been told them." (Luke 2:20) As they contemplated this sign, their hearts were filled with peace and joy. What appeared so ordinary was truly extraordinary in meaning.

At the present moment there are many distressing 'signs' in our world that seem to disturb our peace. We can easily feel overwhelmed. A significant one is the on-going pandemic and all of the collateral damage that is associated with this virus. Sadly, there is still a great deal of anxiety and uncertainty in the hearts of God's people.

In the First Letter of John (4:18) we are told that "...there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." Here we find the significance of the sign promised to the shepherds. They came to the manger in darkness filled with fear. They returned to their fields enlightened by 'Perfect Love'. Contemplation led to transformation.

This Christmas I invite you to go to the manger to contemplate Divine Love. Allow this mysterious sign to give you the gift of hope during these troubling times: "...you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

May you have a blessed Christmas and grace-filled New Year.

Yours sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.  
Bishop of St. Catharines

*May you have a blessed  
Christmas and grace-filled  
New Year.*



Most Reverend Gerard Bergie

Photo by Denis Cahill

*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.*

*Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.*

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

*This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."*

*Luke 2:8-12*



# BISHOP DEDICATES RESTORED CATHEDRAL

In anticipation of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, in 2021, Bishop Gerard Bergie announced a fund raising drive to restore the Cathedral in December 2018. The project, contracted to Fine Painting Design Restoration of Toronto, would take two years to complete.



The history of the Cathedral is tied to the growth of the Catholic faith in Niagara. The first Catholic Church was St. Vincent de Paul, Niagara-on-the-Lake, built in 1826.

The influx of Irish labourers on the Welland Canal beginning in 1824 made the building of a church in St. Catharines a viable project, thus a wooden church was erected in 1831 to serve the workers on the canal. Since the Anglican Church was already called St. Catherine the little church was named St. John. On August 23, 1842, the church burned to the ground and the pastor, Fr. Patrick McDonagh, wasted no time in beginning a campaign to replace the loss.

The new church was literally built by the Irish labourers working on the Welland Canal. Delays in the building of the second canal gave idle hands something to do. With the help of the local business community, who supported the effort, the cornerstone was laid on May 25, 1843. The first Mass was celebrated June 10, 1845. Since the Anglicans had built a new church honouring St. George, the new Catholic church was dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexandria.

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*At the diocesan anniversary Mass on November 25, 2021, there was a solemn consecration of the restored Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Catharines. In his homily Bishop Gerard Bergie acknowledged this great accomplishment:*

*"I welcome you most sincerely as this morning we give thanks. We rejoice because the words of St. John, found in the Second Reading, have*

been fulfilled: "And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I make all things new'." We rejoice because our Cathedral has been restored and made new despite the fact that it is 175 years old. An example of the Church of Christ, 'ever ancient, ever new'.

"This was made possible because of the generosity of so many individuals who gave of their time, talents and treasure. In particular, I thank Mr. Carlos Nunes, who was the primary contractor for this project. In fact, all of the paintings that you see in the Cathedral were either painted or restored by Carlos, his daughter Sophia, or one of his team from Fine Painting Design Restoration.

"I am also grateful to Fr. Don Lizzotti for his vision and for shepherding this project over the past two years. He has now passed the torch to the current rector, Fr. Ben Weber, who is working hard with the finishing touches. Many people have been involved in this restoration and to all I say 'thank you' and may God bless you for your generosity. A donor wall has been created to express our gratitude.

"...It is my hope and prayer that our Cathedral will be, for many years to come, a source of comfort and a foretaste of our heavenly homeland. May it always be a witness to what is good, true and beautiful; Jesus Christ, the Light of the World."

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA  
PRAY FOR US.



The Nativity scene in the sanctuary of the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria



Detail from the Cathedral ceiling, The Trinity.



Detail from the Cathedral ceiling, The Road to Emmaus.



Detail from the Cathedral ceiling, The Ascension.



Detail from the Cathedral ceiling, Pentecost.





The sanctuary of the Cathedral



The Cathedral's east wing



The panels of the Apostles on the east side of the sanctuary, (l-r) St. Simon, St. Philip, St. Jude, St. James the Lesser, St. John, St. Peter.



The panels of the Apostles on the west side of the sanctuary, (l-r) St. Andrew, St. Bartholomew, St. James the Greater, St. Matthew, St. Thomas, St. Mathias.



The Last Supper over the side entrance of the west wing.





The Baptistry.



The statue of St Catherine of Alexandria.



The altar dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the east wing.

# CATHEDRAL RESTORATION DONOR WALL

## RESTORATION OF THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

### MAJOR DONORS

John & Diane Buckley  
Dunk & Associates  
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The Estate of Rev. Fr. Leonard John Strohmeier

### SANCTUARY MURALS

Holy Cross Fathers

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Trevor & Jennifer Anderson  
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Mary Jane Johnson & Family  
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Steve Kittel  
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† Leonard Michaud  
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Alberto & Grace Saltarelli  
† Maria Saltarelli  
Patricia Smith  
† Dr. David Smith  
Star of the Sea Church & Parish CWL Council  
Trinity Niagara Medical Centre  
† Godwin & Cecilia Okafor  
Joseph & Nicoletta Vendittelli  
† Pietro & Mariama DiFranco, Pasquale & Francesca Vendittelli

### CHOIR ANGELS

Mary Blucher  
National Catholic Broadcasting Council

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Frank & Yolanda Fera & Family  
† Domenico & Maria Elia

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Carole Whitty

### APOSTLES

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Seraphine Dowd  
Peter & Cathy Michaud  
David & Lynne Orr & Family  
† Deceased of the Orr & Toye Families  
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Juanito & Violeta Pingol  
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Dr. Bina Thomas  
Most Rev. Anthony F. Tonnos

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Trevor & Jennifer Anderson  
† The Anderson & Young Families  
BLD/OSG St. Catharines  
Rev. Fr. Stephen Joseph Bruzese  
† Domenico & Rosalia Bruzese  
Cathedral Catholic Women's League  
Tony Pio & Veronica Collini  
Lottie Czaplicki  
† Stanley Paul & Stanley John Czaplicki  
Sheila DeLuca & Family  
Knights of Columbus #1652  
The Messina Family  
† Giuseppe & Angela Messina  
Gerald & Jean Parent  
† Peter & Dora Parent, John & Helen Perras  
St. Alfred Catholic Women's League  
Tom & Annette Urlocker  
Henry & Gina Van Lankveld

### STATUES

Trevor & Jennifer Anderson  
† The Anderson & Young Families  
Wilma Aquilizan  
† Marcelina & Lourdes Aquilizan  
Claire Coakeley  
Victor & Mercedes Demkowitz  
Quentin Toderick & Eva Toderick  
Tom & Annette Urlocker

IN GRATITUDE FOR ALL THOSE WHOSE GENEROSITY MADE THIS RESTORATION POSSIBLE | 2021



*And under the invocation of Blessed Catherine,  
Virgin and Martyr,  
The Irish labourers who worked on the Welland Canal erected this  
monument of faith and piety.*

1844

This plaque was placed outside the Baptistry as a tribute to the Irish workers who helped build the church.



# CANADIAN BISHOPS APOLOGIZE TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

We, the Catholic Bishops of Canada, take this opportunity to affirm to you, the Indigenous Peoples of this land, that we acknowledge the suffering experienced in Canada's Indian Residential Schools.

Many Catholic religious communities and dioceses participated in this system, which led to the suppression of Indigenous languages, culture and spirituality, failing to respect the rich history, traditions and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the grave abuses that were committed by some members of our Catholic community; physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual, cultural, and sexual.

We also sorrowfully acknowledge the historical and on-going trauma and the legacy of suffering and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples that continue to this day. Along with those Catholic entities which were directly involved in the operation of the schools and which have already offered their own heartfelt apologies, we, the Catholic Bishops of Canada, express our profound remorse and apologize unequivocally.



Memorial Shine in the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria for the victims of the Residential School System in Canada.

As Bishop of St. Catharines, I offer my profound sorrow and regret for all the pain and suffering experienced by children who were forced to attend these schools run by Catholic bishops, priests and nuns. It is a dark period of our history and one we can never forget.

*Bishop Gerard Bergie, Diocese of St. Catharines.*



The pieta located in the foyer of the west entrance to the Cathedral.

## PRAYER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

For the children who died in residential schools  
throughout Canada  
and for all those who continue on a journey through the  
darkness  
that there may be healing founded on truth and that the  
Spirit  
will inspire our on-going commitment to reconciliation.

God, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit,  
continue to offer us correction so that your grace might  
change  
and transform us in our weakness and repentance.

Give us humility to listen when others reveal how we have  
failed  
and courage to love others as ourselves, mindful of your  
love  
for the weakest and most vulnerable among us. Amen.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

*We pray for ourselves as agents of change. May we be committed to learning the truth of our nation's dark history and become strong voices against injustice, never afraid to speak out against violence and situations that disregard the dignity of the human person and privileged place of the family in society.*

# COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION & MISSION



by TERRI PAUCO

*A synod is a meeting or assembly of church leaders.*

The two Greek words that make up synod—syn and hodos—literally mean journeying together. The early church fathers wrote about the local churches gathering together with their bishop to discuss matters related to their local situation throughout the first millennium.

Pope Paul VI introduced the modern structure of the **Synod of Bishops** in 1965. He wanted to ensure

that the collaboration and dialogue between bishops, theologians, religious and the lay faithful continued after Vatican Council II.

Since 1967, the Church has held a synod roughly every 2-3 years to examine issues affecting the Church. At these synods, priests, deacons, religious and laity have been present and addressed the bishops and pope.

On October 7, 2021, Pope Francis convoked the **XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops - For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation & Mission** which will conclude in October 2023. He is calling the entire people of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to journey together in this synod. He is asking each local diocese—clergy, religious and laity—to listen to each other’s joys and hopes, and griefs and anxieties (c.f. **Gaudium et Spes** no. 1) in structured conversations. Through dialogue, prayer and discernment, the entire people of God will contribute to a process by which the Church deepens her understanding of her mission and

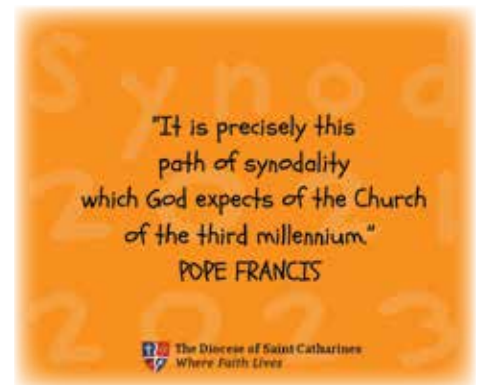
looks toward the future.

Bishop Bergie launched the diocesan phase of the synod across the Diocese of St. Catharines on October 17, 2021, during Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria.

In his pastoral letter that same weekend, he said, “As we face the challenges before us, we are called as a diocesan family not to simply live in the past or adopt the present as a solution. We must return to the source, Jesus Christ. He is alive and he is our hope. This truth will guide us now and in implementing the fruits of this process in the years to come.”

*Terri Pauco is director of the Family and Youth office of the Diocese of St. Catharines.*

*“By walking together, and together reflecting on the journey made, the Church will be able to learn from what it will experience which processes can help it to live communion, to achieve participation, to open itself to mission.”*



In Person Facilitator Training Workshops Catholic Centre	Virtual Facilitator Training Workshops On Zoom
Sat. Jan 15, 2022 - 9:30 am	Tues. Jan. 11, 2022 - 7:00 pm
Sat. Jan. 15, 2022 - 1:00 pm	Sun. Jan. 16, 2022 - 2:00 pm
Sat. Jan. 22, 2022 - 9:30 am	Tues. Jan. 18, 2022 - 2:00 pm
Sat. Jan. 22, 2022 - 1:00 pm	Tues. Jan. 18, 2022 - 7:00 pm
Tues. Jan. 25, 2022 - 2:00 pm	Wed. Jan. 26, 2022 - 7:00 pm



We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts: Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.



# WHAT IS SYNODALITY?

by TERRI PAUCO

Synodality is the path and process of the Church in which all the baptized listen to each other, dialogue with each other and pray together to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. In creating this opportunity of listening and dialogue on a local level, Pope Francis is calling the Church to rediscover its deeply synodal nature.

The practice of living as a synodal Church involves communion, participation and mission. Through synodality, the people of God talk to one another about things that matter, even when their opinions differ. This attentive, respectful listening and conversation open the path to personal transformation and the deepening sense of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. A new sense of one's place in the Church begins to take hold. Excitement and joy are felt as one's baptismal call to evangelize and proclaim the gospel is given a new importance.

Across the Diocese of St. Catharines beginning February 2022, parishes will be hosting what the diocesan

synod planning committee is naming **Listening Sessions**. Whether in-person or using virtual platforms (Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google Meet) small groups will gather and, with the help of a trained facilitator, will pray together and discuss several common questions

in a focused and reflective way.

Together, through this synodal process, matters of faith and modern challenges can be discerned, allowing the Church to grow in its mission for the Third Millennium.

## NCDSB ADVENT FAITH FORMATION

by KRISTA WOOD

On December 9, 2021, Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) hosted its annual Advent Faith Formation for priests, principals, managers, senior administration, trustees and chaplaincy leaders.



Bishop Gerard Bergie

Reflecting on the board's theological theme **Climbing Mountains Together in Faith**, presenters—Bishop Gerard Bergie; Kim Kinney, NCDSB superintendent of

education responsible for program and innovation; and Andrea Bozza, NCDSB mental health lead—challenged participants to reflect on how we climb

mountains together through the lens of faith, academics and mental health amidst the challenges of the on-going pandemic and the lived reality in



Kim Kinney

schools and parishes. It was a wonderful opportunity for leaders in the Catholic education community to reconnect and re-focus on how to continue supporting the faith journeys of students, staff and families throughout the Niagara region.



Andrea Bozza

*Krista Wood is chaplaincy board leader for the NCDSB.*

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD

by TERRI PAUCO

With the reality of COVID shut downs and face-to-face attendance restrictions, gathering people of faith to pray, to learn and witness to one another has had to adapt—so with the help of ZOOM, the Family and Youth Office, Diocese of St. Catharines, embraced the digital culture and offered two adult faith formation opportunities on-line with great success.

A small group of interested individuals from across the diocese met over six weeks on Tuesdays this past summer to study Pope Francis' encyclical, **Fratelli Tutti: Fraternity & Social Friendship**. Participants shared prayer, listened to summaries of featured chapters and then engaged in group discussion based on assigned questions. The conversation always included practical ways to implement the messages of this important document on fraternity and social friendship to our local situation. Honest and open

dialogue about the challenge to live as disciples in a world that often neglects to recognize those who are different from ourselves sparked amazing insights and personal transformation within those who had signed up.

This past autumn, the virtual course **How to Dialogue with God**, was hosted by the Family and Youth Office. This course was created by Domenic Inneo, a parishioner at St. Joseph, Grimsby, to help people deepen their habit of prayer and engage in genuine two-way conversation with God.

Eighteen people purchased the course at a discounted price through the diocese. Half chose to study it independently; the others committed to become part of a weekly on-line discussion group that met through Zoom on Wednesday evenings. Prepared by having watched the week's video lessons and completing the assigned exercises as best as their daily schedules allowed, the group shared their joys and challenges of

this prayer journey they had begun.

Participants learned how to prepare and commit to daily contemplative prayer and understand the different ways or 'tones' that God speaks in prayer. Through the video lesson and companion notes, rich in examples from Church Fathers, the saints, and Domenic's own life journey, different prayer methods were explored.

One good thing that has come out of the COVID pandemic is the recognition that opportunities for amazing faith formation can still be presented. The journey to holiness and commitment to mission can take place in a virtual world that connects us to each other.

This on-line small group experience will be offered again Easter 2022, with a call for a new cohort of persons interested in deepening their prayer life. To learn more about **How to Dialogue with God** and experience a free introductory lesson visit <https://dialogueprayer.com/c/>

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ADJUST TO PANDEMIC

by WAYNE CAMPBELL & JOE BARKOVICH

Even though the annual fundraiser (**Soup'sOn!**) could not be held because of the COVID-19 pandemic and related protocols, St. Kevin Social Justice Scholarship Committee was still able to present scholarships to three 2021 graduating students from local Catholic secondary schools.



Luca DiPietro

The recipients are: Luca DiPietro, Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Grimsby; David Pinelli, Lakeshore Catholic High School, Port Colborne; and Sophia Belcastro, Notre Dame College School, Welland.

DiPietro of Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School will attend University of Toronto's Rotman School of Business with a goal of

becoming a lawyer focusing on human rights.

During the pandemic, DiPietro, a student trustee for Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) co-founded **Teenage Tutors**, a free tutoring company to assist students challenged by learning during COVID-19.

He also started the NCDSB's COVID-19 mask sticker fundraiser and set up the first NCDSB mental health summit. It would combat mental-health stigma and offer mental well-being tips.

At the family level, he was primary caregiver for his grandmother—buying groceries, ordering prescriptions and providing companionship.

Some of his other activities include: promoting legislation to ban single-use plastics in district schools; creating **The Thundercast**, Blessed Trinity's first podcast; organizing a Valentine's Day card project for a retirement home; leading youth ministry at his parish; and helping to maintain landscaping at his parish church during the pandemic.



David Pinelli

David Pinelli of Lakeshore Catholic High School will enter business administration and financial mathematics at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo.

Pinelli was very active at his church; **Out of the Cold** meals; his other activities include: strong academic standing; hockey; volleyball; basketball; student youth ambassador at his school; and annual pilgrimage

walk. His parish priest said he 'lives his faith'. Using Facetime, he helped a friend through a COVID-19 crisis. "It was a huge eye-opener ...taught me not to take my life for granted...I know my prayers definitely helped my friend become healthy."

Sophia Belcastro from Notre Dame College School will study business management at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on a women's soccer scholarship.

During Ontario's stay-at-home period, she honed her cooking and baking skills and dropped off homemade baked goods and meals on the porches of elderly or infirmed neighbours and family members.

In 2020 with five other girls, she helped the Sisters of Sacred Heart set up the Sisters' Summer Camp for the children of first responders and of others in need of summer daycare. Belcastro is a former daycare student of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart and a member of their youth group.



Sophia Belcastro

In planning and carrying out six weeks of camps for more than 30 children, ages 3 – 12, during the pandemic, she learned about attention to personal safety as well as testing

and the ever-changing COVID regulations. For example, hula-hoops were used to set social distancing. The camps produced many memories for the children, parents, staff and sisters with not one COVID-related case.

Some of Belcastro's other activities are: youth ministry participant, community Christian outreach, peer tutor, junior basketball and varsity soccer team member, four-year honour roll student.

The St. Kevin Social Justice Scholarship (**Soup'sOn!**) is one that appeals to students "...who envision not a perfect world but a better one," according to its application document. Over the years applicants have come to the table with diverse interests and involvement—food bank/pantry, homelessness, Harvest Kitchen/**Out of the Cold**, environment, peace and politics, initiatives against male violence directed at women, Fair Trade, volunteering with Wells of Hope projects in Guatemala, and others.

The committee considered not offering the scholarship this year. After discussion of a suggestion put forth by committee member Bernie Barkovich, the committee voted to make it available with an added dimension. It wanted to know how the pandemic affected the personal and faith lives of the student nominees and how they reacted and reached out to others who are part of their lives.

In past years, scholarship applicants were sought from several secondary schools in the area and interviewed by the committee. Their social justice involvement and



servant leadership in the school and larger community in which they lived and their academic achievements were part of the evaluation process. Last year and this, because of the pandemic, the interview process was dropped and the three schools were asked to submit candidates for the scholarship.

**Soup'sOn!** 2021 was cancelled because of COVID-19. Most of the funds are raised through this popular luncheon event held annually in January at St. Kevin, Welland. The soups are prepared by students from local high schools, Niagara College's Canadian Food and Wine Institute, and by a local small business, Stephanie The Lunch Lady.

Donations account for other contributions. The committee dipped into its reserve fund to keep the scholarship going. Since 2004, \$55,900 has been awarded to 59 students in scholarships and \$6,150 in five special funding allocations. The scholarship started at \$300 and was increased twice over the years—first to \$500 and then to \$1,000.

Tickets for the three-sittings luncheon have remained at \$10 each since the luncheon's inception. **Soup'sOn!** 2021 would have been the 19th annual fundraiser. The committee hopes to host **Soup'sOn!** 2023.

*Members of the committee are: Bernadette Barkovich, Jessica Soul, Wayne Campbell and Joe Barkovich, chair.*

## OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY PILGRIMAGE

The townspeople of Oberammergau were ready for re-enacting the world-renowned Passion Play (May to October 2020) drawing groups and individuals from all over the world. Huge preparations went into it. As is customary from Ash Wednesday the year before, actors let their hair grow until the last performance in October, when by tradition the barber opens his doors at midnight.

And then COVID-19 hit the globe, causing the world-renowned Passion Play to be postponed until May 2022.

A play about life and death promised in a moment of mortal threats began the history of the Oberammergau Passion Play. In the middle of the 30 Year War, and after months of suffering and death from the plague, the citizens of Oberammergau swore an oath that, if spared from further hardship, they would perform the play of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ every 10 years.

After the death rate dropped dramatically, they fulfilled their pledge for the first time at Pentecost 1634. The play has been performed ever since with the exception of a few occasions such as during WW II in 1940. Now, nearly 400 years later, the world is again struck with a deathly virus killing and contaminating humankind.

The COVID-19 pandemic led the Oberammergau organizers to postpone the play to 2022, until vaccinations are administered and people from all over the world will once again flock to this small Bavarian town in southwest Germany. Travel organizer, Ineke Brinkman, has already purchased first class tickets for parishioners and friends of the diocese for the play on September 6, 2022. Ordering these premium tickets any later would result in sold out performances. Most people who were booked for the year 2020 have simply rebooked for 2022. The performance starts at 1:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., then after an included meal break, the play resumes at 8 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. After the performance the group stays overnight in the Oberammergau vicinity.

The village will bring the play to life every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from May 14 - October 2, 2022. Each time the theatre is expected to be filled with 4,700 people, almost doubling the population of the small village.

Fr. Peter Rowe, pastor, St. Vincent de Paul,

Niagara-on-the-Lake, and Fr. Vijai Amirtharaj, CSC, pastor, St. Kevin, Welland, are the spiritual leaders for the September 2022 tour. **Journeys in Faith** (the organizer since 1993) takes care of every detail of the Bavarian tour, from Basel/Switzerland on September 1 (after an optional Rhine riverboat cruise from Amsterdam to Basel August 25-September 1) to the Passion Play that includes many other highlights—visits to Schaffhausen, Rhine Falls, Stein am Rhein, Konstanz, Sankt Gallen, Fussen and Neuschwanstein. The tour ends in Munich September 7, 2022. Of course extensions are possible.

*This will be a sold-out tour. If you wish to join, contact ineke.brinkman@visiontravel.ca or call 905.684.0888 ext. 1415, to register and obtain tour details. For a prelude of the play, visit [www.passionsspiele-oberammergau.de/en/home](http://www.passionsspiele-oberammergau.de/en/home)*

### Oberammergau 2022 - It is right and just to say thanks



### Tour Beautiful Bavaria and Attend Oberammergau's Famous Passion Play August 31 – September 7, 2022 with



Fr. Peter Rowe  
St. Vincent-de-Paul Parish  
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