

**STATEMENT ON BILL C-14
BY THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**

Today, the Government of Canada has introduced Bill C-14, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make related amendments to other Acts (medical assistance in dying)*. This proposed legislation, which responds to the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in early 2015, will make euthanasia and assisted suicide legal and more accessible in our entire country. The Supreme Court decision and current legislative efforts are in stark contradiction to the endeavours of individuals, families and communities to counteract the dangers and sufferings of suicide – as we have seen this week in Attawapiskat, Ontario.

The teaching of the Catholic Church and the stance of the Catholic Bishops of Canada affirm the sacredness and dignity of human life. Suicide and euthanasia are contrary to the most profound natural inclination of each human being to live and preserve life. Furthermore, they contradict the fundamental responsibility that human beings have to protect one another and to enhance the quality of health and social care which every human life deserves, from conception to natural death.

Bill C-14, no matter how it may be amended, is an affront to human dignity, an erosion of human solidarity, and a danger to all vulnerable persons -- particularly the aged, disabled, infirm and sick who so often find themselves isolated and marginalized. Moreover, it is a violation of the sacrosanct duty of healthcare providers to heal, and the responsibility of legislators and citizens to assure and provide protection for all, especially those persons most at risk.

As our country faces this new moral and social threat, the Bishops of Canada renew their call to federal, provincial and territorial legislators to consistently defend and protect the lives of all, to renew efforts to guarantee accessible home care and palliative care, and to protect the conscience rights of healthcare providers and agencies refusing to be part of euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
April 14, 2016

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

This Sunday celebrates Jesus as “the Good Shepherd.” When announcing this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, Pope Francis focused on Jesus’ “lost sheep” parable in Luke. “[Who] among you,” Jesus asks, “having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?” (Luke 15:4). A reasonable answer? “No responsible shepherd who wants to keep the job!” Yet Jesus considers *one* lost person supremely important and suggests blaming the shepherd. The sheep didn’t “go astray,” the shepherd “lost” it. Thus, “when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy” (15:5). That tender image of Jesus adorns the simple cross Pope Francis has always worn, the Good Shepherd gently carrying the lost sheep home on his shoulders. During this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, may we, who once were lost ourselves but now are found, join Jesus in seeking, finding, and gently carrying home at least one precious lamb. Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

VOCATION SEEDS - APRIL 17, 2016 – WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: On this Good Shepherd Sunday we celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. If you feel God’s call to the priesthood or consecrated life, visit www.HamiltonVocations.com.



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| PASTOR: | Rev. Edward (Ted) Hughes |
| DEACON: | Rev. Mr. Phong Hoang |
| SEMINARIAN: | Christopher Tracey |
| PARISH YOUTH CATECHIST: | Paula Rush |
| ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: | Bette Honsinger
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. |
| SUNDAY MASSES: | Saturday 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. Vietnamese Martyrs Community
Rev. Hanh Van Tran, O.M.I. |
| SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: | By appointment – please phone the parish office |
| SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION | Wednesday, 7:45 to 8:15 a.m.
Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to noon |
| SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: | By appointment – please phone the parish office |
| BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS: | Last Sunday of each month after all Masses |
| ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: | Church door collections – last Sunday of each month |

Announced Mass intentions for the week of April 17 to 23, 2016

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| Monday..... | 8:30 a.m. | Dale Melchin – Carol Dubeau |
| Tuesday | 7:00 p.m. | Special intention of Darlene Rowsell |
| Wednesday | 8:30 a.m. | Deceased of Cuevas-Tapia Family
– Carmen Cuevas-Frey & Family |
| Thursday | 7:00 p.m. | Chris Walraven – Wilhelmina Walraven & Family |
| Friday | 8:30 a.m. | David Rodrigues – Fernandes & Rodrigues Families |
| Saturday..... | 7:00 p.m. | Pat Reiha; Pat Neuert |

Offertory collection for Sunday, April 10, 2016: \$5,804.25

[Note: This amount does not include donations received through pre-authorized giving.]



Parish Anniversary 60-65 Photo Directory Update

We've had 2 weekends of photography booking appointments. The online booking is working well for those who have to consult with family to pick a time. It's easy and quick.



To date **214 FAMILIES** have signed up. We have another 10 days before those who have booked the first dates will be smiling before the camera. We don't want you to miss out . . . so hurry – come down to the parish hall before or after each weekend Mass. Or book your appointment online. Visit www.ipcphoto.ca, selecting "appointments" from the menu at the top, then selecting "Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Waterloo". Using the calendar on the left, choose the date you are interested in and then an open time slot. Fill in the required information and "finalize".

April 25-30
May 9-12
May 26-28

Early bird draw: The winners of the second \$25 restaurant gift certificate are Jackie & Vern G. A \$20 gift certificate towards a portrait purchase was won by Lisa & Torsten H. as well as Tom & Michele M. More draws to come – the earlier you book your appointment the more chances you have to win!!



CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN UPDATE: The knitters, crocheters and sewers who produce items for Canadian Food for Children have been busy as they continue this work of mercy. They have produced 133 pairs of slippers, 80 boys pj pants, 48 blankets, 28 pillowcases, 16 pneumonia vests, 15 scarves, 9 pairs of mitts and 3 headbands. If you have any free time, perhaps you'd like to knit or crochet a few items. Wool and simple patterns will be provided. More yarn is needed. If you have any yarn to donate (even leftovers from other projects are useful) or would like more information about this ongoing project, please call Mary at 519-886-3834.

NATURE DEFICIT DISORDER refers to the phrase coined by Richard Louv in his 2005 book Last Child in the Woods that human beings are spending less time outdoors resulting in a wide range of behavioral problems. It is not meant to be a medical diagnosis but rather to serve as a description of the human costs of alienation from the natural world. In recognizing these trends, some people argue that humans have an instinctive liking for nature and take steps to spend more time outdoors. Studies by other researchers throughout the world suggest physical activity and exposure to nature are important to good health and report positive impacts upon mental health and wellbeing associated with natural environments. Communing with nature can reduce sadness and negative emotions. We have many green spaces in the community. Go out and explore!

**We mourn those who have gone before us in death
and continue with us in the Communion of Saints.**

Bruno Preiss April 3, 2016
Victor Motz April 7, 2016
Bill Bruce April 10, 2016



THE NEW "SEX-ED" CURRICULUM EXPLAINED WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL

The Catholic Women's League invites EVERYONE to a presentation on an important topic – the new "sex-ed" curriculum, on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Teresa Hartnett, Director of the Family Ministry Office, Diocese of Hamilton. Teresa will give us insights on issues related to human sexuality as found in the updated materials taught in our schools. There will be discussion on the important role of parents as first educators in their children's lives. We will also get an understanding of the Church's teachings on this subject. Please join us for an enlightening and informative talk which will be followed by refreshments.

FIRST EUCHARIST: Congratulations to the young people of our parish who received their First Holy Communion this weekend. Next Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. Mass another group of children will receive this sacrament. We ask for God's blessing on these children and their families. Thank you to the teachers and our parish youth catechist, Paula Rush, for preparing these children so well.

CURSILLO WEEKEND: We all know God, but how many of us truly know God on a personal and intimate level? A three-day Cursillo weekend, which is a short review of Christianity, is designed to help you on that journey. Beginning on Thursday night and ending Sunday afternoon, through a series of talks by lay people and clergy, and the sacraments, you will get to take a closer look at yourself, God, and others. If you are over 18 years of age, and are open to a closer relationship with our God and Saviour, consider a Cursillo weekend. The men's weekend is Thursday, May 26 to Sunday, May 29; the women's weekend is Thursday, June 9 to Sunday June 12. To help us prepare, the deadline for registration is Friday, April 22. For more information, contact Marg Weber at marg.weber@sympatico.ca or 519-747-5937, or Dan Brown at dmbrown269@gmail.com or 519-570-4105.

MARYHILL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VEGAS NIGHT: Saturday, April 30 at the Bridgeport Rod & Gun, 1229 Beitz Rd., R.R. #1, Breslau. Doors open at 7 p.m. and fun begins at 8 p.m. Free admission. Fast food available. Many generous prizes, grocery hampers, meat boxes, cash prizes, etc. Penny table and other games of chance. Light lunch served at end of evening. Arrive early to get a good seat. All proceeds are given to charity and will be announced at the end of the evening. Contact Mike Runstedler at 519-648-3394 or Doug Zinger at 519-648-2939 for more information.

CARD PARTY: St. John's CWL is having their annual card party on Tuesday April 26. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. and the event will begin at 6:00 p.m. The address is 85 Strange St., Kitchener. The price for admission is \$7. There will be prizes and food will be served. For more information, please contact Elisabeth Friedrich at 519-743-9601.