



St. John Chrysostom

Roman Catholic Church - Established 1841

432 Ontario Street, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 2K4

Phone: 905-898-4137 | Fax: 905-898-0277

Email: parish.office@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Website: <https://stjohnchrysostomne.archtoronto.org> | twitter: @parishsjc

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

5:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am &

12:00 pm (Spanish)

live streamed available

Weekday Masses

Monday 9:00 am

Tuesday 7:00 pm

Wednesday 12 noon

Thursday 9:00 am

Friday 9:00 am

live streamed available

Communion Service

Saturday: 9:00 am

live streamed only

Exposition

Friday's: 1pm-7pm

Registration is mandatory

Pastoral & Office Staff

Pastor

Fr. Landorff García

fr.landorff@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Associate Pastor

Fr. Rafał Bartosinski

fr.rafal@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Deacons

Deacon Gary Johnson

deacon.gary@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Deacon Don McMillan

deacon.don@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Office

Louisa Steele, Office Admin

Joan Turco, Secretary

Mirella Lupo, Receptionist

Brenda O'Donnell, Receptionist

Joseph Follows, Receptionist

parish.office@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Accounting

Maria De Ruyte, Accountant

accountant@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Theresa McNicol, Acct Asst.

Property

Dan Christante - Manager

property@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Leo Lopez, Custodian

Cemetery

Don Smart & Christine Allen

cemetery@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Fax: 905-884-0477

Office Hours:

Phone & email only

Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Temporarily closed for all in-person visits

Most of the activities listed below have been put on hold or have been adapted to observe COVID-19 regulations. Please contact the parish office if the contact information below does not provide you with the communication you need.

Thank you for your patience.

Welcome New Parishioners

New parishioners are asked to register in the parish office where you can also learn how you can share your time, talent and treasure in the parish.

Baptism

Contact the parish office a minimum of three months before the desired date of Baptism.

First Reconciliation,

First Eucharist, Confirmation & Christian Initiation-RCIA

Adults wishing to become Catholic, please contact the parish office and ask to speak to the Pastor.

Marriage

Contact the parish office at least one year in advance of the desired date.
weddings@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Anointing of the Sick

For home visits, call the parish office.
From the hospital, ask for a priest directly at the nursing station.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Postponed until further notice.

Visiting Ministry

To arrange for a visit and/or to receive Holy Communion to someone at home, contact the parish office.

Volunteer Screening

screening.stjc@gmail.com

Catholic Women's League

President – Madeleine Burke

cwl@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight – Vince Scarfone

facebook.com/kofc6643

knights@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

St. Vincent de Paul

To volunteer, make a donation or if you require assistance call 905-898-4264.

Blog: sjcses.blogspot.com

Community Bread

For information, to volunteer or to donate, contact

communitybread@stjohnsnewmarket.ca

Catholic Schools

Canadian Martyrs 905-895-8530

Notre Dame 905-895-5001

St. John Chrysostom 905-895-7411

St. Nicholas 905-895-3777

St. Paul 905-895-4122

Sacred Heart H.S. 905-895-3340

Chaplain: Erica Gismondi

Trustee: Theresa McNicol 905-898-2210

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 12

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, June 13

9:00 am Mass

12:00 pm (Spanish)

† Georgina Vera de Vazquez

† Cesar Alvarado Rodriguez

† Osvaldo Alvarado Rodriguez

† Manuel Antonio Arias

♦ Edmundo Arias Ferrer

Monday, June 14

9:00 am Mass

† Victoria Ennamorato

♦ Jennifer Fantasia

Tuesday, June 15

7:00 pm Mass

† Drago Pavlovic

† Blessa Hindley

Wednesday, June 16

12:00 pm Mass

† Palmerino Cerio

♦ Escolastica Furtado

Thursday, June 17

9:00 am Mass

♦ Lourdes Halifax

Friday, June 18

9:00 am Mass

† Rosalina Reyes

† Zigmas Gedminas

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For the Sick:

Owen Janssen

Aura De Nieto

Joan McMillan

Sonnica Brasso

For the Deceased:

Ernesto Luna

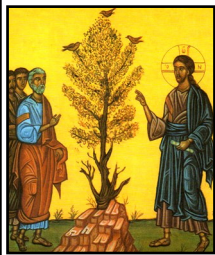
Luis Alberto Salazar

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Although the parish office remains closed to in-person visits the staff continue to be available by phone and email:

Monday-Friday-9am to 5pm.

Saturday- 9am to 12pm



Using the mini parables of the growth of wheat seeds and mustard seeds in the field, Jesus explains the nature of the growth of the kingdom of God or rule of God in human beings and human societies. In the case of both wheat and mustard seeds, the initial growth is slow, mysterious, and unnoticeable. But within days a leafy shoot will emerge, and within months a mature plant with numerous branches and leaves, flowers and fruits will be produced. The growth is silent and slow but steady, using power from the seed in the beginning and transforming absorbed water and minerals in the later stages. It is God's initiative that brings forth growth. We need to be patient and not give up, because sometimes growth takes longer than we expect.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATE

On Monday, **June 7**, the provincial government announced revisions to the "Roadmap for Re-opening" as they relate to places of worship. The updated measures will result in places of worship opening at **15%** capacity effective **June 11**. We are grateful to the government for these amendments. We have been given permission to open St. John's observing the new capacity restrictions of **15%**. A reminder that Worship-Safe Guidelines remain in effect.



WORSHIP SAFE GUIDELINES

The Eventbrite link to register is on the parish website. Click on: "**Register for Mass**" and complete the registration.

- ♦ Each person in your household, who will be attending needs to be registered individually.
- ♦ Registration is mandatory for all weekend Masses.
- ♦ Capacity is limited to **15%**.
- ♦ Registration is required for the celebrations of Solemnity and Feast Days.
- ♦ If you do not have access to the internet, please call the office, before 5 pm on Thursdays and we will register for you.
- ♦ There is absolutely **no singing**

other than by the cantor. Singing potentially spreads airborne contagion a distance of 10 feet. **Please do not sing.**

- ♦ Everyone must continue to wear a face mask when inside the church. Masks must be in place when receiving the host and not removed till 6 feet away from the priest or deacon.
- ♦ The host must be consumed before you return to your seat.
- ♦ **Do not carry the host to your pew or outside of the church.**
- ♦ Volunteers are not required to register as they will not be occupying the pews.
- ♦ We ask parishioners to self-assess before coming to all masses. Simply copy and paste the link below, into your browser, for complete self-assessment information.
<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>
- ♦ For your safety, washrooms are closed until further notice.
- ♦ Arrive 30 minutes or more before mass begins so our volunteers have time to welcome, screen and direct you to your seat.
- ♦ Doors will be locked when mass starts and you will have to register for another mass if you arrive late.

- ♦ Anyone with mobility issues will be moved to the front of the line and seated in designated pews.
- ♦ Seating is not optional and will be assigned. Parishioners are **asked to remain in the seat assigned to them** to respect the safety of others.
- ♦ Baptism celebrations are limited to 30 people, including the child for baptism and priest or deacon.
- ♦ Funerals are limited to 50 people including priest, organist, lectors and greeting/sanitizing volunteers

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

This weekend, we resume our Mass schedule with **15%** capacity inside the church. We invite parishioners to register online or call the parish office to register for the weekend mass you would like to attend.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Registration is not required; however, we ask that you **keep a log at home** of the weekday masses you are currently attending. Worship Safe Guidelines will be observed.

PARISH SLIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS: UPDATE

In the midst of all that keeps us all at a distance, prayer has been one, if not the only one force that has kept us close and connected. Prayer knows no distancing but rather the kind of presence that is so near that we can almost touch. We all need prayers, and we all want to know that others are praying for us. We at St. John's have been committed to ask for prayers for one another and in the spirit of sharing this need to know who and when we, or those we love, are being prayed for, we would like to be inclusive and offer everyone a new and fresh start. Please feel free to submit the names of those you would like us to pray for and we will include their names in the announcement slides and give them a four-week period to be known to the community. After four weeks we will give others the opportunity to be remembered in our prayer. Call or email the parish office to make your request.



PRIVATE PRAYER-REVISED SCHEDULE

Fridays, 1 pm to 7 pm. Call, email the parish office or register online through Eventbrite.

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION UPDATES

Due to the changing circumstances of the pandemic the celebrations of the sacrament of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were postponed and the new dates are as follows:

First Communion-2021

ORIGINAL DATE	NEW REHEARSAL DATE	NEW 1ST COMMUNION DATE
June 5, 2021	September 1, 7pm.	September 4, 2021, 2pm.
June 12, 2021	September 8, 7pm.	September 11, 2021, 2pm.
June 19, 2021	September 15, 7pm.	September 18, 2021, 2pm.
June 26, 2021	September 22, 7pm.	September 25, 2021, 2pm.

Confirmation-2021

ORIGINAL DATE	NEW REHEARSAL DATE	NEW CONFIRMATION DATE
May 15, 2021	October 4, 7pm.	October 6, 2021-7pm.
May 27, 2021	October 5, 7:30pm.	October 7, 2021-7pm.
June 3, 2021	October 12, 7:30pm.	October 14, 2021, 7pm.
June 10, 2021	October 25, 7pm.	October 28, 2021, 7pm.

Call or email the parish office to confirm the date of your child's sacrament.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The jackpot will be drawn on **June 30**. Our state council has created an online 50/50 draw to help us raise money for those who rely on the Knights of Columbus for financial assistance. Please copy and paste the link below into your browser and help us to continue to help those in need. Thank you for your generosity.
<https://bit.ly/32Gy5fa>

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

We thank all the women of our parish who continue to participate and support our organization and our parish community. Thank you.



OUR OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Collection received on

June 5-6

Offertory

\$8,467.

**Thank you for your
generosity**

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY MAKING THE CHURCH A HOME



In today's Gospel we hear about the parable of the mustard seed in which Jesus explains that the tiniest seed can grow into the largest tree that houses many birds of the air. The mustard seed represents the Gospel message that began with a few people 2000 years ago and has now spread all over the world. As stewards, we should play our part in helping the tree continue to grow through the gift of our time and talents.

**St. John Chrysostom
Pray For Us**

LIVING THE GOSPEL



The recent announcement that we have been given permission to open our churches with 15% capacity is a welcome and positive sign that we are moving forward. At the same time, we recognize that with the re-opening of parishes there will be many priorities for pastors and parish communities to address in the next few weeks. With this in mind, the 2nd ShareLife collection has been scheduled for **October 2/3**. We thank you for all that you are doing for ShareLife, and for your understanding as we make these necessary adjustments to the 2021 ShareLife collection dates. Executive Director, Arthur Peters. **Our goal this year is \$106,000.** As of 3 weeks ago we are at **40.7%** of our Goal with a total of **\$43,110.** collected. **Congratulations to St. John's.**

VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP



All youth, ages 4 to 12 years are invited to register for a free summer camp weekdays: **July 12- August 13**-hosted by St.

Monica's Parish. Contact: 416-483-1513, to register visit:

<http://bit.ly/StMonicaParishCamp>

SUMMER RETREAT



June 26, 10:30am to 12 pm. The Newman Centre invites you to a summer retreat with world-renowned spiritual director, Fr. Jacques Philippe. He will present an inspiring retreat on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. There will be time to pray the rosary together as well as the Litany to the Sacred Heart. Contact:

lenita.lopez@newmantoronto.com

or register at:

[https://](https://summer2021retreat.eventbrite.ca)

summer2021retreat.eventbrite.ca

CAMPING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Calling all parents and children! Join our annual celebration virtually and free of charge. Join us for Holy Ghost stories, camp fire songs, games, crafts and yummy fruits under the stars with Mother Mary! Hosted by CCRC of the Archdiocese of Toronto. Saturday, **June 26 at 7pm.** Email at:



childrenministryccrc@gmail.com

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM VOLUNTEERS

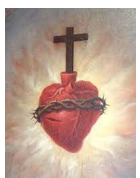


Under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2005), the Archdiocese of Toronto, is required to train all existing and new volunteers, on the accessibility law requirements (including AODA and the Ontario Human Rights Code), that apply to their duties and our organization, to serve customers of all abilities. They also keep and maintain a record of when training is provided, including dates and the number of individuals trained, by having the volunteers complete the Survey-Monkey at the end of their online training. **Please, as soon as you can,** refer to the Communication for Parish Volunteers re: Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) on page six of today's bulletin and complete your training. Thank you

Although you may have completed the AODA Training where you work and/or volunteer, as it is required to be completed for each organization, so they have it on their records that you have done so, we need you to complete under St John Chrysostom as well.

**"If you do not have a computer, please contact the office
and we will arrange a different training method for you."**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION



O Heart of love, I put all my trust in Thee; for I fear all things from my own weakness, but I hope for all things from Thy goodness.

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART

The devotion consists in the divine worship of the human heart of Christ, which is united to His divinity and which is a symbol of His love for us. The aim of the devotion is to make our Lord king over our hearts by prompting them to return love to Him (especially through an act of consecration by which we offer to the Heart of Jesus both ourselves and all that belongs to us) and to make reparation for our ingratitude to God.

PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART

Hail! O Sacred Heart of Jesus, living and quickening source of eternal life, infinite treasure of the Divinity, and burning furnace of divine love. Thou art my refuge and my sanctuary, O my amiable Savior. Consume my heart with that burning fire with which Thine is ever inflamed. Pour down on my soul those graces which flow from Thy love, and let my heart be so united with Thine, that our wills may be one, and mine in all

things be conformed to Thine. May Thy divine will be equally the standard and rule of all my desires and of all my actions. Amen.

ACT OF LOVE

Reveal Thy Sacred Heart to me, O Jesus, and show me Its attractions. Unite me to It for ever. Grant that all my aspirations and all the beats of my heart, which cease not even while I sleep, may be a testimonial to Thee of my love for Thee and may say to Thee: Yes, Lord, I am all Thine; pledge of my allegiance to Thee rests ever in my heart will never cease to be there. Do Thou accept the slight amount of good that I do and be graciously pleased to repair all my wrong-doing; so that I may be able to bless Thee in time and in eternity. Amen.

Cardinal Merry del Val

Prayer Source: Prayer Book, The by Reverend John P. O'Connell, M.A., S.T.D. and Jex Martin, M.A., The Catholic Press, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, 1954

**Oh Heart of Love,
I put my
trust in Thee**

For the children who died in the former Kamloops Indian Residential School and for all those impacted by this tragedy, that there may be healing founded on truth and that the Spirit will inspire our ongoing commitment to reconciliation. For this, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

*"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it."
(1 Cor 12:26)*



VOCATIONS



Today's readings remind us that great things often have small beginnings. If you feel God is calling you to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon call: Fr. Matt McCarthy:

416-968-0997

vocations@archtoronto.org

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA JUNE 13

St. Anthony,
you are the Patron and helper
of all who seek lost articles.

Help me find
what I have lost (mention)
so that I may not waste time
that I could spend
serving God's greater honor
and glory.

Grant your gracious aid
to all people who seek
what they have lost,
especially those who seek
to regain God's grace.

Amen.

A PRAYER IN TIME OF CORONA-VIRUS

All-loving God, we pray to you
for those who suffer from the
Coronavirus around the world.
We pray too for all who reach
out to those who mourn the
loss of those who have died as
a result of contracting
the disease.

Give wisdom to policymakers,
skill to healthcare professionals,
comfort to everyone in distress
and a sense of calm to us
all in these days of uncertainty
and distress. This we ask
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Communication for Parish Volunteers re: Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is an Ontario law enacted in 2005, mandating that organizations follow standards to become more accessible to people with disabilities. The goal for the province is to be fully accessible by 2025 by removing barriers in a number of areas. All levels of government, private sectors, and non-profits must comply with this legislation.

Since 2012, the Archdiocese of Toronto has been implementing the required standards of the AODA as they become law and are committed to providing a welcoming, accessible and inclusive environment for all of its parishioners, visitors, volunteers and employees. The AODA aligns with the Archdiocese's desire to be of service, equitable and socially responsible.

As the Archdiocese is considered a large organization under the AODA, part of the requirement is to provide a copy of the Archdiocese of Toronto's AODA Customer Service Policy and to provide AODA training to all clergy, employees, independent contractors and volunteers – including paid and unpaid positions – regardless of whether they have contact with the public. This requirement is for individuals ages 16+. As well, the Archdiocese must keep records of training.

As a valued volunteer of the Archdiocese of Toronto and in keeping with the Canadian Code for Volunteer Involvement, you have a right to expect sufficient training in order to accomplish your volunteer ministry. You also have the responsibility to complete the required training and comply with the training you receive.

We are asking our volunteers to please take the time to read over the policy and complete the training in a timely manner.

The AODA Training Manual can be found on the [Archdiocese of Toronto Volunteer Screening Program - Orientation & Training](#) website. Then select the AODA Online Training Modules. The last part will be completing the SurveyMonkey Acknowledgment as the Archdiocese must keep records of training.

For more information about the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) please visit ontario.ca/accessibility.

**"If you do not have a computer, please contact the office and we will
arrange a different training method for you."**

We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.



**CCCB STATEMENT
DELEGATION TO THE HOLY SEE**



The Catholic Bishops in Canada have genuinely heard the sincere invitation to engage wholeheartedly with the past and are deeply committed to take truly meaningful active steps together with Indigenous Peoples in view of a future filled with greater respect and cooperation. The recent discovery of children's remains at a burial site of a former residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia remind us of a tragic legacy still felt today.

With the strong encouragement of Pope Francis, the Bishops of Canada have pledged true and deep commitment to renewing and strengthening relationships with Indigenous Peoples across the land. In recent years, regional and diocesan listening circles have taken place across the country in order to hear the stories from local Indigenous communities and their hopes for the future. Mutual listening is the beginning of our common efforts to bring about shared and long-lasting reconciliation, authentic healing and bridge building.

In conversation with Indigenous people and communities, both at the local and national levels, and bilaterally with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit national organizations, the Bishops, sponsors of this project, have been preparing, for over two years now, a delegation of Indigenous people to meet with the Holy Father to foster meaningful encounters of dialogue and healing. This pastoral visit will include the participation of a diverse group of Elders/Knowledge Keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across the country. The event will likewise provide Pope Francis with a unique opportunity to hear directly from Indigenous Peoples, express his heartfelt closeness, address the impact of colonization and the implication of the Church in the residential schools, so as to respond to the suffering of Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma.

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has stalled this project; however, the Bishops remain committed to moving forward with the delegation prior to the end of 2021, in compliance with international travel guidelines.

The delegation to the Holy See represents an important step on the journey of reconciliation and shared healing for Indigenous Peoples and the Church in Canada. Pope Francis, in his 6 June 2021 Angelus message, spoke about the shocking discovery of children's remains at the former Kamloops residential school and, while conveying sorrow and solidarity, emphasized the importance of "walking side by side in dialogue and in mutual respect in the recognition of the rights and cultural values of all the sons and daughters of Canada". It is our hope that these forthcoming encounters – and the important collaboration and partnership that has supported the planning – will lead to a shared future of peace and harmony between Indigenous Peoples and the Catholic Church in Canada.

June 10, 2021

For complete information and resources visit: www.archtoronto.org

Letter from Cardinal Thomas Collins



June 3, 2021

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it." (1 Cor 12:26)

In recent days, the country has been shocked, saddened and angered by the discovery of the remains of 215 children in unmarked graves who attended a residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. We pray for the children who died in Kamloops and in residential schools throughout the country – they must not be forgotten. We must also recognize the betrayal of trust by many Catholic leaders who were responsible for operating residential schools, abandoning their obligation to care for young and innocent children. We all seek the truth and this tragic discovery provides yet another opportunity for us to learn more about this dark chapter in our history and the painful journey experienced by so many of our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

There is much more work to be done. Since the 1990's, many of the Catholic entities responsible for the operation of residential schools have apologized publicly for their actions and have journeyed together with victims on the path to truth and reconciliation. This includes the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the religious order that operated the residential school in Kamloops, which over the weekend again apologized for its role in the residential school system. Pope Benedict XVI also had the chance to meet with Indigenous leaders in 2009 to personally express his sorrow and anguish.

These actions do not erase our history; they acknowledge our past, force us to face the consequences of our behaviour and compel us to ensure that our sins are not repeated.

While the Archdiocese of Toronto did not operate residential schools, we join with the Indigenous peoples, the Catholic community and Canadians from coast to coast to coast in a period of collective grief for those who are physically, emotionally and spiritually wounded. This Sunday, I will offer Mass for those who died or were abused at residential schools and for all those who deal with the intergenerational trauma caused by this system. We must also continue to build on the tangible initiatives present throughout the country, like the Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle, where bishops and priests, women religious, laity and Indigenous peoples are committed to walking together on a path to reconciliation.

As I have stated previously when speaking of abuse in the Church, the real scandal is when evil festers in the darkness. Once in the open, evil can be rooted out. That must happen. Then new life can begin. Let us journey together to find light through the darkness once again.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

Thomas Collins

† Thomas Card. Collins

Archbishop of Toronto

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Residential Schools – June 2021

There has been considerable media coverage and discussion in recent days following the discovery of children's remains at the former residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia. The discovery has reopened a painful wound for many in our country and has identified the need for all Canadians to learn more about our history, the role of residential schools as part of that journey and to seek the truth regarding all those who suffered and continue to do so to this day.

The abuse of Indigenous peoples is a dark chapter in the history of Canada and the Catholic Church. While the Church has cared for and served Indigenous people in many ways, it is undeniable that some members of the Church undermined the dignity of First Nations people. There is evidence that much of this abuse occurred at residential schools, which were largely operated by Christian denominations. This communication is intended to provide some context and address some frequently asked questions about this important issue. We must all join in the collective efforts on the path to healing and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

1. I am deeply troubled by the discovery of children's remains in Kamloops on the site of a former residential school. Who operated the school?

The discovery of 215 unmarked graves in late May 2021 will require further investigation to help seek the truth of who these children were, how they died and how they were buried so far from home. The school was built and initially operated by the federal government, opening in 1890. In 1892, the federal government asked a Catholic order, the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, to take over operations, which they did until 1969. The federal government resumed operations of the school from 1969 until its closure in 1979. The religious order issued a formal apology in 1991 in addition to paying settlements to residential school survivors. An excerpt of the apology reads as follows:

"We wish to apologize in a very

particular way for the instances of physical and sexual abuse that occurred in those schools...Far from attempting to defend or rationalize these cases of abuse in any way, we wish to state publicly that we acknowledge they were inexcusable, intolerable and a betrayal of trust in one of its most serious forms. We deeply and very specifically, apologize to every victim of such abuse and we seek help in searching for means to bring about healing."

2. Is the Catholic Church assisting with the efforts to seek the truth in Kamloops and elsewhere?

Father Ken Thorson, current Superior of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, has reached out to the Tk'emlups te Secwépemc Chief Rosanne Casimir to offer assistance and to express sympathies following the discovery of the remains of 215 children on the grounds of the former school. Father Thorson has communicated that records from the

Kamloops Indian Residential School are with the Royal British Columbia Museum and has indicated the order will assist in sharing any information regarding records at this and other locations where the order operated schools.

Among the groups of dioceses and religious communities that operated residential schools, there is a spirit of cooperation with Indigenous peoples with regards to personal records and information relating to the former schools. At the same time, there are also privacy rights, including those of Indigenous peoples who attended these schools, which need to be taken into consideration on a case by case basis.

3. Why aren't we hearing an apology from the Catholic Church in Canada?

There is no such entity as the Catholic Church of Canada. Each Catholic diocese and religious order is an independent legal entity. Despite this reality, in 1991, Canadian Catholic Bishops, along with leaders of men and women religious communities, issued a statement that "We are sorry and deeply regret the pain, suffering and alienation that so many experienced" at residential schools.

Approximately 16 out of 70 Roman Catholic dioceses in Canada were associated with the former residential schools, in addition to about three dozen out of over one hundred Catholic institutes (commonly referred to as religious orders). Each diocese and institute is corporately and legally responsible for its own actions.

Many of the dioceses or orders operating schools have offered apologies, dating back to the early 1990s. In recent days, many bishops throughout Canada have

offered statements and introduced other initiatives to continue our ongoing path to truth and reconciliation.

A listing of some of the numerous apologies and other resources can be found at:

www.cccb.ca/indigenouspeoples/indian-residential-schools-andtrc/

4. Did the Archdiocese of Toronto operate residential schools?

The Archdiocese of Toronto did not operate residential schools yet we share the collective grief and sorrow as the result of any representative of the Catholic Church inflicting pain or abuse on an individual, especially vulnerable children.

5. Have Indigenous leaders met with the Pope?

Yes, in 2009, the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Phil Fontaine, along with other Indigenous representatives, had a moving encounter with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

In describing the meeting, Chief Fontaine told the media he hoped the expression of regret would "close the book" on the issue of apologies for residential school survivors.

Another attendee at the meeting with Pope Benedict, Edward John, Grand Chief of the First Nations Summit in British Columbia, said the Pope acknowledged the suffering of those who are still living with the effects of their experiences at the schools. In comments to the media he said, "I think in that sense, there was that apology that we were certainly looking for."

The Catholic Church continues to work alongside and with Indigenous communities in order to foster an

ongoing culture of reconciliation. There have been, and continue to be, numerous initiatives by Catholic dioceses, institutes and organizations throughout Canada to assist with support the ongoing healing and reconciliation journey.

6. I understand there was a formal request in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report for the Pope to personally apologize in Canada?

The Holy Father has already been invited to Canada by the present and previous Prime Minister. The Catholic Bishops of Canada, including the current and past Presidents of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, have assured the Pope they would joyfully and gratefully welcome him in a visit to Canada. Likewise, in a number of instances, Canadian Bishops, individually and collectively, have formally invited Pope Francis to visit, including with specific reference to Call to Action #58 (a recommendation of the 2015 Truth & Reconciliation Commission asking the Holy Father to apologize on Canadian soil within one year of the report being issued). Pope Francis has encouraged the Bishops to continue taking leadership and assuming their proper role in pursuing their pastoral engagement and reconciliation efforts with Indigenous peoples, including ongoing conversations among the Bishops and Elders. This work builds on past apologies, dialogue and the desire to move forward together. A formal papal visit involves a number of steps from both government and church

leadership as well as significant logistical, financial commitments and other considerations. No papal visit has been publicly announced at this time.

7. Will the Catholic Church pay financial reparations to those harmed by residential schools?

The Catholic entities that operated residential schools were part of the 2006 Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA).

The Holy See and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops were never involved in running the former schools. The “Roman Catholic Entities” named as parties in the IRSSA were legally deemed to have fulfilled the requirements of the settlement agreement by a judicial review. Following this review, the former Conservative government released the entities from further obligations – a decision which the present Liberal government did not appeal.

The 50 or so individual entities which signed the IRSSA paid:

i. **\$29 million in cash** (less legal costs);

ii. **more than the required \$25 million of “in-kind” contributions**; and

iii. an additional **\$3.7 million** from a “best efforts” campaign.

Those same entities, together with other dioceses, institutes and national Catholic organizations, continue to be involved in efforts across the country to provide in-kind contributions, which go well beyond the scope of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement.

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