



Colloquy

Atlantic CLC

Easter 2004

Issue #6



“What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later.”

Through the readings and liturgies of Holy Week, and especially the Holy Three Days or the *Triduum Sacrum*, we are fully immersed in the re-enacting of the central acts of our Christian Faith. In affect, we *participate* in a re-enactment of the greatest love story ever told - God's love for all humankind. But how do we *participate*?

Throughout the Lenten and Easter season there is much that I've yet to understand. However, in the spirit of Ignatius, I've now come to recognize that I am not simply a passive *listener* to an old story, and neither am I a *spectator*. It is indeed a story full of rich imagery; of high emotions and drama, love and betrayal; of confusion and denial, and then sheer wonder and amazement! And as I follow the turn of events recorded in the scriptures, I am prompted into a prayerful silence, asking myself: How do I NOW *participate* in this story?

It has been observed that with the Lenten and Easter season, each liturgy; "...has its own particular character... *Passover, Paschal Lamb, Exodus, Communion, Bread, Wine, Washing of Feet, Fire and Water...*" I've come to recognize that each of these events within Holy Week are not an end in itself but a means to a greater end - the deepening of our relationship with God. And through that relationship, we enter a *new* way of seeing an old world.

At one time I did not understand all these things, but as Jesus told us, we would come to understand them later. That later, is NOW!

Leo J. Deveau, Editor.

This issue's highlights: Formation News Update, p.5 ; A Short Lenten Reflection, p.8; "Good Friday begins early..." p.9; News from Ixthus CLC, p.10; Praying the Universe, p. 12; News from Come and See CLC p.15; A Communal Sending Prayer, p.17; Recipes from CLC Communities, p. 19-20.

Our Regional CLC Coordinator News...

Dear Friends in Christ,

He is Risen! Praise the Lord! May the peace of the Risen Lord live long and fill your hearts all the days of your life! As this time of new life and new energy is renewed within us, let us take the time to remember the great sacrifice Jesus endured for our salvation. Rejoice and be glad! The tomb is empty!
"He went in and he saw and he believed... ." [John 20: 8].



On behalf of myself, my wife Terri and our CLC community, Come and See, Saint John N.B., Happy Easter! This has not been an unusually hard winter although some days it seemed so. Nevertheless, I am glad Spring is here and I can set about working in the yard and the garden once more.

Your Atlantic CLC Regional Executive Committee and your 2004 Atlantic CLC Regional Assembly Committee have been at work preparing and discerning God's call for us as an Atlantic community in the coming days, weeks and months ahead.

As you know, **our 2004 Assembly is scheduled for the weekend of August 27-29/04 at the Villa Madonna Retreat Centre in Rothesay N.B.** The full details of the Assembly have not been completed as yet, but will be released through your CLC contact person(s) immediately after the April Council gathering.

The combined committees did in fact meet at Shad Bay, Nova Scotia the weekend of February 27-28/04. This was a postponed meeting from the weekend before. You remember that weekend... 95 mm of snow in parts of Nova Scotia! There were reports of a 4-6 hour wait at the NB/NS border with blowing snow making the roads impassable. No wonder I couldn't find any adventurous souls to travel with me.

Our new Atlantic Regional CLC Treasurer, Claude Jean of Atholville, N.B (Our Lady's Circle CLC, Nackawic), and our new Atlantic Regional CLC National Representative, John Sumarah of Wolfville, N.S. (Truth Given CLC) were both commissioned in a prayerful and moving ceremony during the Atlantic Executive gathering.

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**Our new Atlantic CLC National Representative, John Sumarah (l),
and our new Atlantic CLC Treasurer, Claude Jean (r).**



Some exciting developments were explored at our Executive gathering:

- New Brunswick is in the midst of a “Come and See Program,” where 34 candidates have been attending a six week module to introduce them to CLC and to see if they are feeling a call to the CLC way of life.
- A new Group Guide Workbook is nearing completion with the Formation Committee hard at work (see update below). It is hoped that the 1st workshop session will take place in the Fall of 2004. This is a major undertaking, but will yield untold fruit in the years ahead. It is our hope that individual CLC communities will spend time discerning whether there are potential guides among them.
- CLC communities throughout the Atlantic Region are learning just what it means to be an Apostolic Community and a community of Apostles.
- New life is surging in the region and the Spirit is extending His/Her invitation through CLC members to more and more Christians to seek the ‘more’ rather than settling for the less.

Below (p.4) is a beautiful sunset that was a special gift from God to Ray Myers and I as we traveled home from our meetings that February Saturday night. God is so gracious and generous. We took this photograph just after we passed the toll booth on the Cobequid Pass Highway from Truro to Amherst. It gave us great peace and many conversations around previous sunsets we had seen in our lives.

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As we continue to discover the wonder and the life in the fruit of Nairobi - DISCERN - SEND - SUPPORT - EVALUATE, we will discover just exactly who we are called to be.

Our 2004 Atlantic Regional CLC Assembly will feature as our keynote speakers, two CLC members who live the CLC way of life and who shared the experience of Nairobi together- Leah Michaud the past World CLC Co-Secretary and John Sumarah, our new Atlantic CLC National Representative. We certainly are looking forward to their presentations.

Please mark your calendars for the weekend of August 27-29/04 and plan to attend the Villa Madonna Retreat Centre in Rothesay, NB. Watch for registrations forth-coming from the Regional Council. Check with your contact person(s). This will be a wonderful assembly and one you won't want to miss!

**Blessings on your journey,
Viva Jesus.
Peter Chouinard, Come and See CLC,
Atlantic CLC Regional Coordinator**





Colleen Sumarah (above) and Nora Jean (right), both received a small gift of appreciation, along with many expressions of thanks (and hugs), at the recent Atlantic CLC Regional Executive meeting, for their respective roles of service as Regional Coordinator (Colleen) and Regional Representative on the National CLC Council (Nora).

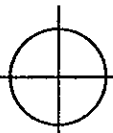
Formation News Update...

The Formation Team met in Shad Bay with the Regional Council Executive in February. At this time the team presented an outline for a Group Guide workshop which would take place in the Fall. The date would be subject to the different CLC meetings taking place at that time as well as to the availability of CLC members to attend the workshop.

To ensure an in-depth presentation and study time, the workshop will take place from Friday to Sunday. As well, the number of attendees has been reduced which should enable the members attending to cover the material without exhausting themselves. Each participant would, at the end of the first workshop, be paired with a mentor/guide who would provide the supervision and support needed during his/her formation period as a Guide.

In April, a Group Guide pre-discernment process will be sent out to the communities, to enable CLC members feeling the call to be Group Guides to make an enlightened decision regarding attending the workshop. This early mailing will permit the CLC communities in the region to have time to make a personal and communal discernment regarding a members attendance at the Fall workshop.

**Colleen Sumarah
Chair, Formation Team**



National Ecclessial Assistant Reflection...



A word about Lent...

The word 'lent' comes from an old Saxon word that means 'spring'. What else could the Lenten season be for us but a time when life is renewed and our lives are given a more focused direction towards the fullness of life... in God's friendship through our share of the Lord Jesus' life passions and death, and most assuredly, his resurrection!

When the Church moved further away from the Apostolic times, the intensity of the people's piety began to lessen. By the fifth century leaders began to search for something that would deepen Christians' devotional approach to Easter, the climax of the Christian year. By the ninth century Lent had evolved into a period of 40 days with Sundays omitted.

The number forty is important in Old and New Testament times and it was especially appropriate in connection with certain disciplines like a fast. Two of the greatest Old Testament prophets, Moses and Elijah, were said to have fasted for 40 days. Jesus fasted for forty days in the desert after his Baptism and before starting his public ministry. The sixth century Pope Gregory said since forty days are approximately ten per cent of the year Lent can be called a penitential "tithe of the year".

Let us therefore give a penitential tithe to the Lord, one that might well be difficult to sustain, but has the potential to lift, heal, and strengthen our inner spirits with God's loving presence etched into the fabric of our human condition.

Fr. Earl Smith sj
Winnipeg, MB.





Recent news from National CLC...

March 8, 2004

Dear CLC Friends:

I am writing to inform you that I have officially resigned my position as National Coordinator of CLC Canada.

When I discerned this position, I took into account my work load, my life style, my husband's support and my desire to learn more about the CLC way of life. I belong to a loving, supportive CLC group, River of Life, and they blessed me, commissioned me and sent me forth to serve. I took on the challenge to the best of my ability with excitement and great joy to work with some wonderful people both on the Executive team and General Council.

Some of you may know while others may not be aware that Ray & I are foster parents. About eight months ago, we were asked to take into our care two babies of five months of age. This was to be a three-month period with the understanding of helping the parents to better meet their baby's needs.

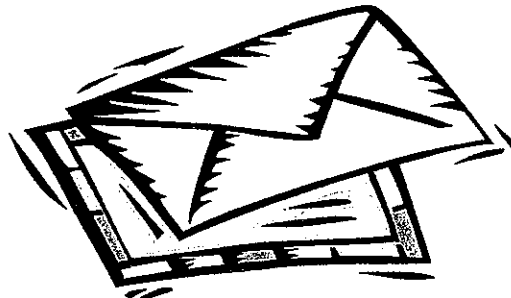
We discerned and accepted the gift of twin boys who are now 13 months old and the parents are no longer in the picture. We can only hope and pray that the twins will be adopted and the possibility of their being in our care for another six months to a year before this happens is very real and somewhat frightening due to the fact that they are becoming more attached to us and us to them. Needless to say, many, many changes have taken place in our lives and our home.

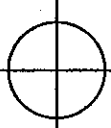
My position as NCC also changed and the understanding of what was expected of me was much different from my understanding. I could no longer meet the challenges satisfactorily so I again went to discernment and asked God for freedom to decide whether to stay and try harder to please or to let go; keeping in mind the time needed to care for the twins as well the time needed for my Mom who lives with us at the age of 82 and my husband who lovingly supports me in all of this.

After much prayer it was confirmed. I wrote my letter of resignation and there was only peace and a new sense of freedom within. I want to thank all those who prayed for me and supported me in my discernment.

*God Bless you all,
Lin Blackmore*

South Esk, New Brunswick.
River of Life CLC





A Short Lenten Reflection...

As with many Christians, I hope that my interactions with others are attentive, intentional and transformative. If we believe that our work or life is a ministry then we need to show where God is in our ministry. All is to be done in and for the love of God. Our peace and joy come from this realization.

To be attentive I need to clear my mind of distractions and be available and present to others, as well as the task at hand. Giving someone or something my full attention means emptying myself so that there is more room for God. It means believing that God is present in the moment and is calling me to be attentive in it. In this way God's will is accomplished. The practice of being attentive as with any good practice is a life-long one. I need to become

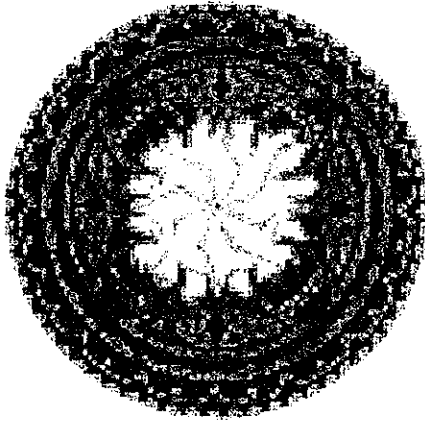
aware of my "interior now" and my desire to be calm and relaxed so that I can act with clarity and focus. It is always a challenge to be as completely present to the moment as possible. It requires being at home in my own self. Prayer is of obvious importance in the practice of being attentive. I remind myself of who I am, where God is in my life and in our world. I become more aware of my small role in the building of the kingdom... a sign, a witness, a presence that God is with us.

To be intentional means that I approach my interactions with purpose, with a desire to be open to the other and to welcome the other in some small way into my life. They are also a sign, a witness of God's presence to me. To be intentional means that my will connects with God's will, since my desire is to cooperate with God's will for humanity. In the most general of terms it means doing all in and for love, for God is love. My nightly awareness exercise of the day's events helps me to review where my intentions connected with my Masters and where I require more grace to make this connection.

As my attention and intention deepen, God's love transforms the moment. I need not talk about God's love or necessarily do anything special. When love is truly present God is present and authentic human transformation takes place. Our world is longing for transformation. Attention, intention and transformation have as their source of inspiration and their support, a prayerful life. We are called these Lenten days to be very attentive to and intentional about prayer. Our hope lies in the wonder of prayer to transform all of our lives so that we may live as God desires us to live, without fear and with great love and compassion for others.

John Sumarah, Atlantic CLC Representative, Truth Given CLC, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.





“ Good Friday begins early on the Mi’kmaq Reserve of Eskasoni, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia.

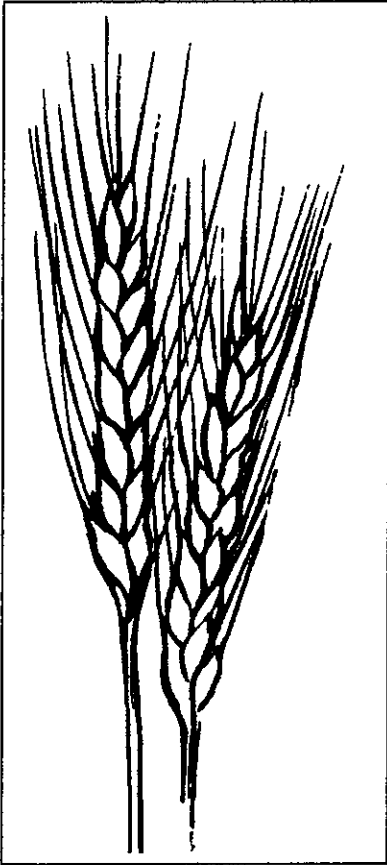
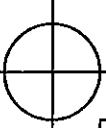
Just after midnight, community members undertake the rigorous hike up Poulette’s Mountain, rising over 200 meters (approximately 700 feet) above Cape Breton’s great inland sea, the Bras d’Or Lakes. Residents of Eskasoni, who (like all Mi’kmaq people) trace the genesis of their Catholicism to the seventeenth century, first scaled Poulette’s Mountain en masse in 1905 after an

apparition of St. Anne appeared to a group of children there. Through the bitter cold of early morning, the Mi’kmaq pilgrims clamber the steep incline bundled in heavy coats and toting plastic bottles. . Their icy ascent is punctuated by the Stations of the Cross, fourteen wooden signs depicting Christ’s sufferings on the road to Calvary. At each sign the faithful recite, in Mi’kmaq or English according to ability, the prayer for that station. On the mountain’s crest a natural spring and a painted statue of the Virgin Mary compose a simple shrine. Each person fills a bottle with frigid holy water from the spring. The Mi’kmaq then return home to share the water with those unable to make the difficult thirty-minute climb. Pilgrimages to the top of Poultette’s Mountain continue through early afternoon. By 3:00 p.m. the community church, bustling with dignified elders, band officers, and distracted youngsters, is prepared for Good Friday service.

The parish priest leads the Procession of the Cross and delivers a message of welcome in English. A series of native-language hymns is sung by Eskasoni’s choir. Then, rising from the front pew, a young woman begins reading aloud *Ta’n teli Amaskwiplnuss* (The Passion of the Lord) to the congregation. A dramatic account of Christ’s death on the cross, the Passion has been a highly revered text to Mi’kmaq Catholics since the early eighteenth century. According to oral tradition, one person in each community – by convention, usually a woman – has acted as the Passion’s *nujialasutmat* or ‘prayer leader’ since that time. The *nujialasutmat* was responsible for knowing the lengthy narrative in its entirety, reciting it every Good Friday, and training a prayer leader when old age hindered her abilities. Reading for the first time as Eskasoni’s *nujialasutmat*, the young woman completes the Passion, and Good Friday service comes to a close.

The prominence of Catholic beliefs and practices among Atlantic Canada’s Mi’kmaq population, demonstrated most dramatically on holy days such as Good Friday, is well documented. The first Catholic conversion is attributed to Grand Chief Membertou, who was baptized by French missionaries in a ceremony of alliance between his people and the Holy See in 1610. Since that time... the Mi’Kmaq First Nation has been known as “the eldest daughter of the [Holy Roman] Church among the Indians of North America.”

(From page 1 & 2, in: *Mi’kmaq Hieroglyphic Prayers: Readings in North America’s First Indigenous Script*. David L. Schmidt and Murdena Marshall. Halifax: Nimbus Publishing. 1995).



News from Ixthus CLC...

This year Ixthus CLC PEI has discerned our main project for 2004 would be clean water. We have studied the situation in Canada and have found there is very little enacted to protect our water from becoming a commodity. We have received much of our material from the Council of Canadians and have spent some time looking at the situation on a world level through materials obtained from CCODP which has made clean drinking water for the world their main project.

[Below] is a copy of the letter we sent to 18 people in government, both provincial and federal. We are shocked by the fact that we are only one water sale away from our water becoming a commodity on the market of multi nationals. The NAFTA agreement leaves us sitting ducks and the powers that be have not made a move to correct that situation. *We wonder if any other CLC group may want to join us in this endeavor(?)*.

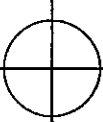
Take care,
Bill and Beulah Costain
(Contact us at: bcostain@pei.sympatico.ca)

Dear Minister:

We the undersigned are members of Ixthus Christian Life Community. Christian Life Communities exist worldwide, and have representation at the United Nations. One of the principles held by Christian Life Communities is to share responsibility for the well-being of the human family and the larger living world.

For some time our group has been distressed by the lack of legislation to preserve fresh water resources in Canada and we are probing the existing situation. From the materials we have studied we have come to the conclusion that Canada has not enacted legislation which would protect our water from being exported to foreign markets. In 1988 the Mulroney Government, in a response to the Opposition's charge that the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement posed a threat to Canadian water security, tabled the Canadian Water Preservation Act and in 1999 Hon. Christine Stewart and Hon. Lloyd Axworthy attempted to take measures to protect Canadian water. These attempts were never approved and to our knowledge were never reintroduced.

We are writing to ask what status our water resources hold regarding its use as a commodity for sale in the international marketplace. We do not oppose sharing clean drinking water in times of crisis, but exporting water for monetary purposes goes against our belief that an adequate supply of clean water for people's living needs is a basic human right which must be protected by legislation prohibiting large scale export of this resource.



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THIS IS A CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR CANADIANS.

You in government must realize that because NAFTA does not explicitly exempt water, it gives U.S. corporations international treatment rights to our water once any Canadian company is granted an export permit. As it stands presently, free trade agreements would override the Federal Water Policy. Before we go any further Canadians need to have legislation put in place to protect the future of our water supply.

We will await a response from you with any information you can provide re. this concern.

**Respectfully Yours,
Beulah Costain
for Ixthus CLC**

Cc:

Prime Minister Paul Martin

Minister of Agriculture, Robert Speller

Minister of International Cooperation, Aileen M. Carroll

Minister of Natural Resources, John R. Efford

Minister of Health and International Affairs, Pierre S. Pettigrew

Minister of Energy and Environment, David Anderson

Minister of International Trade, James Peterson

Minister of ACOA, Joseph McGuire

Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Geoff Regen

Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Irvin Cotler

Minister of Industry and Economic Development, Lucienne Robichaud

Provincial MP Reps., PEI: Wayne Easter, Joseph McGuire, Shawn Murphy Lawrence McAulay

Atlantic CLC Regional Council Update...

The Spring Atlantic Regional Council gathering will be held at the Motherhouse in Halifax on Saturday, May 8th. There will also be a social for those attending from the local Halifax and area CLC communities at the residence of Jim & Lata Hall on Friday evening (May 7th) beginning at 7PM. Jim and Lata are members of the Nuestra Casa Halifax CLC community. This Friday session will include a short general report of the Atlantic and National CLC communities, as well Eucharist and a celebration of who we are. For more information contact Peter Chouinard at: 1-506-696-7065. In addition, we are hopeful that the Fall Atlantic CLC Regional Council gathering will be celebrated with the Mabou Cape Breton CLC community, Disciples of the Light. Dates and details will be forth coming!



Praying the universe...

by Cristina Vanin

(reprinted with permission)

Eternal Spirit, Earth Maker, pain bearer, life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, loving God in whom in heaven the hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth!

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

-the Maori of New Zealand.

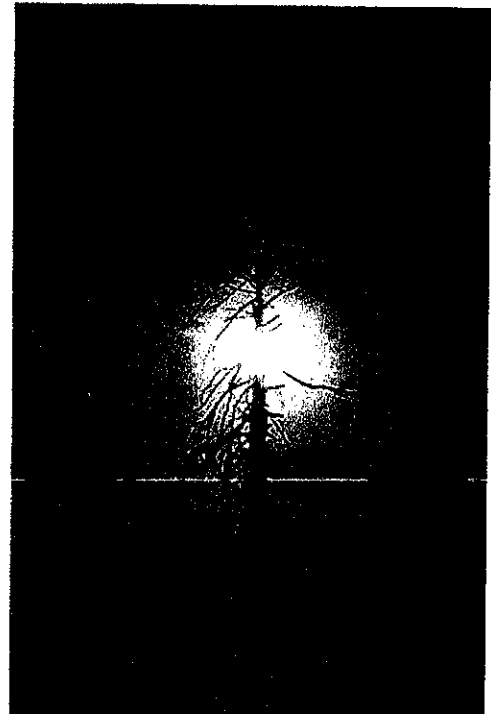
This version of the Lord's Prayer is suggested as one way to complete the first hour of prayer, in the first week of prayer of the Twenty-four Spiritual Exercises for the New Story of Universal Communion, an edition of the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises written by John English, S.J., Lois Zachariah and Kuruvila Zachariah for Christian Life Communities (CLC). As stated in the Introduction: "[t]hese prayers are meant to revitalize and foster a sense that life anywhere in the cosmos and specifically, all living organisms on Earth, are sacred. We hope CLC groups have an experience of the sacred in each other, family, friends, colleagues, plants, animals and ecosystems so that each CLC member expands his/her sense of community to include kinship with every living being, every stone, lake, mountain, on Earth."

While we are not a CLC group, the Ecology Project Advisory Group to which I belong has decided to do these Spiritual Exercises together, as part of our ongoing growth as a community that is not only about praxis but also prayer. In the first week, Disposition Week, the purpose is to gain the perspective and commitment that one needs to enter into the experience of prayer: to dispose ourselves to the love of God, especially as that love is revealed throughout the universe. The basis for prayer is Jesus' image of God as a Trinity of persons, "a loving community of persons...who have created all things and who are continually present to their creation, sustaining, energizing, and making all things new."

I am grateful for this opportunity to bring the discipline of daily prayer back into my life, even though I struggle to do so. Still, I have no trouble appreciating the beauty and truth of the interconnectedness of all created things in the universe — the grace that we ask for during the first and second periods of prayer — as I absorb the land, trees, oceans, volcanoes, mountains, rivers, and Maori culture, that are part of the community of life in New Zealand; work on the organic farm; visit a gannet colony; hike in the Waitakere Ranges; contemplate the sun setting on the Pacific Ocean. My spontaneous response to this beauty and truth has been tearful gratitude.

But the Disposition Week in these Exercises is not just about expanding our understanding of the universe; it also speaks to the responsibilities that humans have as part of the community of life. So, in the third prayer period for this week, we are to consider Ignatius' First Principle and Foundation: "We humans are created in union with all other creatures of the universe to praise, reverence and serve the Trinity and in this united activity to appreciate our kinship with each other and to discover the fullness of our own lives on earth. We are to respect all other creatures even as we use them for our own livelihood and unite with them in praise, reverence and service. This requires true spiritual freedom on our part. Such freedom extends to our relationship with everything. This is the basic attitude toward all members of the community of life and is necessary for true love. So we need to find this freedom in order to develop a right relationship with creatures, humans, plant, and animal...." I continue to ask for the grace and freedom to live life out of this basic attitude.

Cristina Vanin teaches in the Department of Religious Studies at St. Jerome's University, Waterloo, Ontario. This piece first appeared in the *Catholic New Times*, Vol.28: #3, February 8th, 2004, p.20.



Easter

Photo by Fr. Charles Pottie-Pâté sj

*Fr. Charlie wishes everyone in the Atlantic CLC region
A Happy Easter!*

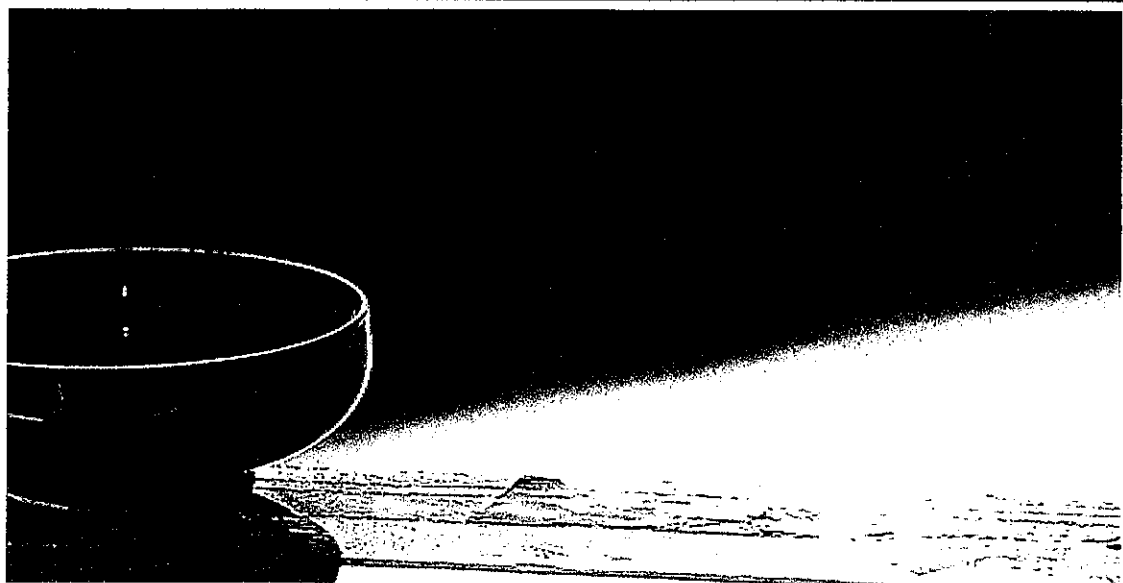


photo by Christopher Jido Comeau,



Embracing Redemption

Like the fallen Angel of Light
I had rejected God's plan of love and life.
In complicity, I have wreaked havoc on the world disfiguring myself, others, Jesus.
I became comfortable in the false security of darkness
and needed convincing of my sin.

I embrace this knowledge.

Like the fallen Adam and Eve,
Deception had snaked its way into my life
and left a cancerous pattern of sinfulness rooted in pride
to consume my personal freedom.

I embrace this awareness.

I must rid myself of the rupture of intimacy with my God,
with others here and now, with others before and after;
with all creation and with myself.
I must make room for God-light to dwell within.

I embrace desire for conversion.

Under His loving gaze, I faced my inner self:
I came naked into this world and was given everything.
Confronting my inner self, I remember how I prostituted those gifts
and injured human solidarity.

I embrace this acknowledgement.

I do not want to live with no light, no truth,
no hope, no God, in eternal Hell.
I have been protected and spared thus far.
I will put on Jesus, put on the Word.
I must listen to the Holy Spirit already in my heart
and to all He desires for me in God's Kingdom.

I embrace desire for purification.

I shall not hate myself, but feel shame and sorrow.
Not hide, but approach God in confusion and tears.
God shares himself with me.
I can share myself with Him.
He gives me gift of truth of conscience
and gift of certainty of redemption.

I embrace God's love with all my strength.

In Jesus is God's love revealed.
On the Cross my woundedness is consumed within Jesus' wounds.
As His love heals and forgives,
as compassion surrounds all agony,
with His Spirit loosed into my world,
I return with Him to the Father.

I embrace this redemption.

I embrace the welcome home.

I embrace my original beauty.

(Submitted by Pat Lawson, Our Lady's Circle, N.B.)

News from Come and See CLC...

Greetings and Blessings in Christ to all our CLC brothers and sisters.

Our focus for this submission is that of our call to be apostolic communities. We are truly grateful for being part of the world wide CLC community which "... is at the stage in 2004 of coming to grips with being called to be apostolic communities instead of merely communities of apostles."

Our CLC community has been deeply drawn to this message and invitation as communicated in the documents arising from the Nairobi World Assembly 2004 and the deeply moving powerpoint presentation prepared by John Sumarah. Just prior to praying with and studying this material, our community had been blessed with the gift of completing a co-discernment with one of our members, Peter Chouinard. Peter has repeatedly spoken of the deep graces which continue to flow into his life from this experience. The same is true for our community as a whole. Through this experience, the Spirit opened the door for us to receive the word of the Nairobi Assembly at a level that we could not have anticipated. We have been profoundly impacted by the entire "word" of the Spirit through the Assembly. However, the following excerpts (some paraphrased) from the talk "CLC and Common Mission" has been instrumental in moving us forward in the development of our understanding of what is meant by *common mission and what it means to be an apostolic community*.



"To realize common mission, however, we now understand that it means accepting shared responsibility for the mission discerned... whether this is the mission of an individual in the group, a small CLC group, or a national CLC body. This shared responsibility is not to be vague, fuzzy, wish-washy or spineless. It has a definite FORM that is communicated through FOUR VERBS...

DISCERN - SEND - SUPPORT - EVALUATE.

Discern through using on-going processes of discernment..

Send with communal prayer and ritual...

Support through intercessory prayer, interest, continuing serious conversation..

Evaluate through prayerful reflection processes on the mission/action taken..

These FOUR ACTIONS define unambiguously the RELATIONSHIPS of CLC members to one another - of one apostle to the other. These verbs actually enable an apostolic community to be

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ONE BODY whose head or heart knows what the hands or feet are doing - or how the lungs, stomach, or kidney is faring. Shared responsibility in mission means that we continue the connection, we purposefully and faithfully keep in touch with one another as ONE BODY which sends an individual (or some of its members of a group action). With all the means at our disposal, we are called to link up more vigorously - one with the other as individual members, as local communities, as regional communities, as national communities. When we do this, we live as *apostolic communities*."

We have been deeply graced through our living two of these "FOUR ACTIONS". As a community, we have co-discerned with Peter and, in accepting shared responsibility for his mission discerned, we have sent him forward with communal prayer and ritual. We are now committed to working with the Spirit in identifying prayerful and effective approaches for supporting Peter and, with him, evaluating his living out of his mission. We are sharing our communal "sending" prayer and ritual with you, our CLC family, as one way of helping to communicate our graced experience with you. Please feel free to use or adapt it according to your needs [See below].

We are grateful to Peter Chouinard for the freedom to identify him in this submission. This is typical of Peter i.e. to serve his community in humility. Peter is well known to many of you and we have a sense that our experience will be so much more personal for you as you read this material with the community member identified. May your Lenten-Easter journey be deeply rooted in the life and mystery of The Pascal Mystery.

**Come and See Community,
Saint John, N.B.**



A Communal Sending Prayer
from Come and See CLC Saint John.

COME AND SEE CLC
SENDING FORTH CELEBRATION

Peter Chouinard
March 25, 2004



Opening Words/Creating the Space

[On the floor, in the center of our gathered community, is a picture of Christ with His hand outstretched in a beckoning gesture with “Come and See” (the name of our CLC community) at the bottom. At the invitation of the community, Peter places a lit tea candle on Christ’s beckoning hand. Peter is seated as part of our circle but his chair is moved slightly forward into the circle.]

Opening Hymn: Come & Journey

Scripture: John 8:12 Jesus spoke to the Pharisees,
“I am the light of the world,” he said.
Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness.”

Reading: Henri Nouwen: “On Personal Change & Community”
From Befriending Life p. 89

Blessing: Peter, this evening we surround you with our love and blessing as we continue our journey together in the Body of Christ. We come to celebrate your embracing of your discerned decision and to send you into mission to co-labour with Jesus in building The Kingdom. We have been privileged to share in your discernment and now share a deep desire to send you as you follow your mission as Chair of the Vision Team of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Formation Program. We accept shared responsibility for your discerned mission and commit ourselves, with the grace of God, to:

- support you through intercessory prayer, ongoing interest, and continuing serious conversation as well as
- evaluate, with you, through prayerful reflection processes, your mission and the action taken through this mission.

As an apostolic community, we are ONE BODY in Christ, knowing that your mission as Chair of the Vision Team is also our common mission.

We surround you with our love and blessing as we each pray a blessing for a particular grace/gift to be with you in a deeper way on this mission: (Each member of the community had been asked to invite the Spirit to reveal to him/her a particular gift/grace for Peter.)

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Then each member moves next to Peter, places his/her hand on Peter's shoulder and then prays the gift/grace for him. The person then lights a tea candle and places it on the image of Christ. Eventually, the light (candles) of the whole community surround Peter's light and fill the picture of Christ. As each person completes his/her prayer, lights and places the candle, the following hymn is sung:

Take O take him as he is.
Summon out what he shall be.
Set your seal upon his heart
And live in him.

Closing Prayer:

May it please the supreme and divine Goodness to give us all abundant grace ever to know His most holy will and perfectly fulfill it. Amen (St. Ignatius).

Closing Hymn:

Take O take US as we are.
Summon out what WE shall be.
Set your seal upon OUR hearts
And live in US.

National CLC document online:

In preparation for the National Assembly in Lethbridge, Alberta, a document for reflection by all CLC communities can now be downloaded from:

<http://www.glinx.com/~ljdeveau/Colloquy.html>

And click on: JourneyTowardsLethbridge04.pdf

Plan for the CLC Regional Assembly:

Please mark your calendars for the weekend of **August 27-29/04** and plan to attend the Villa Madonna Retreat Centre in Rothesay, NB. **Watch for registrations forth-coming from the Regional Council. Check with your contact person(s).**



Many CLC communities often host potluck dinners for various occasions.

And with that thought, we want to invite recipes from all our CLC communities ! So please, if you have a die-for-recipe (an appetitizer, main course, or dessert), why not share it? Send it to me via email to: ljdeveau@chebucto.ns.ca , ,and it will run in the next issue of *Colloquy*. Look forward to hearing from you.

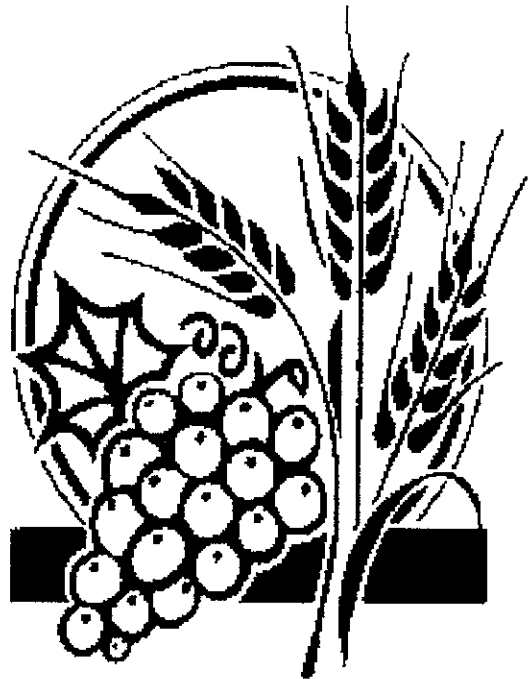
The following recipes were submitted by Pat Lawson, from Our Lady's Circle CLC in New Brunswick. She comments that they are from: "...The Lighthearted Cookbook" by Anne Lindsay, and enjoyed at table in kitchens in Nackawic, N.B.!"

MUSHROOM BISQUE WITH TARRAGON

One half lb mushrooms
1 tbsp margarine
2 tbsp minced onion
2 tbsp all-purpose flour
1 cup hot chicken stock
One and one-half cups 2% milk
1 tsp dried tarragon
1/3 cup minced fresh parsley
Salt and freshly ground pepper

1. Thinly slice 4 mushroom caps and set aside; coarsely chop remaining mushrooms (if using food processor, use on-off turns).
2. In saucepan, melt margarine over medium heat; add onion and cook for 2 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add chopped mushrooms and cook for 4 minutes, stirring often; sprinkle with flour and stir until mixed. Whisk in hot chicken stock and bring to boil, whisking constantly.
3. Reduce heat to low and add milk, tarragon, parsley and reserved sliced mushrooms; simmer, uncovered, for 4 minutes.
4. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Makes 4 servings.



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CABBAGE PIE

1 lb. savoy cabbage or 1 bunch collard greens
4 medium potatoes, peeled and quartered
1/4 cup skim milk
1 Tablespoon soft margarine
freshly ground pepper
Paprika

Cream Sauce: One and one-half tablespoons margarine
1 medium onion chopped
2 Tablespoons all purpose flour
1 cup skim milk
salt, freshly ground pepper and nutmeg

Separate and trim cabbage leaves or stems from collard leaves.
In large pot of boiling water, cover and cook cabbage for 5 to 10 minutes, collard for 10 to 15 minutes, or until tender. Drain thoroughly; chop coarsely and set aside.

In sauce pan of boiling water, cook potatoes until tender; drain. Mash potatoes with milk, margarine and pepper to taste.

Cream Sauce: Meanwhile, in a small sauce pan, melt margarine over medium heat; add onion and cook for 3-5 minutes or until tender. Stir in flour and mix well; cook, stirring, for one minute. Add milk and cook, stirring, for 3 to 5 minutes or until mixture comes to simmer and has thickened. Season with salt, pepper and nutmeg to taste.

Mix the sauce with the cabbage; spoon into 4 cup baking dish or 10 inch pie plate. Cover evenly with mashed potato; sprinkle lightly with paprika. (Put potatoes on edges first then middle)

Bake in 350 oven for 20 - 30 min. or until heated through. Makes 4 servings.

The next issue of *Colloquy* will come out in mid August, just before the Atlantic Regional Assembly in Saint John (27th-29th). JULY 22nd will be the deadline for submissions.

Send us an update from your CLC community. We are also interested in receiving pictures, book reviews, recipes, prayer reflections, etc. Email: ljdeveau@chebucto.ns.ca