



# Holy Family Matters

November 2011

Holy Family Catholic Regional Division #37

Issue 114

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## Central Office news and updates

*Greetings and peace of Christ be with all...*

As Remembrance Day approaches I cannot help but reflect on the unselfish sacrifices our brave soldiers made for us over the centuries and the resulting peace and freedom we enjoy in this country.

Freedom is a gift which we must not take lightly, for it carries with it an awesome responsibility to ourselves and everyone around us. Constant vigilance of our actions is necessary in order to achieve a happy and productive life. Never take for granted your freedom as you go through your daily life doing ordinary things like walking, playing, driving or even cooking. Any careless action can result, and often does, in accidents and even catastrophic events for oneself and those around you.

Always remember the freedom the veterans have achieved for us and Guard their gift preciously.

*Board of Trustee - Ann Polard*



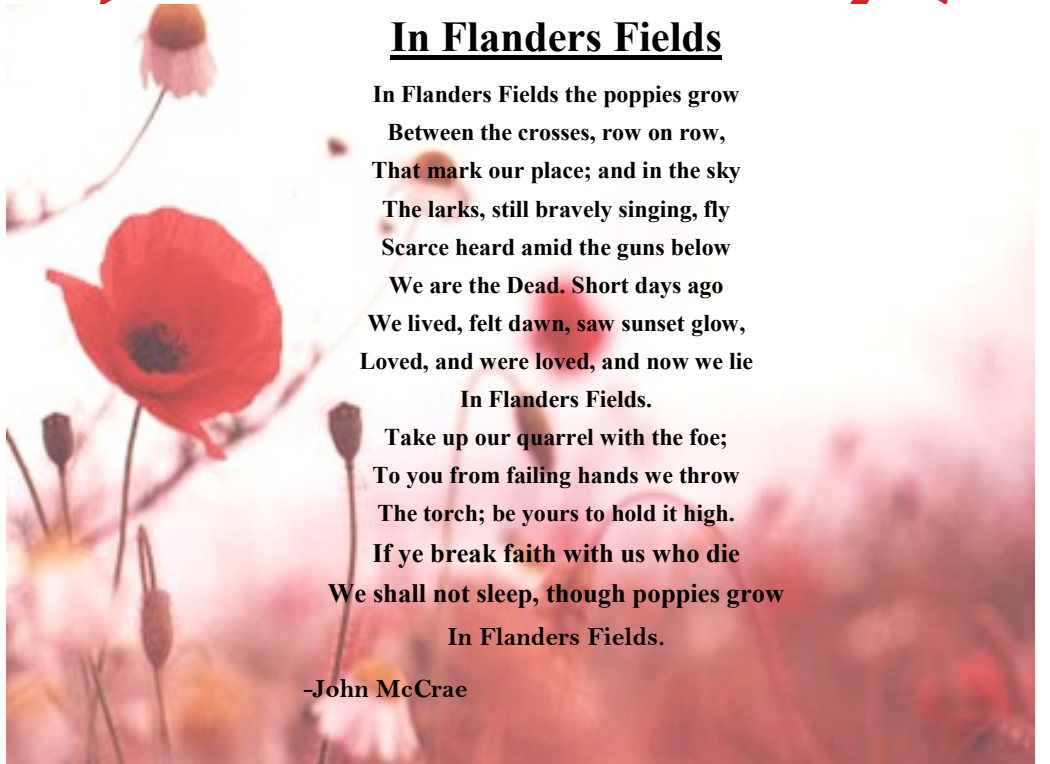
## Remembrance Day Prayer

### In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields the poppies grow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields.

-John McCrae



# Opening our hearts... Blessed are the Peacemakers



## Hold Firm... Trust in the Lord

*“Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of  
God.”*

*Matthew 5: 9*



### Faith Permeation update:

We continue to reflect as staff and students on the virtue of gratitude. Presenter David Wells during our Division Faith Day left us with the following key message to explore:

***If we lose the why (why is God) underneath the what (What is God), we the people of God are missing the point. Hold Firm...Trust in the Lord.***

This month of November, we remember and reflect upon those people we know as peacemakers, and to hear our own call to peacemaking in our day.



### Opening Prayer:

*Lord, we hear your call to peace in our world in so many places torn by war and conflict; we experience many acts of violence in our communities, in our relationships, and within our own hearts. We desire your presence of healing and hope in our time together as we listen to stories of those who lived as peacemakers in our world. Send us your Spirit of Wisdom that we may hear our call to be peacemakers in our own time. In openness and trust, we pray. Amen.*

Please visit our website [www.hfcrd.ab.ca](http://www.hfcrd.ab.ca) within Faith permeation for the **Open Our Hearts ... Blessed are the Peacemakers** prayer reflection in its entirety.

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***Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. Revelations 3:20***

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories introduced the theme ‘**Open wide the Doors to Christ**’ through a letter read at Catholic Education Sunday parish services throughout our Diocese. The following is an excerpt from this letter...

*“Our beloved students need our schools to be bright with the light of Christ. We open the door to the Lord when the students follow a curriculum and activities fully permeated with the beauty of our faith; when teachers are authentic witnesses of the Christian life; when staff and administration strive diligently to ensure that our schools form a Gospel culture; and when trustees are guided by the teachings of the Lord and His Church and reflect their faith in the political arena. Schools that consciously open their doors to Christ are a priceless treasure. We must continue to support the valuable vital role that our Catholic schools play in our Church and in our broader communities.”*

***...“ Therefore, do not be afraid. Let us move forward and open wide the doors of our hearts and our schools to Christ.”***

The full version of the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the Northwest Territories Letter can be accessed at Holy Family Catholic website: [www.hfcrd.ab.ca](http://www.hfcrd.ab.ca) within Faith Permeation re: Catholic Education Sunday.

Holy Family Catholic Schools will be hosting a **Youth Faith Day on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>** for its schools' student representatives from grade 9 through 12. The purpose of the day is two-fold: 1) to invite and challenge participants to embrace God's full purpose for their life; to show that a life lived for Christ takes nothing away from what makes life meaningful, beautiful and exciting. 2) to explore Youth Faith by inviting former SHINE and student leaders to provide ideas and direction for HFCRD and Archdiocese of Grouard McLennan visioning of Youth Ministry. The theme and guest presenter for the day is as follows:

## ***Youth Faith Day 2011***



***Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 3:30 PM***

**Catholic Conference Center**

**10307-99 Street**

***“Blessed are those***

***Who trust in the Lord,***

***Whose trust is the Lord”***

***Jeremiah 17:7-8***

***Full day with speaker: Ken Yasinski***

***who will explore God's fullness of life... a life that is meaningful, beautiful and exciting.***

***Grade 9-12 Shine or School leaders may register with your school faith formation coordinator.***

***“One day all artisans in the developing countries will earn a fair wage, be treated with dignity and respect and be able to live a life of quality.”***

### **What is Ten Thousand Villages?**

Ten Thousand Villages is an organization which sells handicrafts from developing countries through its network of stores in Canada and the USA, as well as hundreds of annual Festival Sales. Ten Thousand Villages is a program of Mennonite Central Committee, a relief and development organization working in more than 50 countries around the world. The inspiration for the name came from a Mahatma Gandhi quote: “...India is not to be found in its few cities but in the 700,000 villages...we have hardly ever paused to inquire if these folks get sufficient to eat and clothe themselves with.” To us, each village in the world represents a unique and distinctive people, offering extraordinary products born of their rich cultures and traditions.

A staff of dedicated volunteers from the Peace Region will help to make this event another success. *For offers to help with the unpacking, setting up or selling, please call Eva at 624-4367 or Nancy at 624-8544.*

### **Where do all the items sold at the Ten Thousand Villages Sales Festival come from and who made them?**

Products sold by Ten Thousand Villages come from 36 countries in the developing world. Ten Thousand Villages buys from more than 130 artisan groups which provides work for more than 60,000 individual people. About 70% of the artisans are women. Some artisan groups also seek to employ persons with physical disabilities. Ten Thousand Villages intentionally looks to work with people who are unemployed or underemployed. Products sold by Ten Thousand Villages are often made in small group settings or in homes where artisans also manage household responsibilities or farm work.

### **How much money does Ten Thousand Villages send back to the artisan?**

None. Before placing an order, Ten Thousand Villages establishes what the artisan group considers to be a fair price. When placing the order, half the amount of the purchase price is sent with the order, allowing artisans to purchase the raw materials needed and to pay wages during production. Upon completion of the order, the remainder of the purchase price is paid before the order leaves the country. Orders are paid in full before they actually arrive in Canada. To determine a “fair wage” Ten Thousand Villages buyers talk directly with artisan groups. They also talk with other organizations working in the country to learn how much other persons in the community earn – farm workers, construction workers, teachers, etc. It is Ten Thousand Villages’ goal to ensure that an artisan’s basic needs for food, clothing, housing, medical care and children’s education are met.

**Come and join us...  
for the  
6th Annual Sales Festival**



**Friday, November 25  
2:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**



**Saturday, November 26  
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Catholic Conference Centre  
10307-99 Street Peace River**

*Buy unique handcrafted gifts and help provide a fair income to people in Third World Countries.*

*Visit: [www.tenthousandvillages.ca](http://www.tenthousandvillages.ca) to learn more*

**You can pay with:**

