

# CARFLEO Newsletter

January 2009

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**On new years and fresh starts:** The Baptism of Jesus (celebrated on January 12<sup>th</sup> in the Roman Rite, January 20<sup>th</sup> in the Orthodox Rite) marks the beginning of the liturgical celebration of Jesus' ministry in the Western church, and is closely connected with the blessing of holy water—a sign of purity and holiness-- in the Eastern Church. May this be a time of newness, of freshness, for those of you beginning new semesters, or still revelling in the afterglow of the inauguration to our south, and may it be blessed with a sense of hope for the weeks and months that lie ahead of us . . .



***CARFLEO Conference & AGM: “Toward a Climate of Change: Finding Hope and Keeping Faith Amidst Our Present Environmental Movement” April 28 & 29, 2009 at the Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston, Ontario***

Keynote speakers Stephen Sharper, Associate Professor with the Centre for the Study of Religion and the Centre for the Environment at the University of Toronto and co-author of *The Green Bible*, and Marianne Karsh, a professional forester and researcher, Director of *Arborvitae* and co-author of “Trees, Forestry, and the Responsiveness of Creation”, along with Daisy Radigan , D. Min. candidate, doing work in Ecological Stewardship in Catholic Education, who will lead us in prayer, symbol, ritual, story and song. Please see the Conference flyer attached.

***CARFLEO AGM Award Nominations DUE MARCH 13***

Do you work with, or know someone whom you consider to be an exemplary educator in Religious or Family Life Education? Here is the chance to honour them, and to have them recognized for their commitment to Catholic education. Please consider nominating worthy candidates for the Fr. Angus MacDougall Award for excellence in Family Life Education, or the Archbishop Pocock Award for excellence in Religious Education.

[Fr. Angus MacDougall Award](#) - nomination forms attached

[Archbishop Philip Pocock Award](#) - nomination forms attached

The deadline for nominations is March 13, 2009. Applications should be sent to Les Miller, York Catholic Board at [Les.Miller@ycdsb.ca](mailto:Les.Miller@ycdsb.ca)

## **Grade 7 & 8 Family Life Supplements**

Project directors Dan Reidy and John Podgorski are working with Bishop Paul-Andre Durocher to create the Professional Development components to the Supplemental Resources package. Stay tuned!

## **News on World Religions:**

The Ministry of Education Guidelines for Social Sciences, including the World Religions course, have suggested, among a number of less significant changes, that the new “World Religions and Expressions of Belief in Daily Life” remain in Grade 11 at the Open level, but be moved to Grade 12 for the U/C level. This has serious ramifications for all Catholic Boards, where the World Religions course is almost universally compulsory at the Grade 11 Religious Studies course, which also satisfies the Ministry Senior Social Science requirement. It would also impact Novalis/Nelson, who have been developing, in collaboration with the Ontario Bishops, a textbook for the Grade 11 World Religions course. Discussion has taken place at ICE, CARFLEO, and the CCC Faith in Education Committee, along with at various Catholic boards. The Ministry of Education does pay very close attention to feedback from educators, so please take the time to participate in the online Curriculum Review for the Humanities and Social Sciences at [www.curriculumreview.ca](http://www.curriculumreview.ca) by February 25<sup>th</sup>. Collective responses from a school board or stakeholder organization are preferred, so the Ministry can hear the message from a “common voice”, but individual responses with specific feedback will also be accepted.

## **Forthcoming World Religions DVD: “Animating the Golden Rule”**

Many are already familiar with the work of Paul McKenna, the Scarboro Missions and the Golden Rule Poster, copies of which hang in the Vatican and at the United Nations as well as other places across the globe. Paul has worked with filmmaker Tina Petrova to produce a DVD documentary about the Golden Rule Retreats with high school students from the Toronto area. This film will be released in February. See attachment for a list of associated resources, or check the Scarboro Missions website at [www.scarboromissions.ca](http://www.scarboromissions.ca)

## **Catholic Education Week**

The theme of this year’s Catholic Education Week Is indeed one that can be celebrated throughout the year: “*Catholic Education: Good News for All*”. We look forward to the fruits of OCSTA’s preparation to help us celebrate the conviction, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news:.

## **WWW.CARFLEO.ORG**

The website continues to gather great hit numbers and to be awesome. Contact [les.miller@ycdsb.org](mailto:les.miller@ycdsb.org) to contribute your excellent resources and links.

### ***The Canadian Forum on Theology and Education***

The website for The Canadian Forum on Theology and Education (formerly High School Forum) is now up and running at [www.cfotae.ca](http://www.cfotae.ca). The event will be held at St. Jerome's University, Waterloo, ON, Thursday May 7th 2008 to Saturday May 9th 2009. This year's keynote speaker is the internationally-known Diarmuid O'Murchu, who will be speaking on "Evolutionary Faith".

#### **2008/2010 Executive Committee**

Kevin Welbes Godin, *Chair*, Dan Reidy, *Past Chair*, Michael Jenny, *Treasurer*, Paul Beaudette, *Secretary*

Joe Bezzina, *Curriculum*; Sharron McKeever, MaryAnn Takacs, *Conference*; Peter Crane, *WFMP*; Sherry Chapman, *Communications*, Sr. Stephanie Romiti C.S.J.

# Fr. Angus MacDougall Award for Excellence in Family Life Education Nomination Form

The nominee is:

- An Ontario Catholic family life educator
- One who demonstrate excellence in one or more of the following areas:
  - Care and commitment to engaging and supporting student learning in family life education
  - Knowledge and demonstration of best practices in family life education
  - Innovations in the practice of family life education
  - On-going contributions to the field of family life education beyond their own classroom
  - Leadership in initiating and sustaining opportunities for the growth of quality family life education with colleagues
  - Continuous updating and improving of personal practice as a family life educator

I, \_\_\_\_\_ **wish to nominate**

\_\_\_\_\_ Candidate

As the 2009 recipient for the Fr. Angus MacDougall Award for Excellence in Family Life Education.

Rationale: *(include any contributions that this person may have made to the development, implementation, and/or promotion of the Family Life Programs at either a local or provincial level.)*

Nominator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: March 13, 2009**

# **Archbishop Philip Pocock Award for Excellence in Religious Education Nomination Form**

The nominee is:

- An Ontario Catholic school religious educator
- One who demonstrate excellence in one or more of the following areas:
  - Care and commitment to engaging and supporting student learning in religious education and faith formation
  - Knowledge and demonstration of best practices in religious education and faith formation
  - Innovations in the practice of religious education and faith formation
  - On-going contributions to the field of religious education and faith formation beyond their own classroom
  - Leadership in initiating and sustaining opportunities for the growth of quality religious education and faith formation with colleagues
  - Continuous updating and improving of personal practice as a religious educator

I, \_\_\_\_\_ wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ as the  
Candidate

recipient of the Archbishop Philip Pocock Award for excellence in Religious Education for 2009.

*Rationale: (include any contributions that this person may have made to the development, implementation, and/or promotion of the Religious Education Programs at either a local or provincial level.)*

*Nominator's Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date of application:* \_\_\_\_\_

***Deadline: March 13, 2009***