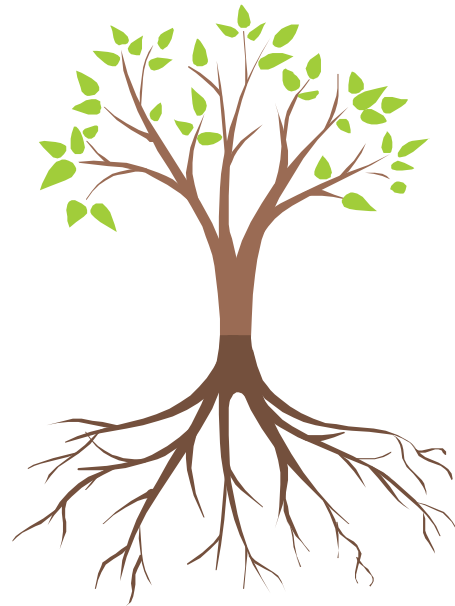


## Investing in our Catholic Faith

Many of us spend our lives creating a legacy that we plan to give to our children. We develop our farms, our businesses and our careers. We save money and invest for our retirement. We build, maintain and renovate our homes. We work hard to build a better future for our children and grandchildren.

What makes us different as Christians is our commitment to building our spiritual home, the Church. As Catholics, we are called to consider our faith community in our personal and financial planning. Because the Catholic Church is 100% funded by donations, your support is crucial. It is always a good time to consider our role as good stewards of the Church.



One way that you can help to make your support go even further when making a gift now or in your will is to consider donating publicly traded securities like stocks, bonds and mutual funds. The Church benefits by receiving the full market value of your gift and you benefit by receiving a donation receipt for the full market value. **In addition, you are 100% exempt from capital gains tax on these securities if you donate them before you cash them out.** It's a win-win strategy! The process is easy. The archdiocesan Development Office can provide you with the appropriate transfer document to forward to your broker or financial institution. One thing to keep in mind is that the securities must be transferred **before** they are cashed in order to receive the capital gains tax exemption. You can choose to direct your support to:

- Your parish
- The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton
- St. Joseph Priests' Foundation of Edmonton (formerly the Priests Retirement Fund)
- The Foundation of St. Joseph Seminary and Newman Theological College
- Any of the many worthy Catholic charities and organizations working to bring the healing touch of Christ into our world.



For more information on this or other types of legacy gifts such as RRSP/RRIF donations, making a bequest in a will, donating a life insurance policy or establishing or contributing to an existing endowment fund, please contact Carla Smiley, Planned Giving Coordinator 780-469-1010 ext 2231 or [csmiley@caedm.ca](mailto:csmiley@caedm.ca). All inquiries are in confidence.



## LEGACIES OF FAITH

*Planned Giving Newsletter, Issue 4, Fall/Winter 2013*

### Celebrating God's Goodness

The Jubilee 100 celebrations that we are now concluding recall the missionary spirit of the Catholic Church. In the late 1800s and early 1900s missionary orders of priests and nuns undertook the arduous journey from Eastern Canada and invited families to join them in settling here and building the communities that

would later welcome new immigrants. Orders such as the Grey Nuns, the Faithful Companions of Jesus, Sisters of Providence and Les Filles de Jesus founded schools, hospitals and other social services that provided the foundation for the development, growth and prosperity of the province of Alberta.

The Holy Spirit continues to inspire in the Church a multiplicity of ministries to meet the needs of people locally, nationally and internationally to address issues such as hunger and homelessness and to advocate for those whose essential dignity is threatened in any way.

Our capacity to undertake such ministries depends entirely on the support of the people of God. Our institutions of formation, namely Newman Theological College and St. Joseph Seminary, prepare lay and ordained people to effectively lead our mission to bring souls to Christ and Christ to souls. Thank you for your generosity which enables this work. Your financial gifts today and those you leave in the future will help ensure the mission of the Church continues for generations to come.

In this issue of Legacies of Faith we feature the story of the Vaugeois family, one of those pioneering families from French Canada who settled here in Alberta and helped to make this province great. They brought with them an ardent faith, hope for a new life and an active love for others. This was expressed in their devotion to family, service in their parish and community and their commitment to the education of the next generation through their financial support of Newman Theological College. This is their legacy. What will yours be?



*Photos from the cover (top to bottom):*

- *Ursuline sister waiting for the train to leave, ca. 1900. Archdiocese Archives*
- *Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception, Red Deer, ca. 1930-1940. Archdiocese Archives*
- *Archbishop Emile Legal during his many visits to parishes and missions, ca. 1910. Archdiocese Archives*
- *Sisters on the steps of the Bishop's Palace, ca. 1900. Archdiocese Archives*

## Abundantly Blessed in the West

The Vaugeois Family of St. Roche, Quebec, was one of those families who answered “yes” to the invitation of the missionary priests and sisters to settle in the newly formed province of Alberta. The government provided the much needed incentive of land availability. So in 1910 Joseph, his wife Leonie, their 10 children and his elderly mother boarded the CPR and headed west for a new life. They bought a quarter section of land in what is now Beaumont, where they first farmed and later established town’s first butcher shop.

Leonie was a teacher, and together she and Joseph grew their family to 14 children of whom they were very proud. Their Catholic faith was central to their lives. In addition to Sunday Mass, annual pilgrimages to Lac Ste. Anne and St. Albert were undertaken. Many grandchildren served Mass and learned their Latin at Leonie’s side. In this nurturing environment, three of the 14 children heard the call to religious life, all becoming Sisters of Les Filles de Jesus. These women spent

their lives in the service of the Church teaching, catechizing, and ministering to the imprisoned, sick and infirm in Alberta.

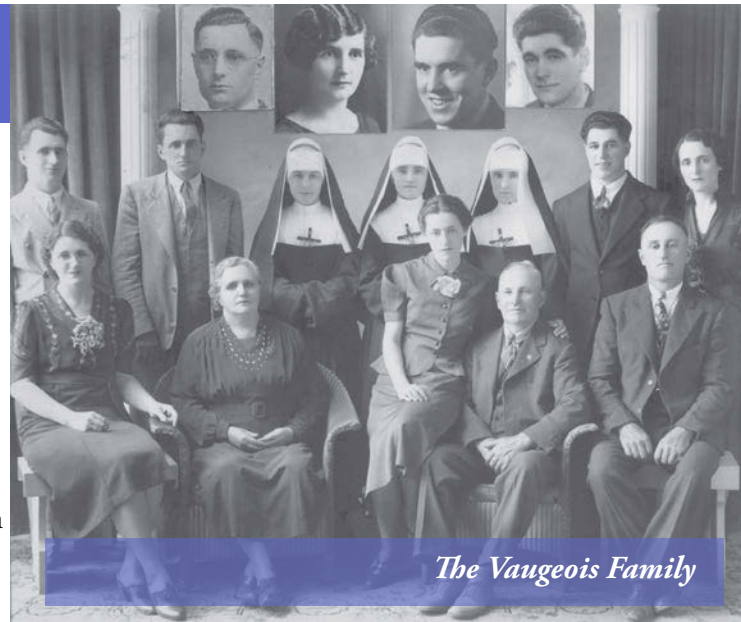
Joseph could neither read nor write, but his business sense was remarkable. Through a variety of business ventures, he and his family became prosperous. His hospitality was well known, and there was always room for one more person at his table. Orphaned nephews and cousins could always count on him for assistance and encouragement. During the Depression, he gave credit to many as he could not refuse those in need.

Joseph and Leonie passed away in the early 1950s, but they left many faith-filled children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to continue

their good works. Long after their passing, a family member heard about the opportunity to leave a legacy through the *Sowing Seeds of Faith* campaign. This initiative was launched to create a legacy fund at Newman Theological College to honour the contributions of religious orders of women in Western and Northern Canada. The family was excited about this opportunity to contribute to such a fund since it offered a chance to memorialize Joseph and Leonie as well as their three daughters, Sisters of Les Filles de Jesus. They chose to make this contribution to the legacy fund by donating shares that were still being held by the estate.

Joseph and Leonie’s greatest legacy, their witness of a life of generous service to others, inspires their descendants and all of us to focus on things that will have lasting impact. In its unique mission to prepare leaders of faith, Newman Theological College does just that. With the support of faith-illed people like you it will continue to do so for generations to come.

*50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*



## Treasures of Our Faith

Stéphane Saulnier’s passionate love for Christ and His Church expresses itself in his dedication to teaching others about the treasures of our faith. He shares his passion for Sacred Scripture, Early Church History and Patristic (Church Fathers) Theology with a wide variety of students with differing goals. Some are at the graduate level studying in the Master of Theological Studies and Master of Divinity. Others are pursuing an undergraduate degree, certificate, or the sheer joy of learning.

Newman Theological College students are both lay and ordained. Some of the laity are preparing themselves to work as youth ministers, pastoral assistants, hospital, prison and military chaplains. Catholic school teachers, religious education coordinators and school administrators alike benefit from Dr. Saulnier’s expertise and enthusiasm for Sacred Scripture.



Other students are equipping themselves for their ministries as priests, permanent deacons, and ordained ministers. The students come from a variety of religious traditions including Roman Catholic, Ukrainian Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, and Protestant. Three years ago Dr. Saulnier’s desire to expand his service led him to launch the Treasures of Our Faith Seminar Series. He shares his one hour lunch break three times weekly with people hungry to learn more about Sacred Scripture, writings of the Church Fathers and Vatican II. These seminars are perfect for those who want to learn more about their faith in its many dimensions and to be nourished by the Word of Life. Small group discussion offers an opportunity to learn in community, no previous knowledge is required, no homework is expected and it’s FREE!

For Dr. Saulnier this is all in a day’s work. For him it is “a privilege to contribute to the mission of the college at the service of the Church.” He is grateful for the prayers and the financial support of our donors and benefactors that make his ministry possible. This support ensures that the work of those intrepid religious sisters, instrumental in the founding and development of Catholic educational institutions in Western Canada, continues today and for generations to come.

*To learn more about Treasures of Our Faith Seminars go to the college website [www.newman.edu](http://www.newman.edu). Please register by email at [reception@newman.edu](mailto:reception@newman.edu) or by phone at 780-392-2450. Seminars run from 12:10 p.m. until 1:00 p.m.*

Join us for Mass celebrated in the Blessed John Henry Newman Chapel at Newman College on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. when the college is in session.

