



CARFLEO Newsletter

CRECO/OCFLEN

Catholic Association of Religion and Family Life Educators
of Ontario

October 2003

God's Bounty

Take a Spiritual Moment

In this month dedicated in our society to the celebration of thanksgiving, I would like to share with you a quote from Henri Nouwen that inspires me constantly to revel in the abundant generosity of our God, who brings us daily to the table of his love.

Gratitude ... goes beyond the "mine" and "thine" and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift. In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that gratitude can also be lived as a discipline. The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy.

Henri J. M. Nouwen

Ours is a country blessed over and over again with the bounty that so few in our world experience. Grasp this generous gift with hands of gratitude so that generosity becomes a hallmark of who we are.

Sharron McKeever

Membership Dues Sept. 2003-June 2004:

It is membership time again. A letter has been sent to all Director's of Education in the province of Ontario inviting them to register their boards as members of CARFLEO. If your board has not yet responded to this invitation and you would like to be a member, consult with your director or visit the CARFLEO website to read the new CARFLEO constitution in regard to membership.

Please be sure to advise us of any new Consultants/Coordinators for Religious and Family Life Education at your board. Last year, we began to compile a list of email addresses so that the newsletters and other information could be sent to you electronically. It is requesting that all CARFLEO members serving as contact persons for their board (Director, Consultants/Coordinators/Principals of Program) include their email on their membership application so that we can continue to build or make changes to the existing E-mail group for CARFLEO. Hard copies will continue to be sent to boards and can be duplicated for distribution as boards deem appropriate. We will

continue to sent hard copies to all members who indicate that they can not receive the newsletter by email. *Please inform us of any changes to personnel in this role at your board.*

Return Membership fees and Registration Forms to Peter Crane, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington Board, 1355 Lansdowne St. West, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7M3. Phone: 705 - 748-4861; FAX 705 - 748-5187; E-mail P.crane@pvnccdsb.on.ca

Annual General Meeting and Conference

This year CARFLEO will hold its Annual General Meeting in Ottawa in conjunction with the national adult faith conference sponsored by the National Office of Religious Education (NORE). CARFLEO is an active member of the National Advisory Committee for Adult Faith and has been part of the planning committee for this conference. The conference has been carefully designed to address the needs of all those who are involved in the faith development of young adults. CARFLEO encourages all chaplains and intermediate/senior students to attend. The theme for this conference is, Embracing the Gospel; Engaging Our Culture: a conference for all who accompany adult faith. Speakers include David Wells (England) Reginald Bibby (Lethbridge, AB) Donna Markham (Washington, DC) Ron Rolhieser (Rome, Italy), Mary Jo Leddy (Toronto, ON) Thomas Groome (Boston, MA) and many others. For more information on the content of the conference, read the special addition of the NORE report that has been sent to all boards.

Same Sex Marriage

The Institute for Catholic Education has met with representatives from the various educational associations in the province to discuss the effect of the recent issue of same sex marriage. CARFLEO was a member of the assembly representing the concerns of teachers and consultants. As a result of that meeting, a letter has been sent to all Directors from ICE with guidelines for schools. All educators should familiarize themselves with the content of this letter. For up to date information on Church teaching regarding same sex marriage, visit the ICE website at <http://www.tcdsb.org/ice/>.

The Institute for Catholic Education has responded to our request for a list of speakers who are willing to do presentations on the Sacrament of Marriage for staff P.D. days. If your staff would like to plan a professional day on the topic of sacramental marriage, please contact one of the following:

	Phone	E-mail	Fax
Peter Lauwers	905 415-6470	plauwers@millerthomson.ca	905 415-6777
Phil Horgan	416 777-9994	horganlaw@chmlegal.com	
Fr. Leo Walsh	519 969-5566	leowalsh@basillian.org	519 966-6776
Dr. Bill Sullivan	416 926-2335	bill.sullivan@utoronto.ca	416 926-2336
Dr. Sylvia Santin	416 481-0963	santins@sympatico.ca	
Joe Sinasac	416 934-3410	editor@catholicregister.org	416 934-3409
Tom Reilly	416 923-1423	reillyt@occb.on.ca	416 923-1509
Fr. Tom Lynch	416 261-7207	ta.lynch@utoronto.ca	416 261-2529

The Forum on Pastoral Care for Students with Same Sex Orientation in Catholic Schools

CARFLEO executive members have been invited by the Institute for Catholic Education to participate in a forum the goal of which is to:

- § identify the needs of student with a same sex orientating, especially those not addressed by current provisions, that can and should be made by Catholic schools,
- § Identify the measures that can and should be introduce, in light of Church teaching, to meet these needs.
- § Identify the means by which the required policies, attitudes, norms, etc., can be made clear and acceptable to all participants in the Catholic education system and the Catholic community.

It is our hope that work will continue in this way to develop support materials for all who are challenged by this very sensitive reality in our schools.

About the Newsletter

The executive at CARFLEO are anxious to serve you in any way we can. If you have ideas for the next newsletter, please let us know. Contact Sharron McKeever at:

Phone: (905) 723-6092

Fax: (905)576-9306

E-mail: jm3@idirect.com