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### YOUR IMPACT IN **POPE FRANCIS** – Youth & Vocational FORT MCMURRAY Discernment Pg2

**ENDING THE YEAR ON A STRONG NOTE!** 

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Summer 2018

## YOUR RESPONSE TO A NATIONAL TRAGEDY

You probably vividly remember the images and stories of the Fort Mac wildfires.

Tragedy struck our country and amid the strife, beautiful things happened. Our country rallied together to provide money, supplies, help and support to the desperate communities. You were proud to be Canadian!

You might have also asked the question -

### Where is God in this? How could a loving Father permit such a tragedy?

That September, once the fires were out and communities were trying to rebuild, you were part of sending what they needed most: faith and hope. A young team of NET Missionaries were sent to Fort McMurray to share the love of Jesus with people who were struggling to grasp onto the little hope left after such a devastating natural disaster.

"There was a greater openness to faith after the wildfires," shares Fr. Andrew Schoenberger. "NET shared the good news amidst a life-altering experience. Youth were more open to receiving the Gospel message and building upon it. If the church community and NET hadn't been there, they would have gone elsewhere."



Your support has sent missionaries to bring hope and build their community on the foundation of faith for two years while they deal with the aftermath of the destruction.

Sherry Flemming, a parishioner in Fort McMurray, had this to say:

"The two years were definitely fruitful. Seeds were planted in the first year and are blossoming in the second year. Families have grown together with the NET teams; we are going to miss them for sure."

She's been a supporter of NET Canada for several years, but these last 2 years have really changed her to become a lifelong co-missionary in evangelizing young people. How? Seeing the young missionaries' bring the message of hope and salvation, through retreats and relationship building.

Sam Vail, a member of the most recent Fort McMurray NET team shares a story,

'I broke my wrist 2 weeks ago on a snowboarding trip. On a high school visit, I saw one student I've had a lot to do with over the year. He was shocked

at the sight of my arm in a sling. He gave me two big hugs and said, "Sam, you didn't tell me it was that broken. We can't have you like this! It's unacceptable. You know what? I'm going to pray for you!" I asked if he meant now and he said, "Yes. Right now!" I was shocked! This guy's family is Catholic but does not practice their faith. Over the year we have gotten to know each other well and he has been learning a lot about the faith, but I didn't expect this. He grabbed a couple other guys at school and said, "We're going to pray for Sam, come on!" We tried to go to the chapel but it was locked, so we just stood in the middle of a bustling high school hallway, the group of guys put their hands on my shoulders, and they prayed for me. Out loud. In the hallway!"'

In all this, Jesus is seeking each one of us individually. The two years of NET teams with Fort McMurray are just one part of His greater plan for each young person in that community.

On behalf of the NET teams, young people and community of Fort Mc-Murray, thank you for your part in these stories! And keep praying for the Holy Spirit's work. **%** 

# For Immediate Release

I am happy to announce an important transition in NET's leadership: I am completing my term as Executive Director and will be stepping aside for the placement of a new leader for NET Canada. I have served as Executive Director for exactly 10 years this Canada Day. My most significant recent project was the opening of NET Canada's Western Office in 2016, and now that this project is established, it's time for the role of Executive Director to return to Ottawa. Since my family and I are settled and very happy in Vancouver, I have decided to focus on NET's western operations as Western Director.

It has been a privilege to serve as Executive Director after James Mikulasik, our Founder. I look forward to working with the Board and Leadership Team in discerning and hiring the next Director who will carry the torch of NET Canada's strategic plan as we enter our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year! Please continue to pray for us during this exciting time of important discernment.

Sincerely, in Christ,

Joe Vogel

Western Director and Interim Executive Director





## It's not possible without YOU!

"Thank you so much for your prayers and support for my mission year with NET. As I reflect back on how much God has done through us, and how much more can yet be done, I cant help but feel incredibly grateful for your support in this incredible mission."





– Brian Krammer

"Thank you for playing such an essential, and often overlooked part in our mission! We are so blessed to have your support that allows us to spread the gospel and change lives in union with the Holy Spirit!"

– Shay Francis

"Words alone are not enough to show the gratitude that I have for everyone who has ever supported NET in any way — big or small. This ministry, with your help, has changed my life and impacted the lives of thousands and thousands of people across Canada.

– Christianne Bentler





"By the grace of God, I am a harvest of NET Canada's years of nourishment and work. It's through your selfless support and giving that I have now become a labourer in God's field."

— Fernanda Cano

"Thank you so very much for the incredibly generous support you have all shown! Christ's mission is possible because of you! Through your generosity youth across Canada have been able to hear the truth of Christ love for them. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do!"

– Julianna Squires



## POPE FRANCIS – YOUTH & VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

As Pope Francis announces the upcoming synod with the theme, *Young people, the Faith and Vocational Discernment,* it is very fitting that we proudly celebrate alumnae Sr. Anna Chan and Sr. Monique who took their final vows to The Servants of the Cross, an order founded by Sr. Anna herself. Sr. Anna Chan, an alumnus of the 1999–2000 mission year shares, that she clearly recalls the very moment when she finally heard God's call for a personal relationship with her; she remembers the weekend back in 1999 when she was being interviewed as a potential missionary with NET Canada. The training and time of mission on NET can be exactly the opportunity that God needs to enter into the hearts of the young people so that they might be better able to invite Him into the hearts of past, present, and future NET missionaries.

As Pope Francis encourages the youth, "Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!" I can't help but wonder how you and I can encourage youth in our very own communities and churches to do the same. Do you know a youth you could invite to participate more fully in the church? Or a young person who should apply to be a NET



Sr. Anna, Sr. Monique, and Joe Vogel

Joe Vogel, interim executive director of NET Canada shared, "As a member of the Church, seeing these young women dedicate their lives to the Church was very moving. Few people get to witness the final vows of consecrated religious. Uniquely special in that it included the founding members of the Servants of the Cross and even more so NET Canada alumnae Sr. Anna Chan and Sr. Monique Bisson."

missionary? Our faith challenges us to this bravery that Pope Francis to calls us to. We can be inspired by the faith and bravery that Sr. Anna must have had in pursuing her own calling to start The Servants of the Cross, and what a joy it must be to have fellow alumnae Sr. Monique Bisson join her in this journey.

# Most schools and parishes struggle when it comes to evangelization We can help!

Our events engage youth in three key ways:

- Simple proclamation of God's love
- Build relationships with youth as peers
- Invitation to prayer and relationship with God



BOOK AN EVENT TODAY! schedule@netcanada.ca 1.877.521.4426 www.netcanada.ca



Mark September 29th, 2018 on your calendar, to celebrate the commissioning of the new missionaries to go out and spread the good news!

## @NETCANADA

Continue to follow the teams as they travel the country sharing the Gospel! Visit netcanada.ca to read our blog or follow us on social media!



"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

— Romans 10:13-15

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

### **LEAVING YOUR** LEGACY FOR THE **CATHOLIC YOUTH OF CANADA**

Estate planning is good stewardship of your life's work.

Planning ahead provides the opportunity to ensure that you will be remembered for what you lived.

Having provided for your loved ones, you can then make arrangements for the things that you are most passionate about.

Making a bequest in your Will, to NET Canada, is a simple way to leave your legacy for the Catholic youth of Canada.



Contact: Heather Penney, heather@netcanada.ca

\*Always consult a qualified income tax accountant and/or estate lawyer before planning your gift.

### I WANT TO HELP RENEW THE FAITH OF **CATHOLIC YOUTH!**

#### STEP 1: (check one)

O Monthly gift (starting: O 1<sup>st</sup> or O 15<sup>th</sup> of the month) O One-time gift

STEP 2: (amount)

O \$500 O \$250 O \$100 O Other: \$

Name	
Address	
City	
Province	
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Phone ()	

O Mr. O Mrs. O Miss O Mr. & Mrs. O Other

O Send me information on bequests/investment gifts

O Cheque, payable to NET Canada (Void cheque needed for monthly gifts) O Credit Card: O Visa O MasterCard O Amex

Cardholder's name:

**STEP 3:** (method of payment)

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize NET Ministries of Canada Inc. to make monthly or one-time gift(s) from my chequing account or credit card, for the amount indicated above, until I inform them of any changes.

Donations are tax receipted (Reg. Charity # 89411 6854 RR0001)

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ /