

The Shepherds' Trust

Caring for those who always cared for us

YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR THE ANNUAL APPEAL

COLLECTION: NOVEMBER 16-17, 2019

Living a faith in action

By Vanessa Santilli-Raimondo

Msgr. Sam Bianco will never forget the week he couldn't get rid of the chills. As a seminarian at St. Basil's Seminary in the Toronto School of Theology, he took a course called the inner-city plunge, which challenged participants to live the life of a street person for a week. "We simply had the clothes on our backs," describes Msgr. Bianco. "We were sent out at 9 o'clock in the morning to come back in one week, with no money, and see how we survived."

To make it through the week, he went to soup kitchens, the Good Shepherd Ministries and the Scott Mission. He even slept outside at Allan Gardens. "It was the middle of summer and when you're a street person – I had beat-up old clothes and a beat-up old trench coat – you're always cold."

This experience helped to form his perspective on the importance of offering a helping hand to those who suffer, a key theme in Aloysius Cardinal Ambrozic's 1996 Pastoral Letter titled, "A Faith that Acts." After speaking with Msgr. Bianco, it's clear that his ministry as a priest has embodied faith in action, always caring for those in need – a method of evangelization in and of itself.

In retirement, he's currently supporting the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul through his role as spiritual advisor, helping to train spiritual animators to ensure all gatherings begin with prayer.

During his time as rector of St. Michael's Cathedral, Msgr. Bianco re-started the local conference.

"He'd go out on a weekly basis to meet neighbours in need," says Louise Coutu, Executive Director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Toronto Central Council, who met Msgr. Bianco 35 years ago while he was pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows in Etobicoke, Ont. "His sincerity lies in the fact that he is willing to participate."



Msgr. Sam Bianco

Msgr. Bianco has always been involved in the Society's work, thanks to the influence of his dad. "My father told me stories of how tough it was in the (Great) Depression – and that he himself had been at soup kitchens – so that was deeply engrained in me as a child."

Years later, when homelessness was on the rise in Toronto, he launched the Cathedral's first-ever Out of the Cold program. During his years as rector, he was guided by three pillars: preaching, prayer and poor persons.

CONTINUED INSIDE

Message from His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins

My dear friends,

As our dedicated parish priests age, they naturally rely on a wide scope of services to manage their individual health challenges as they strive to make the most of their golden years.

During their many years of service in parishes and ministries of the Archdiocese of Toronto, our priests have helped us all celebrate sacraments and have guided us during key moments in our lives. As they now find themselves in times of transition, it is our turn to support our loyal shepherds. Over the next decade, approximately 70 priests in the Archdiocese of Toronto will retire from active ministry once they reach the age of 75.

The Shepherds' Trust channels financial support to our retired priests. With your help, they receive adequate care, including access to modest but comfortable accommodations and funding for other necessities. The Shepherds' Trust also provides opportunities for shut-in and isolated priests to experience fellowship and recreation, and for the sick to receive the medical care they need.

I assure you that contributions to the Shepherds' Trust are treated as a sacred trust, used solely for the care of our retired priests.

This year, the collection dates for the appeal will be November 16 and 17, 2019. As best you can, I invite you to make a sacrificial gift to The Shepherds' Trust to demonstrate your gratitude for the pastoral care and support you and your loved ones have received from our priests.

May the Lord bless you and your family.

Yours sincerely in the Lord.

+ Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto



FROM THE ARCHIVES:

Marygrove Camp had a priestly start

A look at the origins of St. Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese of Toronto

In his foreword to the publication celebrating the 125th anniversary of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Toronto, Archbishop Pocock exhorted the parishes of Toronto to form conferences of the Society in their churches, closing with the following words:

“The poor of the world are knocking at our doorsteps – the poor are always with us. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has done wonderful things for Christ and His poor. They cannot do it alone. They need our help. May the blessing of God be always on them.”

(A Documentary Contribution to the History of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Toronto 1850-1975. Edited by Rev. J.S. McGivern S.J., Toronto 1975.)

After uniting with other Toronto Catholics and obtaining permission from Bishop Armand de Charbonnel in 1850, George Manly Muir applied to the Provincial Council of Canada of St. Vincent de Paul to have a Toronto conference aggregated to the Council. For the past 169 years, and with the generous assistance of the priests and bishops of the archdiocese, the Society has pursued a wide spectrum of charitable activities in Toronto including: court counselling, Marygrove Camp for Girls, St. Vincent de Paul Second Hand Stores, Halfway Houses, and Hospital Visitation Programs.

The Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto (ARCAT) holds a collection of materials related to the St. Vincent de Paul Society dating from 1850-1996. One great example of the intersection between the work of our priests and the St. Vincent de Paul Society is Marygrove Camp for Girls.

In the early 1950s, Msgr. Jean Marie Castex, pastor of St. Ann's Parish in Penetanguishene, began an all-girls Catholic summer camp. Marygrove Camp was situated within parish territory on the shores of Georgian Bay.

Over the years it developed into one of the best-equipped, best-run camps in the province. However, by 1961 its success made the camp too much for the parish to handle.

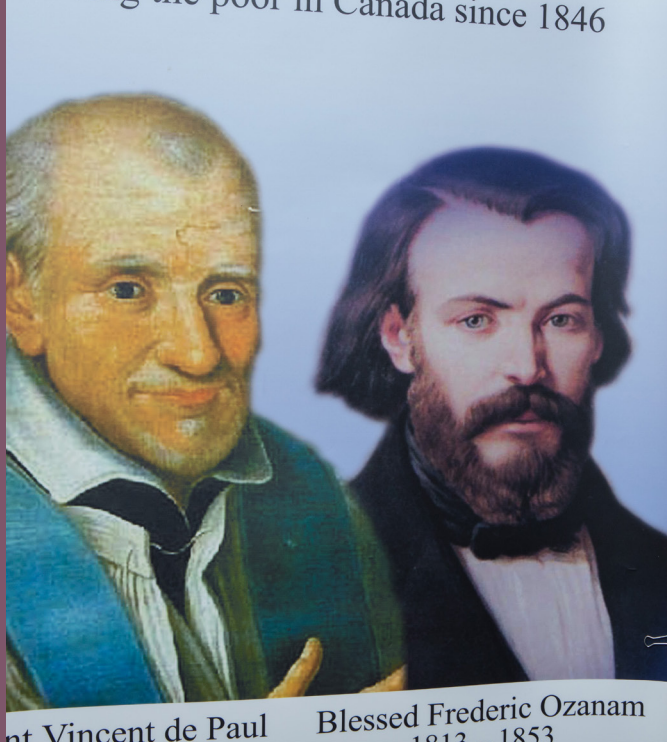
Msgr. Castex asked that Catholic Charities take over and run the program specifically for underprivileged girls. Catholic Charities welcomed the transfer of Marygrove Camp to their care and gave the Toronto Central Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society responsibility for its supervision and financing. Over 50 years later, thanks to the efforts of Msgr. Castex, the Council continues to offer fully subsidized 8-day camping holidays for 1,100 underprivileged girls aged 5 to 13 every year.



Rev. John Joseph Kelly, associate pastor at St. Ann's Parish in Penetanguishene, oversees the construction of camp cabins [ca. 1950].

(Photo: Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto)

He was guided by three pillars: preaching, prayer and poor persons.



CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT

A friendly face at St. Francis Residence, a long-term home for residents facing mental health challenges, Msgr. Bianco visits for lunch every week. His is a ministry of presence. “A lot of them are disenfranchised,” explains Coutu. “They don’t have a lot of people paying attention to them, so his visits have always been very positive. For someone to know the names of residents is big.”

And when residents pass away, he ensures they get a proper and personal burial, as many don’t have families, Coutu adds. “He’s always brought the Church to the people. He bridges the gap.”



Portrait from the 1992 Archdiocesan Directory

(Photo: Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto)

Another part of Msgr. Bianco’s ministry that holds a special place in his heart was serving as chaplain for the religious education of children with mental or physical challenges. “I was the religion coordinator along with a wonderful nun, Sr. Mary Hamilton, CND, teaching First Communion and Confirmation to all the children with disabilities who weren’t in the school system 40 years ago.”

Born and raised in Hamilton, Ont., Msgr. Bianco was ordained a Basilian priest. This teaching charism was influenced by the high calibre of Catholic education he received from priests and laity over the years – both at the Cathedral Boys’ High School in Hamilton and the University of St. Michael’s College at the University of Toronto.

After about a decade as a Basilian, he was incardinated, which means that he made the switch from being a part of a religious order to becoming a diocesan priest. His ease in front of an audience also made him a good fit for the Daily TV Mass, which launched at St. Michael’s Cathedral while he was rector.

“Bishop (John) Sherlock did the first TV Mass, and I did the second one. For five years, I used to celebrate at least once per week.” Twenty-one years later – he’ll be turning 80 this November – he’s still contributing twice per month. He enjoys celebrating the TV Mass as he knows it’s an important ministry for the many people who can’t get to church.

Msgr. Bianco’s retirement is a busy one. Alongside his involvement with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the Daily TV Mass, every Thursday he says Mass for the Sisters of St. Joseph at their retirement residence, followed by lunch and fellowship. He also helps out at Blessed Sacrament Parish on an ongoing basis and is vice-chair of both the Council of Priests and of the Collegium at the University of St. Michael’s College.

“He’s always brought the Church to the people. He bridges the gap.”

Msgr. Bianco is grateful he’s been blessed with good health, which has allowed him to continue serving the Catholic community in so many different ways. His active retirement has been made more comfortable through the support of The Shepherds’ Trust, which relies on the generosity of parishioners who donate.

As Coutu says, “Msgr. Bianco is not a halfway guy.” When he commits to something, he’s all in.

His commitment to helping those in need has embodied a faith in action – one that doesn’t seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Ways of Giving to The Shepherds' Trust

1. GIFT OF CASH

You may wish to make your gift of cash through your parish or issue a cheque payable to: *(Your Parish Name) - The Shepherds' Trust*. Your gift will have an immediate impact on The Shepherds' Trust and a tax receipt will be issued to you.

You may also make your donation online. Please visit our website: shepherdstrust.org/donate

2. PUBLICLY TRADED STOCKS AND SECURITIES

Donating appreciated securities to The Shepherds' Trust is a tax-efficient way to make a difference. You will receive a tax receipt for the full market value of the shares at the time of transfer and, at the same time, you will avoid paying any taxes on the accrued capital gains up to the date of the donation.

Please note that the capital gains tax exemption does not apply if you sell the securities first, and then donate the cash proceeds.

To donate shares of stock, please contact Peter Okonski at 416-934-3400, ext. 519 or development@archtoronto.org to receive a copy of our Letter of Direction regarding the transfer of shares.

3. RRSP OR RRIF AND TFSA

Retirement funds are among your most heavily taxed assets. You may

choose to support The Shepherd's Trust by naming it as the beneficiary of your retirement fund. This way, you will continue to retain ownership and use of the fund during your lifetime and provide support for our retired priests after you are gone. Your estate will receive a tax receipt for the value of the plan and avoid probate fees on these assets.

All you have to do is to contact your plan holder, e.g. your bank, and complete the Change in Beneficiary form naming The Shepherds' Trust as a beneficiary of all or a portion of your TFSA, RRSP or RRIF.

4. BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL

Including The Shepherds' Trust in your will is a simple and effective way to ensure that you can continue to make a difference in the lives of our retired priests who have served and continue to serve our parish communities.

You may choose to leave a gift of cash, securities, piece of property or the residue of your estate. A charitable tax receipt will be issued to your estate, which can be used to eliminate or minimize any estate taxes.

For your consideration, below is a sample bequest wording:

"I wish to give \$___(or ___% or the residue of my estate) to The Shepherds' Trust of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Charitable Registration No. 894164987 RR 0001"

If you have questions or wish more information, please contact Peter Okonski at 416-934-3400, ext. 519 or

development@archtoronto.org.

Please let us know of your bequest as we would like to have the opportunity to thank you.

5. IN MEMORIAM CARDS

The *In Memoriam* card enables you to offer your sympathy to those who have lost a loved one, and your donation will be acknowledged to the family of the deceased without disclosing the amount of your gift. A charitable receipt will be issued from The Shepherds' Trust office.

To offer your *In Memoriam* gift online, go to shepherdstrust.org/donate

To order *In Memoriam* cards by mail, please call Marisa Rogucki at 416-934-3400, ext. 336 or retiredpriests@archtoronto.org.

6. LIVING GIFTS

Have you ever wondered what to give to the person who has everything? Or, perhaps you've been invited to a celebration where best wishes only have been requested. A Shepherds' Trust *Living Gift* offers you the opportunity to honour that special someone by making a donation in his/her name, while allowing The Shepherds' Trust to continue caring for our retired priests. It really is the gift that keeps on giving!

The Shepherds' Trust will notify the recipient (without disclosing the amount of the gift) that you have made a contribution in his/her honour. To offer your *Living Gift* online, go to shepherdstrust.org/donate

Please pray for our retired priests who have died since our fall 2018 publication

Rev. Marshal Beriault
† October 20, 2018

Rev. Charles Reeves
† October 20, 2018

Rev. Francis Voorwerk
† December 8, 2018

Rev. Paul Tang
† April 24, 2019

* AS OF OUR JULY PUBLICATION DEADLINE



THANK YOU FROM OUR RETIRED PRIESTS!

NAME (RETIREMENT YEAR AND LAST APPOINTMENT)

Rev. James P. Adams (2007, Pastor, St. John's, Toronto)
Rev. Francis Areasi (1994, Pastor, St. Clare's, Toronto)
Rev. Paul E. Begin (2013, Priest-Psychologist)
Rev. Mario Bellinaso (2001, Assoc. Pastor, St. David's, Maple)
Rev. Octavio G. Beltran (2016, Pastor, St. Thomas More, Scarborough)
Rev. Christopher J. Bennett (1994, Pastor, St. Paul the Apostle, Alliston)
Rev. Msgr. Samuel J. Bianco P.H. (2014, Pastor, Corpus Christi, Toronto)
Rev. Luciano Biasi (2002, Pastor, St. Patrick's, Brampton)
Rev. Jon Bromley (2006, Pastor, St. Edward the Confessor, North York)
Rev. William Burns (2015, Pastor, St. Luke's, Thornhill)
Rev. Ronald L. Calhoun (2006, Pastor, St. Mary of the People, Oshawa)
Rev. Paul A. Casullo (2011, Assoc. Pastor, St. Isaac Jogues, Pickering)
Rev. Msgr. Gregory Choi (2017, Pastor, St. Andrew Kim, North York)
Rev. Brian D. Clough (2018, Assoc. Pastor, St. Patrick's Parish, Mississauga)
Rev. Nazzareno Coccia (2004, Pastor, St. John Bosco, Toronto)
Rev. Giuliano Costato (2007, Pastor, St. Leo's, Etobicoke)
Rev. Pierre Courtot M.E.P. (2001, Pastor, Sacre-Coeur, Toronto)
Rev. Bernard J. Cryer (1997, Assoc. Pastor, St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto)
Rev. Eugene R. D'Avella (1996, Assoc. Judicial Vicar, Diocesan/Regional Marriage Tribunal, Toronto)
Rev. Edwin D'Souza (2012, Pastor, Sts. Martha and Mary, Mississauga)
Rev. Justin Desroches (2018, Pastor, St. Croix Parish, Tiny)
Rev. John Donlin (2012, Chaplain, Providence Health Centre, Scarborough)
Rev. James P. Doyle (2009, Administrator, St. Andrew's, Brechin)
Rev. Lawrence J. Dugo (1995, Pastor, St. John's, Toronto)
Rev. Gerry Dunn (2017, Assoc. Pastor, St. Christopher's, Mississauga)
Rev. Edward P. Ewczynski (2005, Assoc. Pastor, St. Cecilia's, Toronto)
Rev. Fred Foley (2019, Pastor, St. Bartholomew's, Scarborough)
Rev. George Galea (2016, Pastor, Our Lady of Peace, Etobicoke)
Rev. Fructuoso Garcia (2013, Administrator, St. John the Baptist, Toronto)
Rev. Mose Gasparini (2017, Pastor, St. Fidelis, Toronto)
Rev. P. Edmond Gendron (2019, Pastor, Assomption de Notre-Dame, Oshawa)
Rev. Peter Gitendran (2018, Administrator, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scarborough)
Rev. Msgr. Alfred Grima C.H.H. (2016, Pastor, St. John Fisher, Bramalea)
Rev. Eugene Grzesko (2016, Judge, Toronto Marriage Tribunal, Toronto)
Rev. Francis I. Hannan (2005, Pastor, Our Lady Queen of the World, Richmond Hill)
Rev. John K. Henry (2011, Pastor, St. Isaac Jogues, Pickering)
Rev. Peter Pham Hoang-Ba (2017, Administrator, Our Lady of La Vang Vietnamese Mission)
Rev. Rodolfo Imperial (2005, Pastor, St. John XXIII, Don Mills)
Rev. Msgr. John Iverinci P.H. (2011, Pastor, Our Lady of the Airways, Mississauga)
Rev. Msgr. Expedito Joano C.H.H. (2010, Assoc. Pastor, St. Thomas More, Scarborough)
Rev. Benoit T. Jobin (2001, Pastor, Blessed Trinity, Toronto)
Rev. Jan Kolodynski (2019, Pastor, St. Jerome's, Brampton)
Rev. Ronald A. Krafchik (1995, Pastor, St. Mark's, Etobicoke)
Rev. Msgr. Marco Laurencic (2019, Pastor, St. Mary's, Barrie)

NAME (RETIREMENT YEAR AND LAST APPOINTMENT)

Rev. R. Viateur Laurin (2008, Pastor, Assomption de Notre-Dame, Oshawa)
Rev. Bernard Lee (2015, Pastor, St. Boniface, Scarborough)
Rev. Wilfried Lenius (2010, Pastor, St. Joseph's, Beaverton)
Rev. Paul Lennon (2005, Rector, Serra House, Toronto)
Rev. Massey Lombardi (2015, Pastor, St. Wilfrid's, North York)
Rev. William Lordon (2002, Assoc. Pastor, St. James, Colgan)
Rev. Siro Lunardon (2008, Assoc. Pastor, St. Wilfrid's, North York)
Rev. Alberto Macalipay (2017, Pastor, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scarborough)
Rev. Donald S. MacLean (2007, Pastor, Our Lady of Grace, Aurora)
Rev. Msgr. Bradley H. Massman P.H. (2013, Pastor, St. Paul's Basilica, Toronto)
Rev. Miroslav Michalik (2017, Assoc. Pastor, St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket)
Rev. Basil O'Brien (2004, Pastor, Sacred Heart, Uxbridge)
Rev. Robert Ouellette (2016, Pastor, St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket)
Rev. Daniel Palillo (2005, Pastor, St. Bernadette's, Ajax)
Rev. Vitaliano Papais (2014, Administrator, St. Patrick's, Brampton)
Rev. Kenneth H. Pearce (2017, Pastor, St. John Chrysostom, Newmarket)
Rev. Martin Pereira (2017, Pastor, St. Pius X, Toronto)
Rev. Msgr. John J. Pilkauskas C.H.H. (2012, Pastor, St. Gregory the Great, Oshawa)
Rev. Msgr. Mariano F. Polito P.H. (2005, Pastor, Our Lady of Sorrows, Etobicoke)
Rev. Florentine A. Rajaratnam (2012, Pastor, St. Theresa's, Scarborough)
Rev. Leo A. Ramsperger (1997, Pastor, St. John the Evangelist, Caledon)
Rev. Msgr. Eduardo Resendes P.H. (2010, Pastor, Ss. Salvador do Mundo, Mississauga)
Rev. Matthew F. Robbertz (1998, Pastor, St. Elizabeth Seton, Newmarket)
Rev. Boulos Saleh (2014, Pastor, St. Edward the Confessor, North York)
Rev. Juanito Santos De Dios Y Cano (1995, Assoc. Pastor, St. John XXIII, Toronto)
Rev. William J. Scanlon (2006, Pastor, St. Mary Immaculate, Richmond Hill)
Rev. Manfred Schmid (2010, Assoc. Pastor, St. John Vianney, Barrie)
Rev. Joao Serpa (2008, Assoc. Pastor, St. Helen's, Toronto)
Rev. Msgr. Ambrose Sheehy C.H.H. (2018, Director, Legion of Mary, Toronto)
Rev. Msgr. Joseph D. Shiels C.H.H. (2013, Pastor, St. Ignatius Loyola, Mississauga)
Rev. Msgr. John Staskevicius P.H. (2011, Assoc. Pastor, Lithuanian Martyrs, Mississauga)
Rev. Joseph Sultana (2018, Pastor, St. Aidan's Parish, Scarborough)
Rev. William Swift (2009, Pastor, Holy Cross, Toronto)
Rev. Leslie A. Tamas (2005, Pastor, St. Mark's, Stouffville)
Rev. Liborio Tavares (2008, Pastor, St. Mary's, Toronto)
Rev. Joseph Lam Tran (2016, Assoc. Pastor, Our Lady Queen of the World, Richmond Hill)
Rev. John J. Vella (1995, Pastor, St. Mary's, Barrie)
Rev. Joseph Wasik (2013, Pastor, Christ the King, Etobicoke)
Rev. Msgr. John J. Weber C.H.H. (2012, Pastor, Good Shepherd, Thornhill)
Rev. Noel Whelan (2017, Assoc. Pastor, St. Anselm's, Toronto)
Rev. Philip A. Wiley (2007, Pastor, St. Mary's, Victoria Harbour)

The Shepherds' Trust 2018 Financial Results

Sources of Funds

Comprising:	2018	2017
Parish Collection	\$1,053,451	\$1,038,746
Bequests and Donations	\$277,210	\$200,635
Parish Assessment	\$2,159,700	\$2,284,913
Investment Income	\$6,495,058	\$2,712,730
TOTAL	\$9,985,419	\$6,237,024

The investment income includes interest, dividends and realized gains.

Expenditures

2018 expenditures totaled \$3.4 million (\$3.3 million in 2017) consisting of monthly allowances to beneficiaries, health care premiums, and costs of extended health care for priests.

Investment Fund-Market Value

Comprising:	2018	2017
Pooled Funds – Balanced	\$62,482,036	\$64,887,838
Short Term	\$2,495,911	\$2,197,940
TOTAL	\$64,977,947	\$67,085,778

The investment portfolio of The Shepherds' Trust performed poorly in 2018, consistent with stock market performance and similar to many comparable investment funds. The investment portfolio rebounded with a recovery of stock markets in the first few months of 2019.

Periodically, with the assistance of professional actuaries, we project the ultimate cost of benefits to our current and future priests and compare that to the assets in The Shepherds' Trust to meet those costs. As of July 1, 2018, the estimated cost of benefits in today's dollars was \$70.5 million and the assets were \$69 million. The shortfall was \$1.5 million. That shortfall, known technically as the "unfunded deficiency," is smaller than it has been in the past. The Board of Trustees continues to invest the assets prudently and work towards having a shortfall of zero, confident in the continued generosity of parishioners.

Additional information is set out in the audited financial statements of the Trust, which are available for review at the office of the Archdiocese of Toronto- Accounting & Finance Department, 1155 Yonge Street, Toronto.

Board of Trustees

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Active Clergy

Rev. Liborio M. Amaral
Pastor, St. Mary's Parish

Rev. Ivan Camilleri
Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs

Retired Clergy

Rev. Msgr. John J. Pilkauskas

Rev. William Burns

Lay Persons

Andrew Fung

Michèle George

Lucy Paglione

Mary Picard

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Director, Clergy Personnel & Chaplaincy

James Milway
Chancellor of Temporal Affairs

Michael Schuck
Controller; Delegate of the Cardinal

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Frank Jannetta

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