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AFLC 'Journey' Newsletter #1 Making a Difference Together!

April 2, 2020



Journeying with You As We Continue to Uphold the Sanctity of Life!

As the World Health Organization proclaims the COVID-19 virus a pandemic and our Canadian Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments respond to protect and lead us through this crisis – each of us is being told that it is our *duty* to care for ourselves and one another. Although this is a secular approach, nonetheless, it does have everyone's attention on 'life & death' like never before! Yet, as a Christian, upholding the Sanctity of Human Life is what one is called to do everyday! It's what we do at AFLC! That's why we're reaching out to you with our new **Newsletter 'Journey'** – to assist you in continuing life affirming ministry – ***Making a Difference Together!***

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What is Social Distancing

'Social Distancing', a phrase that didn't exist a few weeks ago, now defines our everyday living. With each passing day, Canadians are experiencing the increasing impact of the 'no physical contact' mandate. As the reality of this being the 'new norm' for an unknown length of time, feelings of despair, hopelessness and abandonment will continue to grow — with the inevitability of many people being tempted to embrace drastic acts which will lead to physical, emotional and spiritual pain, suffering and even death!



This is a defining moment for Christians to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in both word and actions. As St. Paul reached out to the Christians in Corinth, his words are an example and an encouragement to us today:

“For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.” 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 (ESV)



Sharing His Gift of Spiritual Closeness

Music Suggestion: *I Need Thee Every Hour* (Fernando Ortega)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZIMDcgrF-Q&list=PL05B763E33237346C&index=1>

Each moment of each day and night, the Holy Spirit is actively delivering **MAiL** (*His Merciful Aid in Living*) worldwide because every life is sacred, unique and

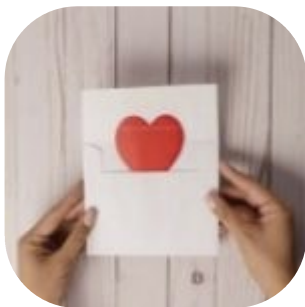
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As Christian brothers and sisters in Christ, we can be equipped with new strength to stay connected to our Heavenly Father and to one another! Daily prayer and study of Holy Scripture keeps our spirits tuned into Him, so that He can work in us to receive—and through us— to deliver His **MAiL** to others.



As Spiritual Medics on the Frontline

Although churches are closed and small groups are suspended from gathering physically – be assured that Christians are being gathered in by our Heavenly Father in new ways! The church is called to reach out to our fellow Canadians with Christ's Compassionate Love and pastoral Care. More than ever, Spiritual Medics are needed on the frontline – bringing hope to the hopeless and **Merciful Aid in Living** to the vulnerable in practical and meaningful action. This means being 'spiritually close' to both our brothers and sisters in Christ and our 'neighbours'! While nothing can stop the delivery of His **MAiL**, which is filled with His Promises, what each person does individually with it is the issue! Receive and be empowered – or ignore it? Corporately, as Spiritual Medics are out on the battlefield, the church needs to be spiritually and practically equipped to welcome in the wounded and the vulnerable. We at Anglicans For Life Canada are here for you – with Life Affirming resources and information to assist you and your church.



Mobilizing and Delivering His **MAiL** Today and Beyond

With each passing day – social safety nets are straining under the growing demand for financial and health care support. The 'unknown' and lack of human

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in the midst of this chaos the Good News of the Gospel is being realized in amazing ways! No matter how challenging the situation – His **MAiL** is being delivered! These are meant to be open and shared – today – tomorrow – and beyond!



Welcome To AFLC 'Journey' **MAiL** Box

You've Got **MAiL**!

Testimony of **MAiL** Delivery From Italy via Germany and finally to Canada!

Music Suggestion: Christ Our Hope in Life and Death (The Gettys)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oibli1rz7mw&feature=youtu.be>

Just now Judy and I [Bishop Charlie Masters] had a wonderful call with her brother and wife who live in Germany. Bob has been involved in evangelism all his life. We compared notes as to how we were handling the isolation etc. Often, though they are now in their eighties, they lead a church for Germans who are wintering in Spain.

Today, they received word from one of those church members. This friend had just received a testimony from a 38 year old doctor in Italy. I don't know how that happened but anyway here is what I understand he reported. The doctor wrote of the horrors of the situation. In his hospital alone over 120 have died. He said he and all the doctors entered this crisis atheists. He said he had been at least six days straight in the hospital without leaving. He didn't know the last time he had eaten or slept. He said they were all done and had nothing else they could do.

In the midst of all this, a seventy-five year old man was brought in with difficulties breathing. It turned out the man was a pastor and he brought his Bible. He recovered enough for a time that he began reading the Bible to the patients and the doctor said that over time the doctors too would take a break to listen to him reading out loud the

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Bible too. He reported that now all the doctors were believers.

Tragically he also reported that eventually this dear pastor did die much to the deep sadness of everyone especially the doctors. I believe this unexpected word of testimony surely demonstrates the sure promise and truth that our wonderful Lord and Saviour always works for good and nothing, nothing can ever separate us from His love.

Later Bob sent some of the text the doctor actually wrote: (now understand this has been translated from Italian to German to English):

“We have recognized that where man comes to the end of what he can do he ends up needing God, and we started asking Him for help when we had a few minutes; we talk to each other and we cannot believe that as wild atheists we are now looking for our peace every day and asking the Lord to help us so that we can take care of the sick. Yesterday, the 75-year-old pastor died who, despite the fact that we had more than 120 dead here in three weeks and we were all exhausted, destroyed, managed to bring peace to us despite his condition and our difficulties, which we had not hoped to find anymore. The pastor has gone to be with the Lord and soon we will follow him if it continues like this. I have not been home for 6 days, I do not know when I last ate, and I am becoming aware of my uselessness on earth and I want to dedicate my last breath to helping others, I am happy to have returned to God while I am surrounded by the suffering and death of my fellow human beings.”

A View from a Journey

Music Suggestion: Joy of the Journey (Michael Card)

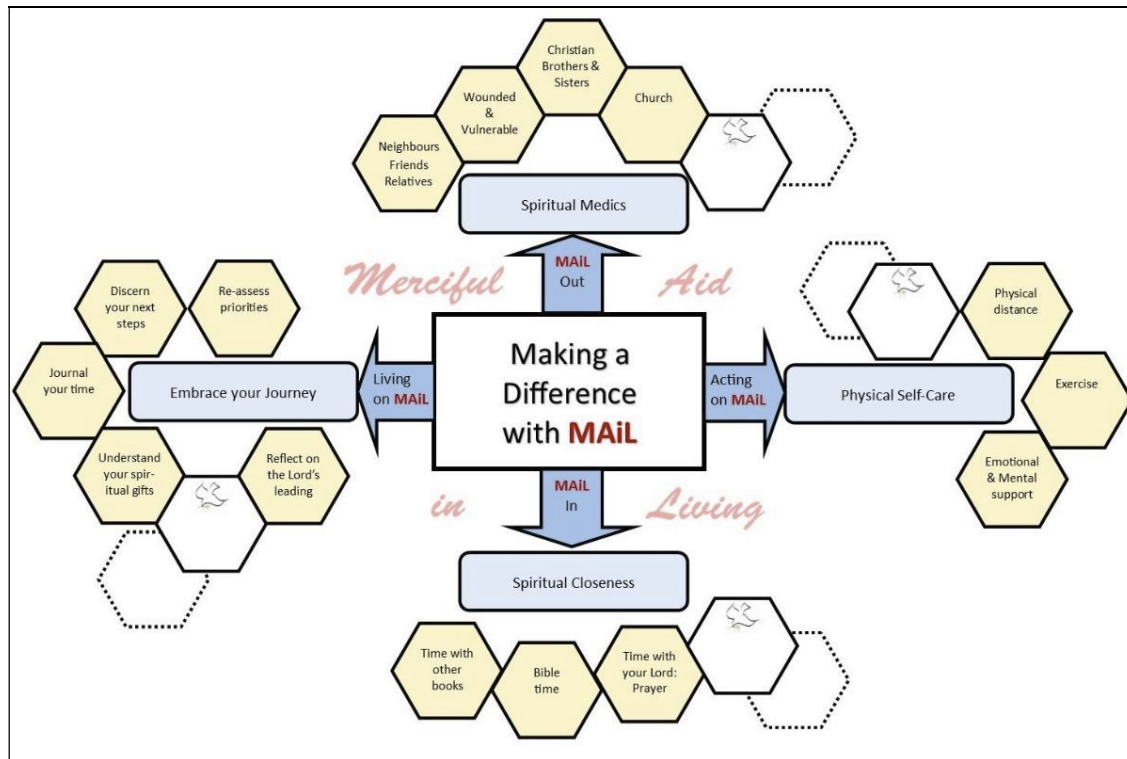
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfW61yKyirY>

As Vicky and I [Michael Bromilow] have struggled with composing this newsletter during dramatically changing days of national crisis, I have spent time looking at my paths taken and the potential ones forward relishing in awe of the Merciful Aid in Living (MAiL) that has surrounded and continues to encompass my life. Because of God's mercy and grace, I want to make a difference and know that God is working through me to love and support others with **Merciful Aid in Living (MAiL)**

As a visualizer I spent time on this chart shown below to help me understand the ways that **MAiL** washes over my Christian life. I am hopeful that sharing it will provide you an understanding of how **MAiL** may be part of your journey. The Holy Spirit (Dove) and open spaces on the chart leave room for your personal **MAiL** and reminds us all that there is more to come.

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Embracing my journey with the Lord is most important to me now as I grow older. As I discern His **MAiL** daily, I am thankful for such tools as the new “Embrace the Journey Project” by AFLC which will be a central part of His equipping me for further Life decisions until the day He calls me home.



Please Send Us Your **MAiL**

Send us your experiences of receiving and delivering His **MAiL**

Let us know how we can be of service to you

Contact: vicky@anglicansforlifecanada.com

**The Mission of Upholding
The Sanctity of Human Life Continues.
That's Why....**

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- We're continuing to update our website with important Life Affirming information and resources regarding Life from before birth to natural death. Website: <http://www.anglicansforlifecanada.com>
 - We're putting the final touches on this year's Sanctity of Life Sunday (May 3rd) Resources. Watch our website for liturgy/prayer /sermon/theme ideas.
 - We're working on new ways to bring the Embrace the Journey Program to you.
 - We're working on our Facebook Page and look forward to connecting with you there also.
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