

MAGNIFICAT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY ~ 2013

Dear friends and benefactors,

The year 2012 has turned out to be most memorable! In fact considerably more so than we had even expected. At the close of a personal retreat in November of 2011 Linda sensed the Lord say, “Major changes are coming in the next year!” That word has certainly proven to be true and from the Lord!

“I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE IN MIND FOR YOU...” JER. 29:11

Given our present circumstances – packing in preparation for a move to southern Ontario – we haven’t had the time to adequately tell the full story, doing justice to every facet of what is an amazing development for the Apostolate. But we can’t help sharing with you at least the most significant headlines.

Our upcoming move to the diocese of Hamilton brings to conclusion a discernment that began in June of 2004. In fact since 1999, the Lord has certainly taken seriously our consecration to Divine Providence. We have been led by Providence in unmistakable ways through prayer, Scripture, prophetic words, books, circumstances and conversations. As always, over time, the Lord manages to make His will and plan known to us.

Linda and I were delighted to move back to Ottawa in November of 2008. Somewhat to our surprise however we were unmistakably led to rent rather than purchase a home, a circumstance that we only understood clearly in December of 2011, when the Lord began to aim our sights beyond Ottawa to southern Ontario. As we began to explore the possibility of another move we found that the ‘door stood wide open’ (see Rev 3:8) and the three Ignatian principles of peace, clarity and enthusiasm emerged.

Through a priest friend in the diocese of Hamilton we were put in touch with Bishop Crosby. The interest and openness he expressed about meeting us was very encouraging. But in matters of discernment the Lord’s ‘timing’ is another crucial element. It was November of 2012 before everything fell into place, making possible a trip to gather more data for our discernment. Our primary goal in journeying down to southern Ontario was to meet with the bishop. That meeting proved to be decisive; one that clearly illustrated we were very much in God’s will.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW LANDLORD...

Bishop Crosby is a friendly, warm and open man who truly has a father’s heart and who moves in the Spirit! Our time with him was exciting and edifying. His interest in Magnificat Ministries and in us personally is both genuine and enthusiastic. He obviously believes there is an authentic call from the Lord on our lives and sees the hand of God in the circumstances that brought us together that day. His desire to do anything within his power to help us relocate and thereby fulfill what we believe is God’s will for us and for the Apostolate was expressed in very concrete terms. He invited us to consider renting one of two vacant homes (owned by the diocese) and made time to meet with us three times in the span of seven days! We gratefully chose the house in Brantford.



“BEHOLD, I AM DOING A NEW THING...” Is. 43:19

As memorable as 2012 has been, we have every reason to believe that the years ahead will prove to be even more so! Scripture verses, prophetic words, dreams, and intuitive senses that we’ve received – overwhelmingly confirmed by our Board of Directors and prayerful friends – indicate that the Lord is launching us into a time of greater fruition, and that our new diocese – to use a biblical image – is our ‘Promised Land’.

The Apostolate is by no means starting from scratch. We are convinced more than ever that we are on the threshold of a new season. We are wholeheartedly committed to the Lord Himself and to the mission He has seen fit to entrust to us. As you know however, missionaries cannot possibly carry on their mission alone! Over the past 20 years hundreds of faithful and generous souls have directed a share of their tithes and offerings to Magnificat Ministries; enabling us to serve in the Lord’s vineyard to this day. Might the Lord be calling you to join our missionary endeavours through committed* financial support?

The greater fruition of the many initiatives the Lord has put on our hearts is surely imminent. If there ever was a time when the Catholic faithful needed to be called and equipped to pray, it surely is now. That is our mission in a nutshell; all of our time, resources and energy are aimed at that goal. Your financial generosity contributes significantly to making that goal a reality. The initiatives that immediately come to mind are already known to you:

- ✓ Launching our web site
- ✓ Producing teaching videos on the call to holiness, prayer and the interior life
- ✓ Continued availability to offer parish missions, seminars and Eucharistic adoration
- ✓ Offering **SEEK HIS FACE** and **THE RESTING PLACE** discipleship formation series
- ✓ Launching **JACOB’S WELL: SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP** for young adults
- ✓ Developing and forming a new generation of musicians, singers and worship leaders anointed by and docile to the Holy Spirit
- ✓ Recording original music for Liturgy and corporate Eucharistic adoration

The Lord alone knows what else we may be directed to undertake! Time will tell.

As you know, one of the chief blessings of the Internet is that geographical boundaries are eliminated. All the resources we produce will not only be available to you, but also to the English speaking faith community worldwide. Your financial support therefore is truly a concrete participation in missionary works. We invite you to prayerfully consider this possibility. We earnestly thank you for your spiritual and temporal support and humbly ask for continued prayer on our behalf.

Duc in altum,

Marcel & Linda Dion

Co-founders

* Our most pressing temporal need is for committed monthly donors. Even a modest, regular donation will be of great benefit, especially in this upcoming year of getting established in a new diocese. Donations can be remitted through post-dated cheques (please make payable to **MAGNIFICAT MINISTRIES** and mail to the address below), *Interac* e-Transfers or CanadaHelps. We’ll gladly send you more detailed information about your preferred option.

MAGNIFICAT MINISTRIES

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