



Funeral Bulletin of Mr. Jean Claude LaPlante
brother of Bishop Gérard LaPlante

Un chapitre achevé
Une page tournée
Une vie bien vécue
Un repos bien mérité.

Vous avez eu la délicatesse
lors du décès de
Jean-Claude
de nous témoigner, par un geste personnel,
la part que vous preniez à notre peine.
Nous en avons été sincèrement touchés
et tenons à vous dire notre profonde gratitude.

Son épouse Ghislaine
ses enfants : Michelle, Denis, Martin,
Benoît, Renaud, Alain, Manon,
leur conjoint(e)
ainsi que ses petits-enfants.



Bishop Gérard LaPlante mourns his brother

Mr. Jean-Claude LaPlante - second oldest brother of Bishop Gérard LaPlante - passed away on July 11, 2008 at the age of 77 years. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Ghislaine Couture, seven children and seven grandchildren.

The Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Jacques Catholic Church in Causapsca, Quebec on July 16, 2008 with Bishop Gérard participating. Interment followed in the local cemetery.

On the funeral bulletin the poem reads:

*A chapter closed
A page turned
A life well lived
A rest well deserved*

May he rest in peace.

Thank you

Bishop Gérard LaPlante and his family want to thank all who have sent sympathy cards and other expressions of condolence. Your thoughtfulness in this time of loss is greatly appreciated.

The picture of the funeral bulletin

The picture on the funeral bulletin is a drawing by famous artist Mr. Bill Boudreau. It portrays the LaPlante family home, where all the children were born. The family lived on the second floor, the first floor was the sawmill. After the death of the father, Mr. Alphonse LaPlante in 1993, Mr. Eddy LaPlante and Mr. Jean-Claude LaPlante continue mill operation. The mill has old forms and moldings. Many people are looking for these old fashioned products. Since new mills can't produce them, their products are again in demand.



Above pictures: left: Fr. Jürgen Schmode and Mr. Salim Ghannoum after Holy Mass; right: the icon received as a gift from Mr. Salim Ghannoum for the Old Catholic Church of BC

Visit from Syria

On Sunday, August 17, 2008 we had a special visit from Aleppo, Syria, by Mr. Salim Ghannoum and Mrs. Ingrid Yaghmour. Joining them was the sister of Salim, Mrs. Amira Boudjok and her family, husband Riad and son Peter, who live in Burnaby.

Mr. Ghannoum studied English at Langara College in the spring of 2003 and attended St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church during that time. After his return to Syria, he always maintained contact with the Church and we were eager to see him again. He completed his studies as a teacher and is now head of the Science department of the Aleppo College, the highest American institution in Syria at the present time.

Salim is very involved with the Scouts in Syria and helped to re-establish them in that country. During this spring, he took his group - the only scout group that has boys and girls, Christians and Moslems - and they first planted flowers at a mosque and then at a Church. After everything was completed, they took a picture with everyone, the Priest, the Iman, and the Scouts in front of the Church.

Mr. Ghannoum is in Vancouver for continuing education during the month of August and will return to Syria in early September.

below pictures: left: the visitors from Syria with members and Bishop Gérard LaPlante and Fr. Jürgen; right: left to right: Mr. Salim Ghannoum, his nephew Peter, and Fr. Jürgen Schmode

