

June 2007
News from Québec Province

Baptisms of twins
by Fr. Claude Lacroix

Fr. Claude had the joyous occasion to baptize the twins Julien and Justin on June 16 2007. He also blessed the marriage of their parents at that time and 56 people joined in for this celebration.

Fr. Claude already had several baptisms this year and more are scheduled. There are many weddings lined up as well.

Two Roman Catholic Priest are helping Fr. Claude with his Church and were accepted as such by Bishop Gérard as an ecumenical gesture, and to show that our missionary work continues and that we are following
EÚĴ ĒĢ ° Ā ĠĠ Ēe[Ġ ĠVte/ Ú ĠĒM! ĒĢ
ŤĠĀ ĠĒĀ Ēŷġ Ā - ġĠ ġĴŕŭ v bĥġĒĀ Ġ
in British Columbia!



The Old Catholic Church of BC

“Now from *Coast to Coast*”



Left: Bishop Jürgen with the newlywed couple, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard and Rebecca Parentau

Métis Wedding At St. Raphael's

On July 21, 2007 we celebrated the wedding of Mr. Leonard Parenteau and Ms. Rebecca McNabb – both Métis – at St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church. They are both Metis and long time members of St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church.

Who are the Métis?

The Métis people emerged out of the relations of Indian women and European men; they are a distinct Aboriginal people, and have fundamentally shaped Canada's expansion westward through their on-going assertion of their collective identity and rights.

(for more information see: www.metisnation.ca)

20% of the members of St. Raphael's are of Métis heritage.



Left: Bishop Jürgen with the couple and their family and friends outside St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church after the ceremony.

International Baptism at St. Raphael's

On July 29th 2007 we had the baptism of Kian Zachariah Williams at our Church, a truly international affair: The Father Jeff is from the USA – appropriately little Kian was born on the 4th of July – the mother is from Singapore, Debbie's Brother Clive and his family attended coming from Brazil, and the Godparents are originally from Poland.



Above left: left to right: Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Debbie Williams (parents); Bishop Jürgen with little Kian, Deacon Michael, Mrs. & Mr. Zuzanna and Grzegorz Ciacma; above right: During the baptism

The Old Catholic Church of BC

“ Now from Coast to Coast”



Left to right:
Mr. Dave
Gauthier (best
Man), the
bride, Ms.
Johanne
Patsy-Perry,
the groom Mr.
Jimmy
Levasseur,
Bishop Gérard
La Plante

Wedding in Québec

- *First Wedding in Québec after recognition by the Québec government*
- *Fr. Lacroix featured in “La Chronique” of Lac Beauport, Québec*

Recognition in Québec!

The Québec government has recognized the Old Catholic Church of BC as an official Church.

This was achieved after more than two years of work, countless hours of preparation of the required documentation, numerous letters and phone calls.



First Wedding in Québec!

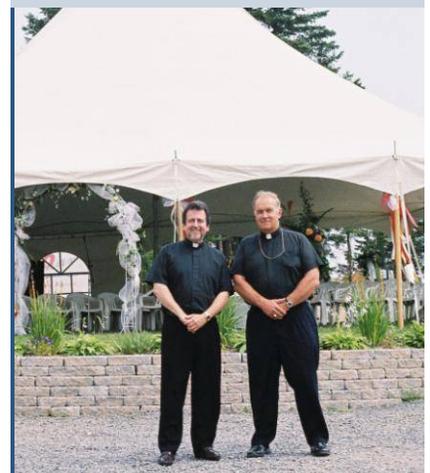
The fitting celebration was a wedding in Québec, on the estate of the Vignoble Carpinteri. Bishop Gérard LaPlante officiated, assisted by Fr. Claude Lacroix.

The bride was baptized by Bishop LaPlante on December 24, 1980 at St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church in Vancouver, BC. The Bishop also baptized her sister Ms Sabrina Isabelle Perry, who was the maid of honor and her brother Jean-

Philippe, who is now with the Canadian Coast Guard. He was unable to attend his sister's wedding, because his ship, the CCGS Des Groseilliers, was in the Antarctic.

The owner of the vineyard had erected a large tent to provide shelter for the ceremony and the 150 guests.

The reception took place on the upper level of the main building of the estate.



Bishop LaPlante (right) with Fr. Lacroix in St-Ulric, Matane, Québec



Left to right: Bishop Gérard LaPlante, the groom Mr. Jimmy Levasseur, Fr. Claude Lacroix, Mr. Tony Carpinteri, the owner of Vignoble Carpinteri



Bishop LaPlante (right) with Fr. Lacroix in front of the Vignoble Carpinteri in St-Ulric, Matane, Québec

L'ÉGLISE VIEILLE CATHOLIQUE À LAC-BEAUPORT

C'est le 13 mai dernier qu'avait lieu l'ouverture officielle des activités de l'Église Vieille Catholique à Lac-Beauport. C'est le Père Claude Lacroix, premier à ouvrir une église liée à cette allégeance dans l'est du Canada depuis la fondation de la religion en 1724, qui accueillera désormais les fidèles à la chapelle St-James toutes les deux semaines, en alternance avec les messes anglicanes qui se poursuivent comme à l'habitude.

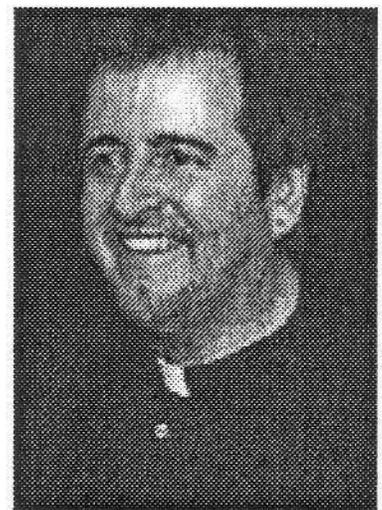
Un peu d'histoire...

L'Église Vieille Catholique a été fondée le 15 octobre 1724 par un Grand Vicaire, Marie-Dominique Varlet, à la suite d'une série de malentendus avec le Vatican. Dès lors le mouvement s'est répandu à travers toute l'Europe et, en 1921, le Canada a vu s'établir la première Église Vieille Catholique à Vancouver, en Colombie Britannique. Aujourd'hui, ce sont des dizaines de milliers d'adeptes répartis sur divers continents qui se rassemblent pour prier Dieu.

C'est en 2004 que le mouvement s'est installé au Québec et c'est le 13 mai dernier que Monseigneur Gérard La Plante – Évêque à Vancouver – a fondé la Mission St-James dans la petite chapelle du même nom, généreusement mise à la disposition des fidèles qui pourront célébrer une messe toutes les deux semaines.

Le Père Claude

Le Père Claude Lacroix est prêtre et pasteur de l'Église Vieille Catholique de la paroisse St-James à Lac-Beauport. Il a suivi une formation théologique en Europe puis a été moine quelque temps. Il a œuvré en Ouganda en tant que missionnaire puis a été en charge des activités d'une maison de retraite pendant 18 ans. Il a également été invité au synode de l'Église Vieille Catholique à Utrecht, en Suisse, en février dernier en compagnie de Monseigneur La Plante. Enfin, il est le premier à ouvrir une église Vieille Catholique dans l'est du Canada.



Crédit photo : Michael Ouellet

Tous les citoyens, touristes ou visiteurs peuvent assister ou participer aux célébrations. Pour accueillir les gens, le Père Claude s'est assuré que la chapelle était accessible à tous : après les messes, la chapelle est ouverte au public jusqu'à 18 h et c'est le Père Claude en personne qui accueille les visiteurs.

Les messes de l'Église Vieille Catholique ont lieu à 11 h les dimanches suivants, à la chapelle St-James, au 10, chemin St-James :

24 juin

8 et 22 juillet

12 et 26 août

9 et 23 septembre

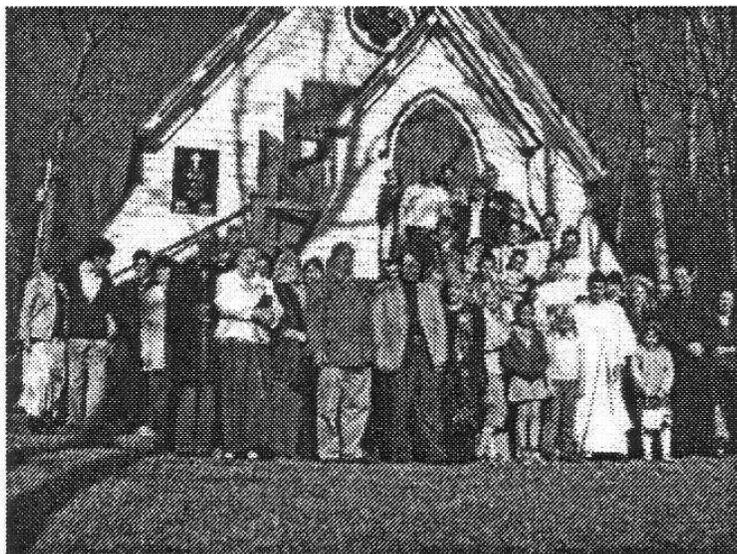
14 et 28 octobre

11 et 25 novembre

9 décembre.

Le 24 décembre, la messe de la nativité a lieu à 20 h.

Pour contacter le Père Claude Lacroix, composez le **260-9203**.



Crédit photo : Michael Ouellet

Plusieurs fidèles étaient présents lors de l'ouverture officielle de l'Église Vieille Catholique à la chapelle St-James le 13 mai dernier.



Left to right:
Major Walter Botwinski III,
Ms. Sonya Muller, Bishop
Gérard LaPlante

**Major Walt Botwinski III
& Mrs. Sonya Muller**

- He is stationed in Washington State
- He is highly decorated having served in many areas of conflicts over the last two decades. Haiti, Somalia, Kosovo, and Iraq. He also served several years in Germany.
- Sonya works for the Vancouver Port Authority.

**Wedding with Military Honors
On August 17, 2007**

Major Walter S. Botwinski III from Elensburg, Washington and Ms. Sonya Muller from Vancouver, BC – both members of the Old Catholic Church of BC – got married on August 17 at St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church in Vancouver, BC.

On the day before his wedding Walt received a very special gift: He learned that he was promoted from Captain to Major! Congratulations!

The wedding reception took place on the M.V. Hornblower, taking the guests on a sunset cruise around Vancouver. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the large congregation.

We wish them God's blessing on their life together!



Above: The Botwinski and Muller family together with the clergy of the Old Catholic Church of BC after the ceremony.

Back row, left to right: Fr. Jürgen, Mr. Jean Doucet, Bishop Gérard LaPlante. Front row: Mr. Botwinski, Mr. Botwinski Jr., Mrs. Sonya Botwinski, Major Walter Botwinski III, Mr. Muller, Mrs. Muller, his two kids



Bishop LaPlante (right) with Major Walter Botwinski III, just before the wedding



Above: Fr. Jürgen, Mr. Jean Doucet, Major Walter Botwinski III, Bishop Gérard LaPlante, before the wedding



Above, during the ceremony: Fr. Jürgen and Bishop Gérard, in front, Ms. Sonya Muller and Major Walter Botwinski III



Left to right, after the signing of the registry: Fr. Jürgen, Mrs. Gisela Ortmeyer, Mrs. & Mr. Walt Botwinski, Bishop Gérard, Mr. Todd Viau



The newlyweds in front of the Church



Singer Mrs. Suzanne Nordin, with Bishop Gérard, guest, and Fr. Jürgen



The wedding part after the ceremony in front of the Church

„Coast to Coast“

„D'un océan à l'autre“



Left to right:
Fr. Jürgen, Mr.
Walter & Mrs.
Anneliese
Egger, Bishop
Gérard
LaPlante on
their 30th
Wedding
anniversary
26 August 2007

30th Wedding Anniversary Of former Austrian Consul

Long time members Mrs. Anneliese Egger – the former Consul of Austria in Vancouver – and her husband Walter celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary at St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church.

Mr. & Mrs. Egger have been attending St. Raphael's for many years and we were very happy to host them for this important milestone in their lives.



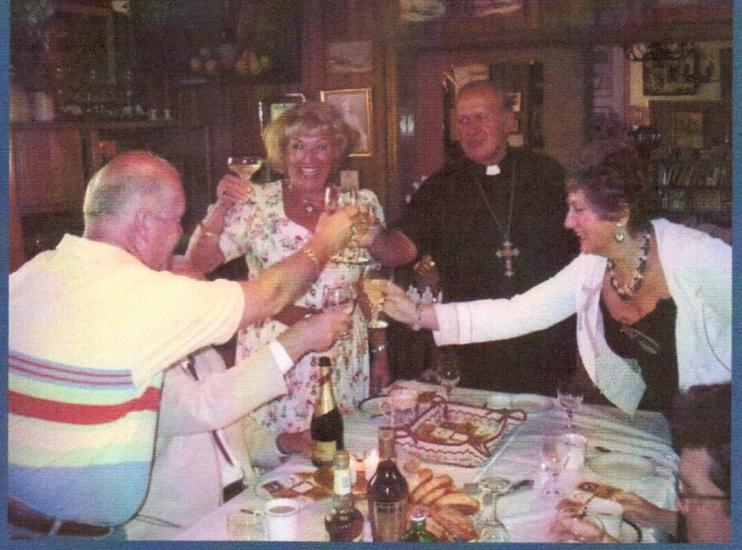
Above, during the welcome reception: left to right: Mr. Larry Thompson, Mr. Walter & Mrs. Anneliese Egger, Mrs. Cathy Tasaka, Mrs. Dolores Durocher, Bishop Gérard LaPlante, Deacon Michael, Mr. Jean Doucet, Dr. Margaret Dobson, Mrs. Isabelle & Mr. David Bowe



Above, during the welcome reception: left to right: Mr. Larry Thompson, Mr. Walter & Mrs. Anneliese Egger, Mrs. Cathy Tasaka, Mrs. Dolores Durocher, Bishop Gérard LaPlante Fr. Jürgen, Deacon Michael, Dr. Margaret Dobson, Mrs. Isabelle & Mr. David Bowe



Left to right, Mr. Larry Thompson, Mr. Walter & Mrs. Anneliese Egger, Bishop Gérard LaPlante



Ein Prosit der Gesundheit: Best wishes for the anniversary: Mr. Larry Thompson, Mr. Walter & Mrs. Anneliese Egger, Bishop Gérard LaPlante, Dr. Margaret Dobson



"The Angelus Prayer" by Millet in a copy painted by Mrs. Aline Renaud

„Coast to Coast“

„D'un océan à l'autre“



Left to right:
The
Godparents,
Mr. Brandon
Elstose & Mrs.
Nancy Green,
holding
Terence
Newman, his
father Victor
Newman Jr.,
Bishop
LaPlante



**2 September 2007
First Nation Baptism**

This Sunday, September 2, 2007 we had the baptism of Terence Victor Owen Newman. He is the 5th great – grandchild of our faithful members Mr. Tulum & Mrs. Dolores Durocher. Terence father Victor Jr. is from the Kwakiutl First Nation in Port Hardy, his mother Gail is Haida Nation from the Queen Charlotte Islands, this is their second child. Their first son, Deishone Newman was baptized at St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church on 22 September 2002 by Fr. Jürgen Schmode.

below: Bishop Gérard with the baptismal party; left to right: Mrs. Nancy Green, Mr. Brandon Elstose, Mr. Victor Newman Jr., Bishop Gérard holding little Terence, Deishone Newman, (the 5 year old brother), the mother, Mrs. Gail Hill, Mrs. Dolores Durocher



Look who is singing...
Every day we have some small visitors stopping by to take a bath and to sip a drink: Our little sparrows from the neighborhood. All of them, however, take off around 3 pm, that's when the big Blue Jay comes rolling in, and he doesn't share with nobody...



Above: before the baptism: Bishop Gérard with little Terence and Mrs. Dolores Durocher holding the traditional baptismal dress of the family.



„Coast to Coast“

„D'un océan à l'autre“



Left: During the baptism of Keala Wayne Winterhalt: Bishop Gérard LaPlante with the parents Mr. Josh Winterhalt and Mrs. Sarah Callies



Above: after the baptism: Bishop Gérard LaPlante with a neighbor's baby; on the left, Mrs. Winterhalt from New York, USA

15 September 2007
Baptism of Keala Wayne Winterhalt

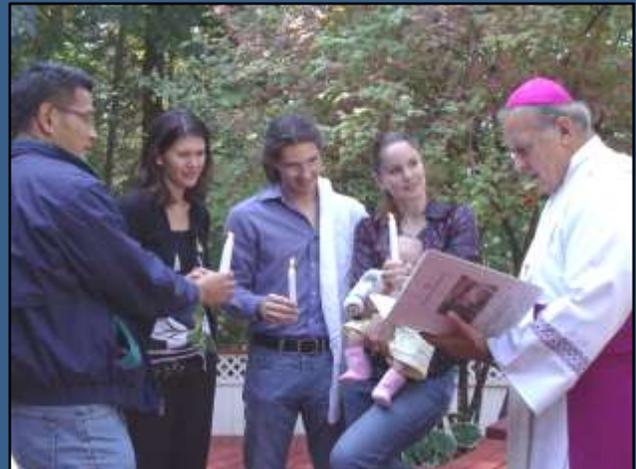
On Saturday, 15 September 2007 Bishop Gérard LaPlante departed to Vancouver Island for the baptism of Keala Wayne Winterhalt, daughter of Mr. Josh Winterhalt and his wife Mrs. Sarah Callies. He was accompanied by members of the Church, Mrs. Dolores Durocher, Mr. Jim Gee, and Mr. Jean Doucet. True to his missionary calling the Bishop baptized near a Lake. For the occasion the grandmother came from New York.



Left: The happy parents

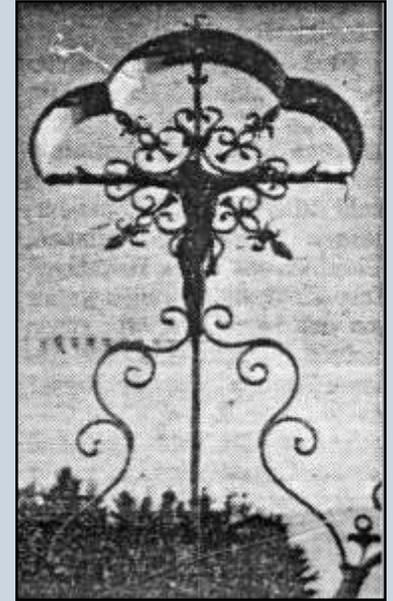
Below left: Bishop Gérard LaPlante anoints Keala

Below right: The baptismal candles are handed out



„Coast to Coast“

„D'un océan à l'autre“



Top and right picture: The bell tower with the new fleur de lys made by Austrian craftsman blacksmith Mr. Gerhard Oberauer

1 October 2007

Fleur de Lys in the Bell tower of St. Raphael's Old Catholic Church

Mr. Gerhard Oberauer from Valemount, BC stopped by on Monday, 1 October 2007 on his way to Austria to install new iron fleur de lys in the bell tower. He made them in his traditional blacksmith shop in Valemount, BC, where he resides with his family. Mr. Oberauer and his wife Maria have been long time friends of Bishop Gérard and members of the Old Catholic Church of BC, dating back more than 20 years. His cast iron work is well known - especially in Whistler and Blue River, BC – because he learned his craft in the traditional way in Austria. He was featured in the German Canadian newspaper the “Kanada Courier” in December 1985 about his work and a copy of the article – written in German – is attached.



The Fleur-de-Lys

A symbol of the Holy Trinity which is also used as a symbol of the Blessed Virgin, because of its derivation from the Madonna's lily.

Looking back...

Above is the wrought iron cross he designed and made for the family monument of the LaPlante family in Gausapsca, Québec back in 1985. Below is a picture of Mr. Oberauer at the completed monument in the fall of that year.



left: Bishop Gérard La Plante with Mr. Gerhard Oberauer holding the youngest of his six children on 3 June 2007





Er ist ein junger Künstler in der alten Schmiedekunst. Bau- und Kunstschlosser hat er gelernt...ein Lebenskünstler ist er dazu. Groß, blond, blauäugig, unternehmungslustig. Nichtraucher, Weintrinker, Musiker, Jodler, Volkstänzer, Ski-Lehrer, ein Sohn der österreichischen Berge, 25 Jahre alt, ein Junge, wie viele Mütter ihre Jungen gern sehen würden.

Wir trafen GERHARD OBERAUER in der „Old Catholic Church of B.C.“ an der East 51th. in Vancouver, wo er als Gast des bekannten, nimmermüden Bischofs J. Gerard A. Laplante eine wunderschöne Weihnachts-Krippe gebaut hat. Der Bischof nebenberuflich Zollbeamter, stellte seinen Gast aus Salzburg und dessen Werk stolz vor.

Die Krippe wird während der Weihnachtszeit in seiner kleinen Kirche aufgestellt. In der Kapelle und auf Fotos durften wir einige der Kunstschmiedearbeiten bewundern, die GERHARD OBERAUER in den letzten Jahren hergestellt hat. Seine Prüfung als Bau- und Kunstschlosser hatte er, 19 Jahre alt, nach dreieinhalb-jähriger Lehrzeit in Salzburg mit Auszeichnung abgeschlossen. Aber er liebte nicht nur die Schmiedekunst. Singen, Jodeln, Gitarre- und Trompetespielen, Schuhplatteln, sogar auf der Ski-Piste (aber ohne Bretter) und Volkstänzen, dazu, jung gelernt, (vier Jahre alt), alt getan (19 Jahre alt), Ski-Lehrer, das sind seine vielseitigen Interessen.

Mit 21 Jahren bekam er seinen ersten Auslands-Vertrag als Ski-Lehrer nach Big Sky, Montana. Damals, nachdem die Ski-Saison vorüber war, machte er seine erste Rundreise durch die Staa-

ten. Inzwischen besuchte er Nordamerika zum vierten Mal und hat dabei auch Kanada entdeckt. Hier probierte er alle nennenswerten Ski-Pisten von Ost nach West aus und schloß viel Freundschaften mit jung und alt und Leuten aus aller Welt, weil er sich überall nützlich machte und gern gesehen wird.

Neben seiner Arbeit liebt GERHARD die Wildnis, die er vor allem in Kanada gefunden hat, und auf die Kraft und Überzeugung zu seinem starken Glauben an eine höhere Macht fundiert ist. Wenn der junge Künstler erzählt, daß er seine Ski-Lehrlinge durch die winterweiße Natur zum Gipfel der Berge bringt, die in Österreich oft mit einem Kreuz

geschmückt sind, und vor der Talfahrt die Gelegenheit zum Gebet gibt, vergißt man für einen kurzen Augenblick den Ski-Lehrer.

GERHARD ist stolz auf sein Elternhaus, stolz auf seine Eltern, die ihm viel traditionelle Werte beigebracht, und seine Einstellung zum Leben geformt haben. Werte, die er in der neuen Welt vermißt. Er möchte gern für ein oder zwei Jahre in Vancouver arbeiten und seine alte Schmiedekunst weitergeben. Aber nicht nur das, er möchte neue Freunde finden und den Weg zum wahren Leben, den viele Menschen in seinen Augen verloren haben, neu entdecken.

G. Faltin

