

## WEEKEND COORDINATOR'S REPORT, September 2024 AGM

Four years have flown by and my term as Weekend Coordinator comes to an end with our September AGM. As I look back, two things stand out: Covid and the closing of the Convent.

Covid put weekends on hold. They didn't resume until Fall of 2023 (Women) and Spring of 2024 (Men). Both were a great success.

I expect, like me, many of you have fond memories of Weekends at the Convent: sharing, laughing, crying, and feeling the Holy Spirit move throughout the Weekend. However, change is a regular part of life, and the two weekends that have been held at Galilee Centre prove "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them" [Mathew 18:20 NIV]. Jesus has been present at the Galilee Centre.

You may have heard that the Galilee Center is closing. **It isn't!** The Galilee's Board of Directors has taken over ownership of the primary buildings/acreage and plans to continue offering residential retreat facilities. We have reserved the following dates:

- Nov 1 – 3, 2024 for the 131<sup>st</sup> Weekend (Women); Ruth Speer, Lay Rector
- Apr 4 – 6, 2025 for the 132<sup>nd</sup> Weekend (Men)
- Nov 14 – 16, 2025 for the 133<sup>rd</sup> Weekend (Women)

I have a request for help; OACM needs a low cost storage area for bins, audio equipment, etc.. When I started my term, we were renting space at City View United Church. When they needed the space, St. Stephen's donated a room for our use. After two years, St. Stephen's needed the space, and we moved to a 5'x5'x7' Dyson Storage locker. If anyone knows of a suitable, dry, secure (keyed access), location, please reach out to myself or my successor at [weekend@oacm.ca](mailto:weekend@oacm.ca).

I end this report with profound thanks for everyone who has helped me fulfil the weekend coordinator's responsibilities. Some examples of this assistance: showing me the ropes, setting up sound equipment for the summer Ultreyas, organizing bins before and after weekends, moving bins between storage locations and also to/from weekends. You know who you are and have my deep thanks.

I'd like also to thank Good Shepherd Church, Barrhaven for the donation of their sound equipment to the OACM. The equipment was used at all three summer Ultreyas.

Ultreya,

John Chapman

Weekend Coordinator