

kolbe times

special edition

Catholic Arts Journal
Fall 2010



Ceili Rain

Ceili Rain (kaylee rain)
The Syracuse based celtic rock group continue to blaze the trail with high energy melodic tunes that carry a message. Catch their latest cd release "I Made Lemonade" at their Calgary concert tour.

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Bishop Henry & 7th Heaven



Long time supporter of Catholic Music Bishop Henry poses with popular gospel choir Marty Antonini & 7th Heaven at last June's Palio event. The Bishop has continually encouraged aspiring artists to use their gifts for service to the Church in whatever genre they are gifted in.



Ron Rolheiser

Ron Rolheiser OMI
"A Crying Need for Gospel Artists"
Popular Oblate author Ron Rolheiser's brilliant column on the creative need within the Church.

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United Catholic Music & Video Awards & Conference Makes a Canadian Appearance



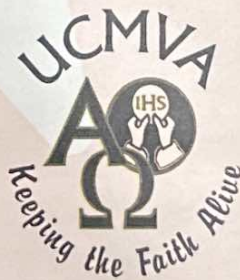
Matt Maher

"Canadian talent returns home to play One Rock Festival" One of the top artists in Christian music today is actually a Canadian. No BiG surprise he is from the Maritimes.

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unity awards



Tom Booth

Life Teen co-founder Tom Booth Set to play at the Unity Awards show. Acclaimed singer/songwriter with wonderful wit featured at the awards concert August 28.

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The United Catholic Music & Video Awards will be held in Calgary Alberta Canada for the first time August 27 & 28. The annual awards have been presented in Washington DC, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Iowa and New Orleans.

For the first time the event will feature a conference. UCMVA co-founder and President Susan Stein is delighted to

have the awards in Canada. "We anticipate that Calgary with its outstanding reputation as host of the world famous Stampede, will do a great job."

The conference boasts an impressive line up of speakers including Tony Melendez, Bob Halligan Jr. from Ceili Rain, Franciscan Friars Bob Mitchell and

Kevin Lynch, and Christine Mader, former Director of Liturgy for the Calgary Diocese and author of "Concerts in the Sacred Space". Music clinics for songwriting, drumming and guitar will also be featured.

kolbetimes

St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe



St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe
(1894-1941)

"I don't know what's going to become of you!" How many parents have said that? Maximilian Mary Kolbe's reaction was, "I prayed very hard to Our Lady to tell me what would happen to me. She appeared, holding in her hands two crowns, one white, one red. She asked if I would like to have them—one was for purity, the other for martyrdom. I said, 'I

choose both.' She smiled and disappeared." After that he was not the same.

He entered the minor seminary of the Conventual Franciscans in Lviv (then Poland, now Ukraine), near his birthplace, and at 16 became a novice. Though he later achieved doctorates in philosophy and theology, he was deeply interested in science, even drawing plans for rocket ships.

Ordained at 24, he saw religious indifference as the deadliest poison of the day. His mission was to combat it. He had already founded the Militia of the Immaculata, whose aim was to fight evil with the witness of the good life, prayer, work and suffering. He dreamed of and then founded Knight of the Immaculata, a religious magazine under Mary's protection to preach the Good News to all nations. For the work of publication he established a "City of the Immaculata"—Niepokalanow—which housed 700 of his Franciscan brothers. He later founded one in Nagasaki, Japan. Both the Militia and the magazine ultimately reached the one-million mark in members and subscribers. His love of God was daily filtered through devotion to Mary.

In 1940 the Nazi panzers overran Poland with deadly speed. Niepokalanow was severely bombed. Kolbe and his friars were arrested, then released in less than three months, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

In 1941 he was arrested again. The Nazis' purpose was to liquidate the select ones, the leaders. The end came quickly, in Auschwitz three months later, after terrible beatings and humiliations.

A prisoner had escaped. The commandant announced that 10 men would die. He relished walking along the ranks. "This one. That one." As they were being marched away to the starvation bunkers, Number 16670 dared to step from the line. "I would like to take that man's place. He has a wife and children." "Who are you?" "A priest." No name, no mention of fame. Silence. The commandant, dumbfounded, perhaps with a fleeting thought of history, kicked Sergeant Francis Gajowniczek out of line and ordered Father Kolbe to go with the nine. In the "block of death" they were ordered to strip naked and the slow starvation began in darkness. But there was no screaming—the prisoners sang. By the eve of the Assumption four were left alive. The jailer came to finish Kolbe off

as he sat in a corner praying. He lifted his fleshless arm to receive the bite of the hypodermic needle. It was filled with carbolic acid. They burned his body with all the others. He was beatified in 1971 and canonized in 1982.

Comment:
Father Kolbe's death was not a sudden, last-minute act of heroism. His whole life had been a preparation. His holiness was a limitless, passionate desire to convert the whole world to God. And his beloved Immaculata was his inspiration.

Quote:
"Courage, my sons. Don't you see that we are leaving on a mission? They pay our fare in the bargain. What a piece of good luck! The thing to do now is to pray well in order to win as many souls as possible. Let us, then, tell the Blessed Virgin that we are content, and that she can do with us anything she wishes" (Maximilian Mary Kolbe, when first arrested).

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Bishop's Message



"music was as close to the language of heaven as humans could conceive."

The observance of Catholic Music Week reminded me of the wonderful inheritance received from our ancestors in the faith. When I entered the seminary to begin my studies for the priesthood, at my first Schola practice, which was compulsory whether you could carry a note or not, I was reminded that the history of Western music began in the medieval church and its monasteries. Of course, music had been with human kind for thousands of years, predating perhaps even speech, but it was the monks and the nuns of the monasteries who established the tradition of written music. Writing or notation was crucial in the development of Western music. Once music had been collected and transcribed, it could be performed by others, who in turn could expand upon it with their own variations and innovations. What led the monks and nuns to use chant for prayer and worship was their experience of music as a

window to the soul—a sacred medium that released one's inner emotions while letting in the breath of the divine. Later composers would see this window in more secular terms, but for the composers of the early Middle Ages, music was as close to the language of heaven as humans could conceive. The earliest were a means of freeing the mind from distraction and attuning the soul to the presence of God. Some chants were expression of joy and awe that came with awareness of divine contact. Others were sung as prayers for deliverance from suffering and privation. What they all had in common was their deeply personal and intimate nature. It is the Spirit that gives life to our minds and hearts.

Peace, Bishop Henry

Denis Grady, Producer



In the wonderful Book of Wisdom there is a heads up: "If you decide to follow the Lord prepare yourself for an ordeal"

The challenge of embracing and living the Gospel can best be observed by the life of Jeremiah who after the honeymoon ends up locked in the public stocks humiliated and very upset with God. Jeremiah of course perseveres to become one of our most treasured prophets.

The work and movement of Catholic music from the rich traditional roots to the fresh wind of Blessed John XXIII's wonderful invocation prior to the Second Vatican Council ("Let us open some windows and let some fresh air into the Church") offers a compass and rhythm for our direction.

The United Catholic Music & Video Awards conceived and implemented by the Stein family has fostered numerous new friendships that have been a generous and powerful blessing to many of us.

The opportunity to host this event in Calgary in tandem with a conference has been an honour for the many volunteers and sponsors who have selflessly jumped in to serve the cause.

The Ecumenical mix of workers I hope puts a smile on God's face as it has given us a genuine experience of the power of God's love when embarking on something that is bigger than all of us. Individually the task is daunting but collectively and in unison it can accomplish a good work.

Our fervent prayer is that we make room for the Holy Spirit, the King of Kings and our Father to be in our midst as we gather for the 2010 Unity Conference and Awards Gala.

We also pray that each heart that attends feels the goodness of dwelling together as sisters and brothers in the Lord.

To our visitors, welcome to the Stampede City and some Western hospitality.

We look forward to seeing your smiles and hearing your songs. God bless everyone!

Denis Grady SFO, Producer
2010 United Catholic Music & Video Awards & Conference

"We look forward to seeing your smiles and hearing your songs."



Director, 2010 United Catholic Music & Video Awards Show

Director, 2010 United Catholic Music & Video Awards Show

Russell Moore first worked in television production at CBC Calgary in 1976. He went on to work for CFAC-TV (now Global Calgary). As a performer, his singing and dancing with the Young Canadians of the Calgary Stampede then led him to Las Vegas and the legendary Dunes and Stardust Hotels. Russell later entertained at Harrah's in

Atlantic City, onboard 7 ships with Norwegian Cruise Line, Royal Olympic and Princess Cruises and at Disneyland. His nightclub performances include Hollywood's famous Cinegrill and Troubadour. He has appeared in numerous musical theatre productions as well as over 70 television shows and feature films. Russell continued to work in production as well, directing for stage and television in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, London, England, Sydney, Australia;

Toronto; Vancouver and in Calgary. We are delighted to have Russell as our Director.

His passion for excellence, extensive experience and love for the arts and people are valuable assets that will ensure a successful Awards Show. Welcome to UCMVA Russell.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Chapter 2 Article 1
1156: The musical tradition of the Universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art. The main reason for this pre-eminence is that as a combination of sacred music & words, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy. The composition and singing of inspired psalms, often accompanied by musical instruments, were already closely linked to the

liturgical celebrations of the Old Covenant. The Church continues and develops this tradition: "Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart." "He who sings, prays twice."

1157: Song & Music fulfil their function as signs in a manner all the more significant when they are "more closely connected... with the liturgical action"

according to the three principal criteria: beauty, expressive prayer, the unanimous participation of the assembly at the designated moments, the solemn character of the celebration. "In this way they participate in the purpose of the liturgical words and actions: the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful." "How I wept, deeply moved by your hymns, songs and the voices that echoed through your Church. What emotion I experienced in them. Those

sounds flowed into my ears, distilling the truth in my heart. A feeling of devotion surged within me and tears streamed down my face, tears that did me good." St. Augustine, Confessions.

United Catholic Music & Video Awards



Schedule

Southside Victory Centre
6402-1A St. SW
(Beside Chinook LRT)

Wed. Aug. 25, 10:30am
Media Conference Reception

Thursday August 26, 5pm
Load in for Displays & Set up

Friday August 27
7am Doors Open/Franciscan Café,
Live Music

8am 8:30am
Praise & Worship in Concert Hall

9:00am
Conference Opening Ceremonies
Marie Clarke MC
National Anthems, Marty Antonini &
Seventh Heaven

Welcome /Presentations
Opening Prayer
Keynote: Fr. Bob Mitchell

10:00am
The Vocation of a Catholic Musician
Jose Melendez
10:30am Coffee Break

11:00am Satellite Sessions
Christine Mader /Concerts in the
Sacred Space/Concert Hall
Lorraine Kneier/Music: A Window to
the Soul/Prayer Room
Bill Bleistine & David Wang
/Marketing your Ministry/ Unity
Room

Noon:
Lunch/Franciscan Café Live Music

1:30pm Jerry & Cricket Aull SFO/The
Balance of a Spiritual Life,
Listening, Detachment, Providence
/Concert Hall

2:00pm Satellite Sessions

3:00pm Priest's Panel
Deacon Tom O'Toole/Moderator
Fr. Kevin Lynch
Fr. Alfredo Pereira
Fr. Jerome LaVigne
Fr. Jos Kalathilparambil
Fr. Krystian Golisz
Fr. Leo Monroe
Fr. Jack Pereira

4:30pm Supper Break

Sound Check: Jose Melendez
/Awards Show Artists

7:30pm
Tony Melendez/Ceili Rain Concert

Saturday August 28

7:00am Franciscan Café, Live Music

8:00am Praise & Worship/morning
Prayer/Concert Hall

8:30am
Guitar Clinic/Concert Hall/ Tom
Cameron. Path of a Songwriter
/Prayer Room/Bob Halligan
Drum Clinic/Unity Room Tim Pope
& Gavin Sorochan

10:30am Transit to Mass at
St. Anthony's

11:00am Mass/St. Anthony's

Noon: Lunch

1:30pm Sound Check/Dress
Rehearsal / Awards Show

5pm Hospitality Team Set up

7:30pm Awards Show & Reception

Director: Russell Moore
Stage Manager: Sally Myers
Assistant: Marie Clarke
Ceili Rain
Eugenia, Kristi Marie & Stefan Bartos
Marty Antonni & 7th Heaven
Jerry Aull
Michelle Todd
Critical Mass
Denis Grady & the Stone Rejected Band
Tom Booth
Brian Flynn
Janelle
Mashetimoses
Tony Melendez



A Crying Need For Gospel Artists

In the literary world a distinction is made between a critic and an artist. A critic assesses things, an artist produces them.

Would that we made such a distinction within theology and Church circles because what we most desperately need today is not more criticism but more art, not more theological critics but more Gospel artists.

This is particularly true as regards the issue of evangelization in the Western world. It is pretty generally agreed upon that we need a new inculturation of the Gospel, a new look at what communications technology is doing to us and a new model for adult education. Everywhere there is a sense that the old ways no longer work well enough and that we need a breakthrough.

Our poverty today as regards evangelization is not so much lack of good critical thought as lack of good

artists. What we lack are theologians, preachers, teachers, songwriters, painters and the like who can make new images that can take the word of God, with all the timeless truth and revelation it carries, and give it genuine aesthetic expression within today's experience. No easy task. Good art never is.

We are not short on energy, literature, and courses on the subject. We are just short on results. Despite our best efforts, we are nowhere near a breakthrough. Why? Because, first of all, it is easier to make a diagnosis than to find a prescription. Hence, the literature is long on the diagnostics but short of real remedy.

I say this with sympathy. It is not easy to know what we should be doing today to more effectively give the faith to our children. As a result, most of the time we talk about the problem, point out how important it is and go on to say that we must address it.

Valuable though this is, ultimately, it is still talk about process, about starting conversations about paradigm shifts, and about our present malaise. None of it is the gospel itself. It is criticism in the technical sense, valuable in its own way. But the critic is not the artist. The critic talks about something that somebody else produces. In the end, he does not write the play, paint the canvas or make the music. The artist does. He or she produces what the critic talks about. Too often in theology and Church circles, because we do not distinguish between criticism and art, criticism passes itself off as theology. The result is that we get ever more sophisticated analytical tools but do not produce much at all.

Moreover this involves infinitely more than simply finding a better technique, a more sensitive process or using the media in more sophisticated ways. Good preaching or teaching (religious "art") is never a question of being the



cleverest, of using the most modern techniques or sensitive processes, of finding the really imaginative stories, or even of having a fertile imagination.

A Crying Need For Gospel Artists
Ron Rolheiser, OMI

The end of all music is to be to the glory of God and the refreshing of man's soul.
J.S. Bach

Prayer: Beautiful Music for the Soul

Prayer is a gift and a privilege we are given to stay near to God. Even when we might feel discouraged in our prayers, we should never forget that good will come from our efforts. These prayerful words of our heart and soul have a powerful effect when they are spoken with meaning and purpose and the purity of good desire. When we pray, our prayers not only reach out to God, they have a way into the hearts of people, a way we cannot reach with our outspoken words. I understood this to be so after a gathering of people in which I heard someone playing very beautiful music.

The people were gathered, but not for any music. They were arguing over a matter of little importance. It just

happened that someone there began to play very sweetly upon a lute. The music was so soothing that one couldn't help but let it also sooth our souls as we listened. I noticed then, that even the people who were not, at first, wanting to hear music, were able to listen and be touched by it. For all who were present, the music worked its beautiful peace upon our hearts. Peace was received because peace was needed, and music provided the way. The same is true of prayer. A person may not be expecting prayers or even wanting them, but when sincere and heartfelt prayers are said, the soul receives them, because they are needed. The healing, soothing prayers are like beautiful music. And just like a calming melody, the words of petition and praise are 'heard' in an

interior way. The very words we may not be able to 'speak' to another person, can be received through the pure intentions of our heartfelt prayers.

This is why we do not simply go through the motions of prayer or say the words without our heart and thought in it. We pray from our heart into God's heart, and those prayers do not return void.

an excerpt from Talitha Koum – Reflections of a Girl who met Jesus, by Cricket Aull, SFO

Talitha Koum is available through Tau Publishing.

Ceili Rain

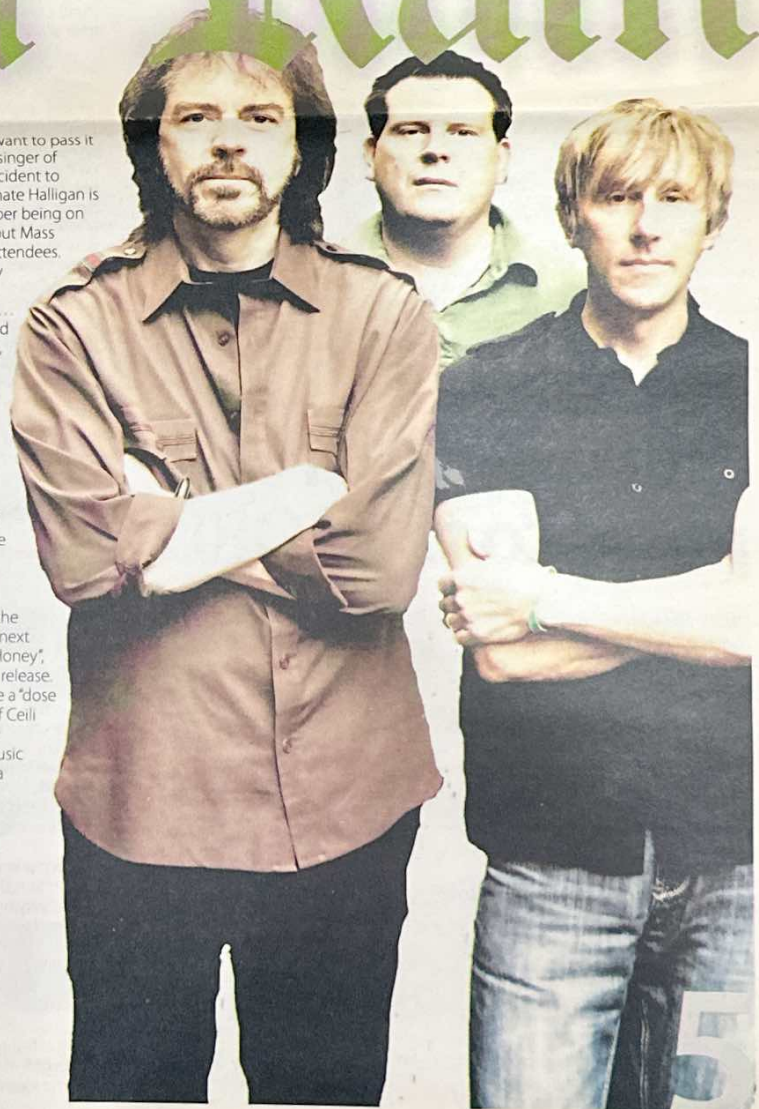
Ceili Rain has been one of Catholic music's most enduring acts, ministering to the Church for almost 15 years. Founding member Bob Halligan Jr. is the singer, songwriter and general driving force behind this Celtic rock band, and has been highly influential within the Catholic music scene, mentoring budding young artists through songwriting workshops with CAM (Catholic Association of Musicians) and the UCMVA (United Catholic Music and Video Association). There are few artists with songwriting credentials to match those of Halligan. He wrote the monster Judas Priest hit, "Some heads are gonna roll" and continued his success as a songwriter to such high profile artists as Michael Bolton, Cher, Kiss, Helix among others. Within the Christian scene, his songs have popped up on albums by Rebecca St. James ("You then me") among others, and his Ceili Rain composition, "Kneeling" rose to Top 20 status on the Christian music charts. Ceili Rain has released six albums and all to critical acclaim. The mix of Celtic instruments with rock, spiced up with smart lyrics, results in a fresh fun sound that reaches to a broad audience. Even the name of the band shows off the inventiveness of Halligan. Ceili is Gaelic for party, but another derivative of the word in latin means heaven. So, Ceili Rain can be loosely translated as a "downpour of heavenly partiness".

When asked why he takes his role as a mentor to young artists so seriously, he replies "my cousin Dick was a founding member of Blood Sweat & Tears and he

looked after me, so I just want to pass it along." David Wang, lead singer of Critical Mass, relates an incident to demonstrate how passionate Halligan is about this role. "I remember being on stage for a performance but Mass had not finished for the attendees. To keep on schedule, they made us start the set, basically to an empty hall... except for Bob, who stayed to cheer me on and listen, even though he had to perform on another stage shortly after." Bob Halligan Jr. has great hopes for Catholic music but feels that, in order to push the music to the next level, "it will take a huge uptick in money, PR campaigns as well as more working at the craft."

Excitement is building as the band is now recording its next album, entitled "Manuka Honey", slated for a February 2011 release. Halligan promises it will be a "dose of extreme healing love." If Ceili Rain's previous work is any indication, the Catholic music world is once again in for a sweet treat!

By David Wang,
National Catholic Register





"Announce the kingdom! Possess no gold or silver or copper in your purses, no traveling bag, no sandals, no staff" (Luke 9:1-3).

Saint of the day

St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)
Francis of Assisi was a poor little man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit and without a mite of self-importance.

once it began he protected it and accepted all the legal structures needed to support it. His devotion and loyalty to the Church were absolute and highly exemplary at a time when various movements of reform tended to break the Church's unity.

Serious illness brought the young Francis to see the emptiness of his frolicking life as leader of Assisi's youth. Prayer—lengthy and difficult—led him to a self-emptying like that of Christ, climaxed by embracing a leper he met on the road. It symbolized his complete obedience to what he had heard in prayer. "Francis! Everything you have loved and desired in the flesh it is your duty to despise and hate, if you wish to know my will. And when you have begun this, all that now seems sweet and lovely to you will become intolerable and bitter, but all that you used to avoid will turn itself to great sweetness and exceeding joy!" From the cross in the neglected field-chapel of San Damiano, Christ told him, "Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Francis became the totally poor and humble workman.

He was torn between a life devoted entirely to prayer and a life of active preaching of the Good News. He decided in favor of the latter, but always returned to solitude when he could. He wanted to be a missionary in Syria or in Africa, but was prevented by shipwreck and illness in both cases. He did try to convert the sultan of Egypt during the Fifth Crusade.

During the last years of his relatively short life (he died at 44) he was half blind and seriously ill. Two years before his death, he received the stigmata, the real and painful wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side.

On his deathbed, he said over and over again the last addition to his Canticle of the Sun, "Be praised, O Lord, for our Sister Death." He sang Psalm 141, and at the end asked his superior to have his clothes removed when the last hour came and for permission to expire lying naked on the earth, in imitation of his Lord.

Comment: Francis of Assisi was poor only that he might be Christ-like. He loved nature because it was another manifestation of the beauty of God. He did great penance (apologizing to "Brother Body" later in life) that he might be totally disciplined for the will of God. His poverty had a sister, humility, by which he meant total dependence on the good God. But all this was, as it were, preliminary to the heart of his spirituality: living the gospel life, summed up in the charity of Jesus and perfectly expressed in the Eucharist.

Quote: "We adore you and we bless you, Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all the churches which are in the whole world, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world" (St. Francis).

He must have suspected a deeper meaning to "build up my house." But he would have been content to be for the rest of his life the poor "nothing" man actually putting brick on brick in abandoned chapels. He gave up every material thing he had, piling even his clothes before his earthly father (who was demanding restitution for Francis' "gifts" to the poor) so that he would be totally free to say, "Our Father in heaven." He was, for a time, considered to be a religious "nut," begging from door to door when he could not get money for his work, bringing sadness or disgust to the hearts of his former friends, ridicule from the unthinking.

But genuineness will tell. A few people began to realize that this man was actually trying to be Christian. He really believed what Jesus said: "Announce the kingdom! Possess no gold or silver or copper in your purses, no traveling bag, no sandals, no staff" (see Luke 9:1-3).

Francis' first rule for his followers was a collection of texts from the Gospels. He had no idea of founding an order, but



PHOTO: STEVE KNIGHT, ASHURSTWOOD

make a joyful noise to the LORD

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!"

There is a marvelous story told of how God's Little Poor Man, St. Francis of Assisi, preached to the Birds. Francis was so moved by his love of God, and God's love for him, that he deemed it necessary to proclaim to all of creation the good news of God's love.

It is said that the Saint took two sticks imagining them to be a viol and a bow. The Saint played his viol and sang, the birds silently listened, and through the Saint, God made beautiful music. After listening intently the birds, echoed with their own voices the Glory of God.

Many of his contemporaries thought St. Francis was a mad fool, wasting his time as a minstrel, singing to birds, with little to no reward to show for it. Many people today feel the same about many

Christian musicians who roam about, singing and playing, often gaining less than bird seed for their labors. All too often people forget that our musicians of today, like St. Francis of old, allow Christ's loving voice to flow through their songs to touch the hearts of those who hear their minstrel melodies.

How sad our world would be if it was not filled with music proclaiming the Greatness of God. Let us always remember to support our musicians within the Church, for as we are told in Psalms 98:4, "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!"

Pax et Bonum
Ron Semenov SFO
Minister General, St. Mary's Fraternity,
Secular Franciscan Order

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Excerpt



tom booth

matt maher

**Profile: Tom Booth**

Tom Booth has been composing music since he was a young teenager growing up in Tucson, Arizona. He wrote his first song at the age of 13 in reaction to a friend's death. With influences ranging from Beethoven to Pink Floyd, Booth's talents flourished in a family in which every member was involved in music, art or drama. It was when he encountered Christ at age 17, however, that Booth's music took on a new focus. After majoring in music and religious studies at college and university, Booth worked with youth and families in parish ministry. But his musical gifts continued to develop, and Booth is now recognized as a gifted composer and performer.

Booth was commissioned to write (and perform) songs for Mother Teresa and Pope John Paul II, and received numerous Dove, Unity and Grammy awards and nominations. He has also been involved in a number of national music ministries, such as LIFE TEEN, Franciscan University and the national Catholic Youth Conference.

Booth continues to serve the body of Christ with concerts, retreats and missions, and shares his love for the Lord and his musical gifts at Calgary's Unity Awards. His words and music speak with profound grace to the hearts of those who are searching, and to those who praise and glorify a merciful, loving God.

Profile: Matt Maher

Born and raised in Newfoundland, Matt Maher's parents recognized his musical talent at an early age. His childhood was spent immersed in a wide variety of musical experiences, from choirs and jazz ensembles to a garage rock band. After studying jazz piano at Arizona State University, Maher started writing his own songs for his church, where he served as worship leader. Now fast becoming one of the most popular and critically acclaimed Catholic artists in North America, Maher has received glowing praise from major Catholic and Christian music publications. He received Unity Awards from the United Catholic Music

and Video Association in 2003 for Best New Artist, 2004 for Praise and Worship Song of the Year, and 2008 for Artist of the Year.

Maher's latest release, *Alive Again*, expresses God's love to believers in both personal times of prayer as well as communal worship. He recently had this to say about the album: "John Eldridge said, 'You can sum up the Bible in two words: come closer.' That's what I hope these songs do – bring people closer to Christ."

Maher recently performed at the One Rock Catholic Music Festival in Rockyford, to the great delight of his growing fan base in Alberta.

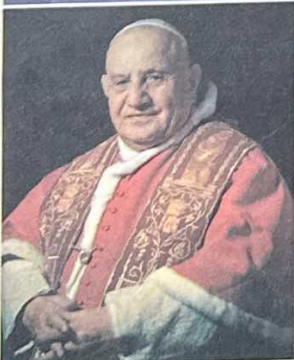
Bob Halligan, Jr. Songwriting Workshop



Singer-songwriter Bob Halligan Jr. has seen his tunes rack up sales of 30 million units since his first hit in 1980. Among the artists who have covered his songs are: Cher, KISS, Michael Bolton, Judas Priest, Kathy Mattea, Rebecca St. James, Joan Jett, and dozens of others. Films include Iron Eagle and Wayne's World, while TV saw a Cable Ace nomination from a tune on Nickelodeon's "Roundhouse." Among the many people he's worked with and learned from are Phil Galdston (who wrote "Save the Best For Last"), Bolton (How Am I Supposed to Live Without You), Eric Kaz (Bonnie Raitt, Linda Ronstadt), Phil Ramone, Jim Henson, Billy Joel and a host of elegant others.

Halligan brings his 25-plus years of hit-making experience to this exciting, interactive workshop that is a comfortable fit for beginners and advanced students alike. Technically, Halligan addresses issues like prosody (the sound of the music matching the sound of the words) and melodic construction. Philosophically, he touches on things like "purity of purpose" and "writing what you know." Rather than copious ivory-tower speechifying, he focuses on the needs and talents of the individuals present, and shows them "one person's opinions" about where they're going wrong- and RIGHT!

Friendliness A Great Virtue



"Do good, that is be good, and you will always be surrounded with cheerful faces." These words shed their light over our whole life.

Doing good means bearing a worthy witness to Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary, the universal Teacher & Saviour of the world.

There is no learning or wealth, there is no human power that is more effective than a good nature, a heart that is gentle, friendly and patient. The good-hearted man may suffer mortifications and opposition, but he always wins in the end because his goodness is love, and love is all conquering.

All through life, and especially at its end, the happiest tribute of praise is always the same, "He was so good, he had such a kind heart". And his name brings joy & blessing.

It is a mistake to think that kindness, that is true friendliness, is but a minor virtue. It is a great virtue because it means self control and a selfless intention, with a fervent love of justice. It is the expression and splendour of brotherly love, in the grace of Jesus. It is the way to attain human and divine perfection.

Blessed John XXIII



By Laura Locke

Chatting with Chef Mario leaves you with the same feeling you get after eating a great Italian dinner – satisfied, full and glowing with wellbeing. His pizzeria on wheels (a former bread-delivery truck now fully transformed, complete with wood-burning pizza oven) has become a familiar sight at family gatherings, charity events, church functions and baseball tournaments around the city, with Chef Mario himself holding court, making sure everyone is having a good time. He also does in-house private catering, entertaining his happy customers with seven course meals.

I asked him why he loves what he does. "Food makes everybody feel comfortable," says Chef Mario, a.k.a. Mario Spina. "You get them in their natural state, and it's like we're all family, passing the bread back and forth, eating, laughing, praying together. It brings us all one step closer to God. You know, I think maybe Jesus was Italian!"

Bringing his trademark gourmet pizza to the Unity Awards was par for the course for Chef Mario.

"I'm happy to lend a hand," he says. "It's a small thing to take time out and help at great events like this. I'm in a position now to give back to my community."

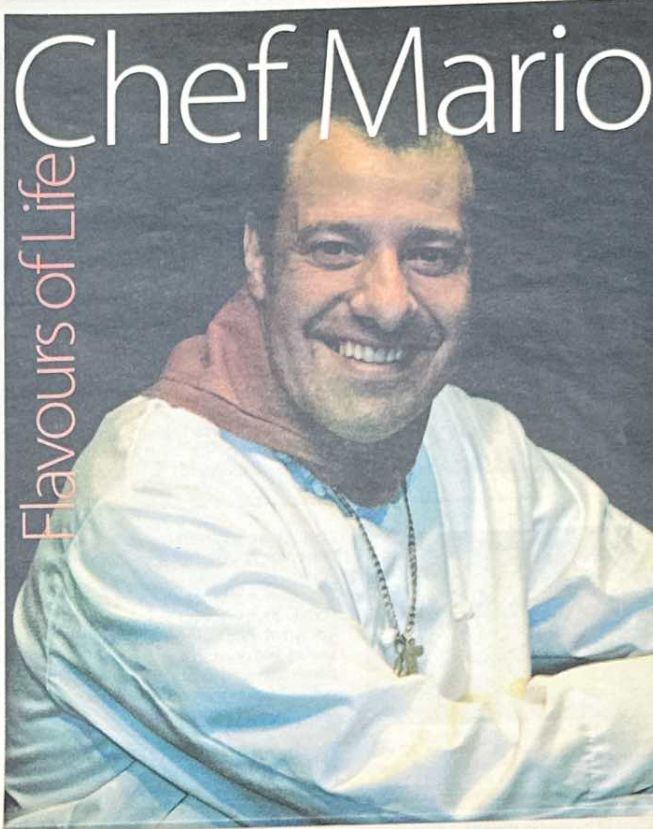
It's been a long and interesting road for Chef Mario to get to where he is now.

He's done it all, demonstrating cappuccino machines, working as a baker and later an executive chef at a restaurant. He then went on to found a number of local businesses, including a gelato shop, The Burger Inn and the well-loved Pimento's Italian Café. His current catering business is brisker than ever, and he calls all the bends in the road "the flavours of life" – and opportunities to learn lessons.

"You have to step forward and give it your best, but you can't worry about making mistakes," he says. "The important thing is to get back up and carry on. If you don't get it quite right the first time, you'll get it the second or third time."

Chef Mario has a theory about making the world a better place – a theory that pretty much describes how he lives his own life:

"People are like sticks. One stick is easy to break, but if you have a whole bundle of sticks together, it takes a lot to break the bundle. If we all go forward together arm in arm, we're much stronger. And if enough people link arms, we can go all the way around the world – kind of like a big spaghetti noodle. There's no excuse for anybody being left behind."



Sing a New Song

Sing a New Song
Reaching Young Catholic Students
Through the Arts
Andreas Berko, BMus, BEd
Children can, at times, be resistant to Catholicity, even in a Catholic school. As a Catholic educator, I have taught thousands of students in a number of different subjects, mostly music. There are various motivations for parents to send their child to a Catholic school, Catholicity only being one of them. Often, it is a perception that the local Catholic school is somehow "better" than the other options, the parents may have attended a Catholic school themselves and have positive memories, or, in the case of St. John Fine Arts Elementary, there may be a program of choice that the parents would like their child to take advantage of. Whatever the reason, students enter Calgary's Catholic schools with the understanding that they will be taught by Catholic educators and Calgary's Catholic teachers enter with the understanding that their students will have disparate degrees of Catholicity.

At St. John, where I am currently the Assistant Principal and have been teaching music for the last three years, "we believe the Fine Arts are essential to the development of the whole child (spiritually, morally, intellectually, physically and aesthetically)" (taken from our Value Statements) and our teachers integrate the arts into core subjects like Social Studies and Language Arts. We celebrate teacher and student-planned liturgies regularly, sometimes as often as

every week, and the arts are naturally accessed to make these experiences more accessible. Some of the wonderful ideas I have seen include instructive dramas to demonstrate a principle in the Gospel, multi-media art work used to teach Catholic tradition, and student-created dance or movement to accompany lively music that "sings" to the hearts of the students. We increase student leadership by getting the choir members involved as music leaders and by appointing student musicians to accompany the music. There is no shortage of quality Catholic music; for example, the Oregon Catholic Press has published several hymnals designed to reach young people, including *Never Too Young and Spirit and Song*. Songs from these volumes have a more contemporary sound and are more similar to the music that young people hear today, while still contributing meaningfully to the message of the liturgy.

Young children are naturally drawn to the fine arts through an innate desire to sing, draw, dance and act. Using the arts in the liturgy is a positive way for students to find meaning and appreciation for their Catholic faith.

Andreas Berko is an Assistant Principal and Music Specialist for the Calgary Catholic School District. For more information about St. John Fine Arts, please visit www.cssd.ab.ca/stjohn.

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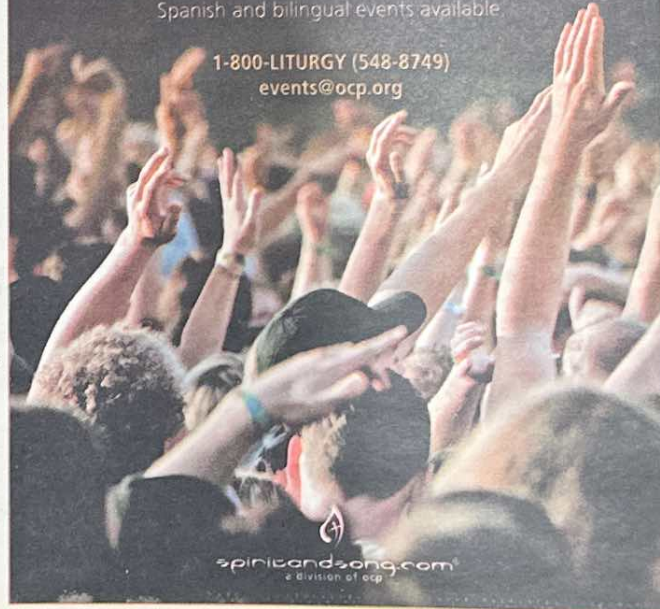
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"You Are the Custodians of Beauty"



Excerpt from Pope Benedict XVI's "Address to Artists From Around the World" Nov. 21, 2009 (on the 10th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's "Letter to Artists")

Dear artists, I would like to make a cordial, friendly and impassioned appeal to you, as did my Predecessor. You are the custodians of beauty; thanks to your talent, you have the opportunity to speak to the heart of humanity, to touch individual and collective sensibilities, to call forth dreams and hopes, to broaden the horizons of knowledge and of human engagement.

Be grateful, then, for the gifts you have received and be fully conscious of your great responsibility to communicate

beauty, to communicate in and through beauty. Through your art, you yourselves are to be heralds and witnesses of hope for humanity. And do not be afraid to approach the first and last source of beauty, to enter into dialogue with believers, with those who, like yourselves, consider that they are pilgrims in this world and in history towards infinite Beauty!

Faith takes nothing away from your genius or your art: on the contrary, it exalts them and nourishes them, it encourages them to cross the threshold and to contemplate with fascination and emotion the ultimate and definitive goal, the sun that does not set, the sun that illumines this present moment and makes it beautiful.

The way of beauty leads us, then, to grasp the Whole in the fragment, the Infinite in the finite, God in the history of humanity. Simone Weil wrote in this regard: "In all that awakens within us the pure and authentic sentiment of beauty, there, truly, is the presence of God. There is a kind of incarnation of God in the world, of which beauty is the sign. Beauty is the experimental proof that incarnation is possible. For this reason all art of the first order is, by its nature, religious."

My wish for all of you, dear artists, is that you may carry this vision in your eyes, in your hands, and in your heart, that it may bring you joy and continue to inspire your fine works.



Steve Angrisano

people from Southern Alberta and the neighboring Archdiocese of Edmonton.

The germ seed of this event was an idea from Fr. Krystian Golisz at St. Rita's in Rockyford, who was struck by the beauty and open space of his new parish town and its potential for a youth gathering. Less than a year later the dream is evolving into reality.

The day will be blessed by the presence of Bishop Fred Henry at the Eucharistic celebration. Artists such as Steve Angrisano, Ceili Rain, and Matt Maher will grace the stage with their inspiring words, music and witness. Fr. Krystof, of Orlando, Florida will challenge the faithful in the living of the faith and

loving of the Word. Our own diocesan-renowned Michael Chlason will bring his powerful speaking talent to reach hearts. The talent showcase of up and coming artists will be reflected in the gifts of Eyes if Isis, Absolution, Behold and "Light Heart Entertainment".

Catholic music will be present all over Rockyford, and no matter whether you chose to revel in the Eucharist at adoration, or be immersed in the Body of Christ while grooving to Ceili Rain, you will be surrounded by the gifts and talents of servants who dared to risk it all and put their livelihoods in the hands of the King. This event can only develop into something truly amazing for Alberta, and Canadian Catholics.

May Catholic musicians everywhere be encouraged to keep sharing their gifts and bringing us new ways to hear the Word and live the joy that comes from knowing the love of God.

-a commentary written by Karin Manser, Programming Chair of One Rock, during the busy week leading up to the 2010 One Rock Festival



One Rock. Booming bass, clapping hands, new friendships and lifted souls. That is what we are expecting at One Rock, the first-ever Catholic Music Festival of its kind in the Diocese of Calgary. Our vision is to share in the spiritual and musical replenishing of

why we sing

Excerpt from "Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship" Nov. 14, 2007 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

God has bestowed upon his people the gift of song. God dwells within each human person, in the place where music takes its source. Indeed, God, the giver of song, is present whenever his people sing his praises. A cry from deep within our being, music is a way for God to lead us to the realm of higher things. As St. Augustine says, "Singing is for the one who loves." Music is therefore a sign of God's love for us and of our love for him. In this sense, it is very personal. But unless music sounds, it is not music, and whenever it sounds, it is accessible to others. By its very nature, song has both an individual and a communal dimension. Thus, it is no wonder that

singing together in church expresses so well the sacramental presence of God to his people.

The Paschal hymn, of course, does not cease when a liturgical celebration ends. Christ, whose praises we have sung, remains with us and leads us through church doors to the whole world, with its joys and hopes, griefs and anxieties. The words Jesus chose from the book of Isaiah at the beginning of his ministry become the song of the Body of Christ. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord."



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Timothy "Big Sticks" Pope



Timothy Pope: The Right One, Baby
By Laura Locke

Timothy "Big Sticks" Pope has literally been playing drums for almost his whole life. It was at the ripe age of three that his father, an accomplished jazz pianist, guitarist and composer, first sat Tim down in front of a drum set.

"From the time I was really small, music has been a thing that helped me stand out," says Pope, "and it seemed to always make people happy. I realized pretty early that as long as I was playing on this coffee can, people were smiling. So I kept playing on the coffee can."

Pope regularly performed with his dad through his high school years, and went on to study music at college and university, earning an Associates of Arts degree and a Bachelors of Music degree. It was while attending the University of Southern California Long Beach that Pope made the decision to give his life to Jesus Christ.

"The pure, uplifting enjoyment of music has always been there for me," says Pope, "but when the Lord came into my life, it was like it put all that on steroids. It was kind of like finding out that this great junk food I loved was actually healthy! Seeing other people being blessed by the thing I love so much – man, it's such a win-win!"



Now a veteran drummer, percussionist, vocalist, pianist, composer and music teacher, Pope has worked with the likes of La Toya Jackson, Tony Orlando, Bob Hope, Bill Cosby, Jose Feliciano, Bobby McFerrin, Jerry Lewis, The Ink Spots and many other legendary entertainers. A highlight was appearing in the famous Pepsi commercials ("You've Got the Right One, Baby") with Ray Charles, with whom he also performed a number of live shows.

Pope now plays with Tony Melendez as well as with his own band, the Tim Pope Jam Band, in addition to continuing to perform with other groups and in recording productions. His passion for spreading God's message of love and salvation is evident in everything he does.

Pope is excited about being part of the Unity Awards in Calgary this year, and especially about sharing his gifts and talents in a Drum Clinic for aspiring musicians.

"For me, it's all about encouraging people," says Pope. "No matter where they're at in life, I want to give them the message that yes, they can do this."



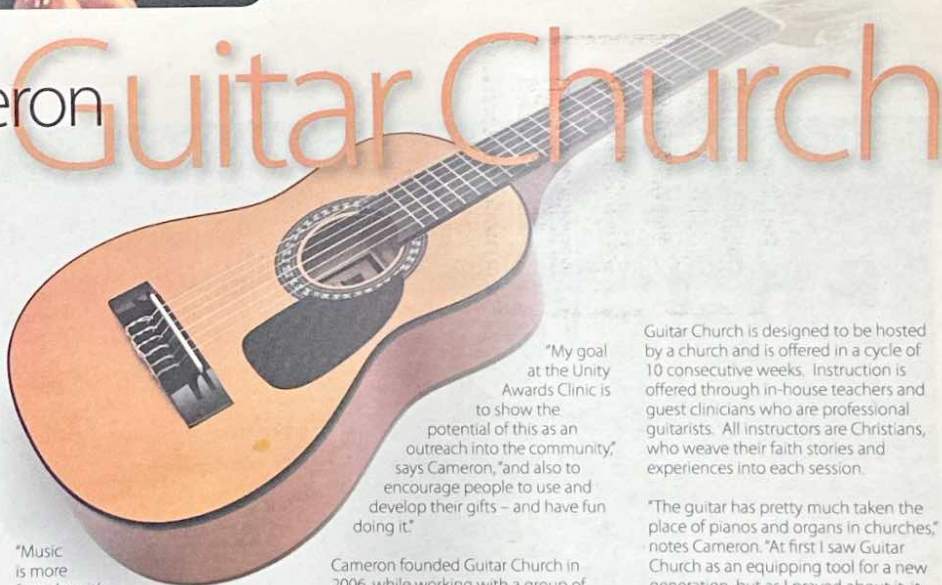
Tom Cameron Guitar Church

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"Music is more fun when it's shared."

That quote from Tom Cameron neatly sums up the philosophy behind Guitar Church, a Christian-based guitar club where beginners to advanced players can develop their musical skills. It's also a sentiment shared by the growing number of enthusiastic participants, in clubs across the country from Ontario to BC.

Cameron is excited about the opportunity to share his approach in a Guitar Clinic at the Unity Awards.

"My goal at the Unity Awards Clinic is to show the potential of this as an outreach into the community," says Cameron, "and also to encourage people to use and develop their gifts – and have fun doing it!"

Cameron founded Guitar Church in 2006, while working with a group of youth in a church in Red Deer, Alberta. Cameron, whose passion for playing guitar stretches back over 30 years, figured that in a group program with top-notch instructors teaching guitar basics, the teens could encourage each other and have fun together. He was shocked when over 100 people signed up for the first session. The program's success, with participants from a wide range of ages, skill-levels and backgrounds, has been a very pleasant surprise.

Guitar Church is designed to be hosted by a church and is offered in a cycle of 10 consecutive weeks. Instruction is offered through in-house teachers and guest clinicians who are professional guitarists. All instructors are Christians, who weave their faith stories and experiences into each session.

"The guitar has pretty much taken the place of pianos and organs in churches," notes Cameron. "At first I saw Guitar Church as an equipping tool for a new generation, but as I prayed about it, it came to me that there are lots of people out there who are older and who have buried their talents until now. I don't think we can ever prescribe when someone is too old or too young to learn to play music for God's purposes, whether it's in a church or on a street corner somewhere."

kolbetimes

Susan Stein Heartbeat Records

...an organization that would bring together Catholic presenters from around the world

The United Catholic Music and Video Association (UCMVA) was the brain child of my son Philip Stein and my husband, Deacon Ronald Stein, who came to me in 1999 with the idea of an organization that would bring together Catholic presenters from around the world who celebrated their faith through various forms of media, including music, art, radio and television.

I could see quite clearly the need for such an organization and felt that this would create a unity between the various companies, publishers and artists who shared the same goals, and hence the Unity Awards was born.

In this our 10th celebration, we have much to be thankful for, as we can clearly see and experience the growth that has taken place.

Our first presentation outside the USA

Our first year of online voting

The commencement of our educational programming

Our membership is increasing yearly and there is an excitement among the Catholic industry that finally our Catholic presenters have a Unity that gives them hope and encouragement in the ministry work the Lord has called them to do.

We are also blessed to have the support of the Church in our endeavours and work closely with the Bishops in the various regions where the Unity Awards is held.

The UCMVA is grateful to all those who have given freely of their time and talent to make

this event possible, and to all our brothers and sisters in Christ who have assisted us in this Spirit-filled weekend.

Susan Stein
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