



Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall

This Week in History

January 18, 2016

A Few Memories to Close Out Our Series

This week brings an end to our 125th celebrations. On **January 23, 2016**, the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall turns 126! However, before we wrap things up, we have three memories for this, our final, *This Week in History*. If you missed some of the memories they are posted on the website (or will be shortly.)

St. Andrews is Mortgage Free

The building of the third (and present) St. Andrew's church building was overseen by Father George Hay (see November 2, 2015), pastor of the parish from 1836 to 1876. Father Hay kept a register during the building of the new church, beginning in 1857, until the debt was paid off on **January 19, 1876**. Taken from that register:

January 19th. This day I have paid Hugh W. McDonell (\$802) eight hundred and two dollars in full for a note for \$450 his mode of computing interest brought it up to the amount paid. The note is cancelled and in my possession, being the last note held against the Church.

Deo gratius.

George A. Hay

Bishop Brodeur Resigns as Titular Bishop of Maronana

Rosario Brodeur was appointed the Diocese's fourth bishop following the death of Bishop Felix Couturier on July 27, 1941. Rosario was born in Acton Vale, Quebec, although his family moved to the U.S. just a few years later in order to find work.

Rosario pursued theological studies in Boston before enrolling in the Sulpician Seminary in Baltimore. It was during his studies that he moved to Manitoba. Like our most recent bishop, Marcel Dampousse, Father Rosario was ordained a priest for the Diocese of St. Boniface on June 17, 1916.

Following the end of WWII, Bishop Brodeur set out to refurbish our churches and where a church building was needed, he ordered one built. During his 25 years as Bishop of Alexandria, nine new parishes were created. He also built, enlarged or renovated, as necessary, schools, rectories and parish halls. In fact, during the busiest times, he hired a construction company as the general contractor for the Diocese. He spearheaded a new hospital building for the Hotel Dieu,

he renovated the old Hotel Dieu into a chronic care facility and he was in some way responsible for the creation or expansion of the Cornwall Classical College, Holy Cross Academy, St. Michael's Academy, Maria Goretti, Iona Academy and St. Andrews. He had grown the number of priests from 39 to 52 by the time he retired in 1966.

Following his resignation, he was appointed Titular Bishop* of Maronana. He resigned five years later on **January 20, 1971**, at the age of 82.

*Since part of being a bishop means being the head of a Church, *titular sees* serve that purpose for bishops without a diocese, for example an auxiliary bishop or a retired bishop. In addition, the office of titular bishop memorializes ancient Churches, most of which were suppressed because they fell into the hands of non-Christian conquerors.

Ecumenical Service at St. Finnan's Cathedral

On Sunday, **January 21, 1973**, Bishop Proulx delivered a homily to mark the opening of the *Week* for Christian Unity*. The following is an excerpt from his homily.

...It is under the guidance of the same Spirit that we are assembled here this evening, abandoning for a few moments our intellectual pride and accepting to be lead towards the goal set up by the Master Himself.

As the Bishop of this Diocese of Alexandria, I am happy to welcome all of you in our cathedral church. This welcome should be viewed in broad terms, as one Christian greeting his brothers and sisters in Christ, not trying to impose his views on anyone.

*The traditional period for the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* is January 18 to 25. Those dates were proposed in 1908 by Paul Wattson to cover the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul, and therefore have a symbolic significance. This year's theme is: *Called to proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord* (cf. 1 Peter 2:9)

George A. Hay
 Sept 15. Paid Dr. de la Roche one hundred dollars (\$100) in full of the money she has lent the Commission.
George A. Hay
 Sept 25. Paid Mrs. M. M. Threlkett one hundred and twenty five dollars (\$125) being amount of interest on money lent by her to the Church Committee, the parish's part having already been paid, the amount he claimed being \$135 but he has left ten dollars (\$10) in his brother August's name, the said August being the real owner of the money.
 I say paid in full.
George A. Hay
 Sept 27. Paid Mrs. William McDonald (Lashin) thirty six dollars (\$36) being three years interest due her.
George A. Hay
 Nov 20. Alexander McArthur has given the following articles as a gift to the altar of this Church.
 1 pair of candles with cups \$25. — 2 small crosses on pedestal \$7. — 6 balls on pedestals \$10. — \$42.
George A. Hay
 1876 January 7th. This day I have ordered the Church for two thousand dollars (\$2000) for three years in the S. A. Society, for which I have paid \$18 7/8.
George A. Hay
 January 19th. This day I have paid Hugh M. McDonald \$2000 eight hundred and two dollars in full for a note for \$1500 his mode of computing interest brought it up to the amount paid, the note is cancelled and in my possession, being the last note held against the Church. *Deo gratias.*
George A. Hay



Sod Turning for Hotel Dieu
 Opening of Quilles Nativité
 Bishop Brodeur and his priests

Première pelletée de terre pour l'Hôtel-Dieu
 Ouverture de Quilles Nativité
 Mgr Brodeur et ses prêtres



Semaine de prière pour l'unité chrétienne

ECUMENICAL SERVICE AT ST. FINNAN'S CATHEDRAL

Sunday 21st, 1973, at 19.30

HOMILY

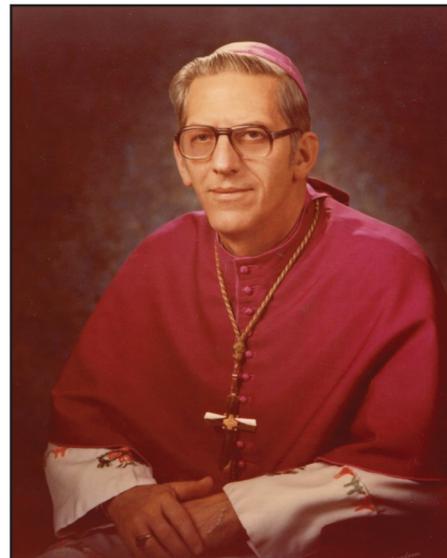
Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

It is indeed delightful to be together this evening as we are entering in the special week of prayer for Christian Unity, to reflect and to pray as one in Christ. The movement towards unity in Christendom, in spite of weaknesses and obstacles which are all too human, is, I believe, gaining momentum and should be considered by men of good will as inspired by the Spirit. It is under the guidance of the same Spirit that we are assembled here this evening, abandoning for a few moments our intellectual pride and accepting to be lead towards the goal set up by the Master Himself.

As the Bishop of this Diocese of Alexandria, I am happy to welcome all of you in our cathedral church. This welcome should be viewed in broad terms, as one Christian greeting his brothers and sisters in Christ, not trying to impose his views on anyone. My appeal is not directed to the non-Roman Catholics as opposed to the Roman Catholics--but to all of you who have become through your baptism, disciples of Christ.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



Bishop Adolphe Proulx / Mgr Adolphe Proulx