

# A Time of Prayer: Inspire

June 2024 Edition

## JUNE INSPIRE

### Julian of Norwich: Partnering With the Local Community

Thriving in the context of communities of which they are a part, churches can partner with local groups. This can often mean sharing church space and facilities with others.

For the past 20 years, Julian of Norwich parish has partnered with [L'Arche Ottawa](#), a local branch of the worldwide L'Arche organization in which men and women, with and without disabilities live together in shared faith, with the belief that together they are stronger.

L'Arche Ottawa and Julian of Norwich (nee St. Richard's) formed a partnership that includes the donation to L'Arche of a no longer used parish curate's house, that L'Arche renovated and has used as its administrative and meeting centre ever since. In addition to the use of the curate house, L'Arche Ottawa occasionally uses the church hall and sanctuary for events at no cost.

The [Black Canadian Scholarship Fund](#) (BCSF) is another community-based organization with which Julian of Norwich is a partner. The BCSF is a not-for-profit organization located in Ottawa. It was founded in 1996 by family physician Dr. Horace Alexis and is governed by a Donors Committee of community volunteers.

The BCSF raises funds to provide bursaries to high school students entering their first year of university, who are from disadvantaged communities. The bursaries provide opportunities for those qualified to achieve their highest academic potential. Their belief is that our communities win when students from all backgrounds realize their full academic potential to become future leaders.

The BCSF and Julian of Norwich have been partners since 2019. The partnership includes the donation of space for donors' committee meetings, information and educational sessions, and the church hall for the hosting of BCSF's annual award ceremony.

Through these two partnerships, Julian of Norwich is creating strong and healthy relationships with its surrounding communities.