

Churches take to social media

Gospel concert revives the soul



Church overcomes generational divides

The Anglican

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NOVEMBER 2016

Thousands follow elections online

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

AS diocesan Synod members gathered to elect three suffragan bishops on Sept. 17, onlookers from across the diocese and beyond were glued to their screens, watching events unfold. Using the hashtag #synodTO, the diocese shared up-to-the-minute news on its Twitter and Facebook channels, more than 100 posts in all. Synod members were also permitted to post from inside St. Paul, Bloor Street, sharing their insights, comments, photos and videos of the historic day.

This was the first time the diocese had shared updates from an Electoral Synod in real time, and the results were overwhelmingly positive. Between Facebook and Twitter, the diocese's posts were seen more than 211,000 times and received nearly 2,000 comments, likes, shares, retweets and replies – more in one day than in an average month of online activity. The diocese also earned more than 150 new followers, including many new Twitter users who appeared to have created accounts specifically to follow along.

Interest in the Electoral Synod was not confined to the diocese, as observers from as far away as Tennessee, California, the U.K. and Australia tuned in throughout the day. Many followers asked questions about the technicalities of Synod, such as how a nominee is declared elected, the mechanics of holding three separate elections, and who decides which bishop-elect is appointed to which episcopal area.

In addition to providing information, the diocese's updates created an opportunity for conversation and community among those watching from afar. Messages of prayer and congratulation poured in from individuals, parishes, bishops and dioceses far and wide, and many followers expressed their thanks at being able to stay connected. @Chap_Brenda, a chaplain in Mississauga, tweeted, "thank you for the up-

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A map of the diocese shows the location of the four episcopal areas – York-Simcoe, York-Credit Valley, York-Scarborough and Trent-Durham.

Bishops appointed to areas

New leaders 'a good sign for the life of the church'

BY STUART MANN

THE guessing is over. Archbishop Colin Johnson announced at Diocesan Council on Sept. 29 where the diocese's three new suffragan bishops will serve.

Bishop-elect Riscylla Walsh Shaw will be the area bishop of Trent-Durham. Bishop-elect Kevin Robertson will be the area bishop of York-Scarborough. Bishop-elect Jenny Andison will be the area bishop of York-Credit Valley. (Bishop Peter Fenty will remain the area bishop of York-Simcoe.)

The bishops-elect will officially begin their duties on Jan. 1, 2017. They will be consecrated on Jan. 7 at St. Paul, Bloor Street.

"I think they will each bring incredible gifts and skills to the ar-



Bishops-elect Riscylla Walsh Shaw (left), Kevin Robertson and Jenny Andison.

as they are appointed to," said Archbishop Johnson.

In appointing Bishop-elect Walsh Shaw to Trent-Durham, he cited her passion for ministry in small communities as well as large ones. As a Metis who has been deeply involved in the Truth and Reconciliation process, she will help the diocese reach out to Indigenous people in the area.

bring "creative energy" to both traditional and fresh expressions of church in York-Credit Valley.

All the bishops-elect are in their mid-40s and represent a generational transition in leadership, he said. "I think it is a sign of the energy and excitement of the diocese. They will provide leadership to the Canadian church for a long time to come, and the fact

Bishop-elect Robertson will bring "energy and grace" to York-Scarborough, he said, while Bishop-elect Andison, as the diocese's former Bishop's Officer for Mission, will

that we have elected such capable people with enormous gifts is a really good sign for the life of the church."

He added: "We need to pray for them and also for their families because this will be a major transition for them as well."

The bishops-elect were chosen by the diocese's Synod on Sept. 17 at St. Paul, Bloor Street. The elections were necessary after the translation of Bishop Linda Nicholls, formerly the area bishop of Trent-Durham, to the Diocese of Huron and the announced retirements of Bishop Philip Poole (York-Credit Valley) and Bishop Patrick Yu (York-Scarborough).

Trent-Durham has 43 parishes and 61 churches. It is the largest

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Churches share faith on social media

Special day growing in popularity

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

"NO cell phones in church" may seem like an obvious rule, but on Sept. 25 thousands of Christians turned to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to share what church looks like, sounds like and feels like in communities around the world.

Social Media Sunday was started in 2013 by Carolyn Clement, a volunteer at Trinity Episcopal Church in Tariffville, Connecticut. After local success, she teamed up with other church communicators to take the event to a national level in June 2014 and again in October 2015, gaining more participants each year. Now an ecumenical movement with international support, the goal of Social Media Sunday is to



Michael Braley and Suzanne Lehtinen, choristers at St. Nicholas, Birch Cliff, snap a selfie before the service on Social Media Sunday while a young member of St. Philip on-the-Hill, Unionville places her backpack at the altar for a Blessing of the Backpacks. PHOTOS BY SUZANNE LEHTINEN AND AMY DE SOUSA.

encourage social media use within both churches that already use social networks and those that are more reluctant. It's also a day to show the power of social media to help Christians be and do church online, both on Sunday morning and in between times of formal worship.

This year marked the second



time the Diocese of Toronto has actively promoted Social Media Sunday, encouraging churches and individuals to participate in ways that fit their own communities. About 15 parishes shared posts throughout the day and urged their members to do the same, using the hashtag #SMS16. The results were as varied as the churches participating, including behind-the-scenes photos of preparation for worship, selfies

from the organ bench, live tweets from sermons and updates from coffee hour. The Sunday school at Evangelists, New Tecumseth used a digital camera to capture church through children's eyes and posted the results on Facebook, while St. Philip on-the-Hill, Unionville shared the excitement of its annual Blessing of the Backpacks.

In every case, the participating churches and individuals embraced the idea of using social media more intentionally to share their faith and their experience of church. In a tweet, All Saints, Whitby described the day as a "time to reflect on how use of social media in our church & our lives can be more God glorifying."

The next Social Media Sunday has been scheduled for Sept. 24, 2017, and planning has already begun. Church communicators from any denomination are invited to join the Social Media Sunday 2017 group on Facebook to share their strategies and ideas. Ongoing conversation about churches using social media is available in several other Facebook groups for church communicators, and during a Twitter chat every Tuesday night at 9 p.m. EST using the hashtag #chsocm.

BRIEFLY

Order seeks nominations

Nominations are invited for the Order of the Diocese of Toronto. In 2016, every parish in the following deaneries is eligible to submit one nomination: Peterborough, Parkdale/West Toronto, York Mills and York Central. Nomination forms should be sent to your area bishop's office no later than Nov. 20, 2016. Awards will be presented at the Archbishop's Levee on Jan. 1, 2017, at St. James Cathedral. The purpose of the Order is to recognize and honour those members of the laity in the diocese who have given outstanding service over a significant period of time in their volunteer ministry. For more information, including nomination forms, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Donations accepted for bishops' vestments

Anyone wishing to make a donation toward the cost of vestments for the diocese's bishops-elect can do so through the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca. Donors can visit the donation page and then click on the Diocese of Toronto icon to make a gift, using the drop-down list to designate their gift to the bishop-elect of their choosing.

Council releases free Bible study

The Council of the North has released "Northern Witness," a new five-session Bible study that aims to share stories of northern communities and ministry with the rest of the church. To download the sessions or order free colour copies, visit the Council of the North resources page at www.anglican.ca.

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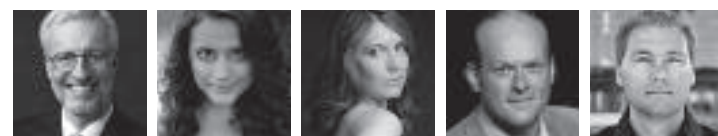
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Bishop resting after heart attack

Doctor expects full recovery

BY STUART MANN

BISHOP Philip Poole, the retired area bishop of York-Credit Valley, is resting comfortably at home after suffering a heart attack in Halifax in early September.

Bishop Poole, 65, was on a six-city tour to promote the Compass Rose Society, an organization that supports the programs and ministries of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Consultative Council.

Bishop Poole, who is the past president of the organization, was walking through the Halifax airport after a flight from Newfoundland when he felt tension in his chest. After checking into his hotel room, the pain got worse.

"It felt like a ball under my sternum – a strong, consistent ache that was strengthening," he says. "I usually tolerate pain well but this was really too much."

He was surprised because the pain wasn't like any heart attack symptom he had heard of. "I didn't have tightening across my chest. I didn't have pain down my arm. It didn't radiate and move around in the way I anticipated. I wasn't dizzy or had the sweats – all of which I anticipated happening if I was going to have a heart attack. It was just a big pain in the middle of my chest."

He took a taxi to the nearest hospital and was immediately taken into the critical



Bishop Philip Poole (right) is pictured with Bishop Michael Pryse of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada at Holy Spirit of Peace church in Mississauga last April. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

care unit, where he received an electrocardiogram and was told by a doctor that he was having a heart attack. Within 30 minutes he was in an operating room having a stent inserted, followed by angioplasty to unclog a major artery. He was awake throughout the procedure.

"The staff was brilliant in talking me

through it all, and as soon as it was done I could feel instant relief from the pain," he says.

He was returned to the critical care unit and his wife, Karen, was by his bedside within five hours, having flown down from Toronto. He was released from hospital two days later and they were both back

home by Sept. 19.

His doctor says there was minimal damage to his heart and he is expected to make a full recovery. For the time being, however, he's taking it easy, having a walk and a nap every day. He admits the inactivity is a challenge.

"What I need is a patience pill," he jokes. "I want to be active. I believe life was meant to be lived. But I have to be reasonable about it. I'll probably take the next few months off before I start doing too much."

He says he learned a couple of valuable lessons from the experience. "One is that I want to say don't try to tough it out. You've got to pay attention to your body. Be smart about it. If I hadn't gone to the hospital, it might have been a much different result. The other thing I learned is that not all heart attacks are the same. The kind of heart attack I had was not what I expected. You need to be aware. The symptoms can be very different."

Due to his heart attack, Bishop Poole had to retire a few days earlier than planned as the area bishop of York-Credit Valley. But he still made his presence felt at the September meeting of Diocesan Council. Although not there in person, he sent a letter of appreciation to Council, expressing his thanks for all those in the diocese and across the Anglican Communion who had been praying for him. At the end of his letter, he moved that the meeting be adjourned – a motion he has moved at countless previous Council meetings. Council laughed heartily and approved it. Members also formally thanked him for his leadership and ministry in the church.

ADVENT AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

THE ADVENT SEASON

SOCIAL JUSTICE

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6:30pm Light Dinner

7:00pm Lecture and Q&A

All are welcome to join us as Dr. Wastasecoot "tells the story of the Nikis." Her presentation utilizes storytelling to shed light on the impacts of the residential school policies on families. Her presentation will discuss her experience, "the loss of a mother's embrace and the long walk back to finding self-love and recovery."

AN ADVENT PROCESSION OF LESSONS & CAROLS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 | 4:30PM

The very popular annual service of Advent lessons and carols marks the beginning of the liturgical year and features seasonal readings, and music from the Cathedral Choir.

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NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 14

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(Cantata on December 7)

6:30pm Light Dinner

7:00pm Lecture

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A success that almost didn't happen



It almost didn't happen. And when it did, it was truly providential.

Back in the early days of my ministry, almost 40 years ago, the diocese charged parishes two different amounts, Allotment and Outreach, to meet the diocesan budget. Allotment was obligatory; the parish lay members could not take their seat at Synod if it had not been paid. Outreach was suggested but voluntary, with no consequences if it was outstanding. I remember major parishes taking their seats at Synod with very little contributed in the Outreach column. They claimed they did their own mission and outreach, and many of them did. I also remember major parishes fully subscribing their Outreach request, plus doing their own parish mission projects, but not taking their seats because they'd failed to pay all of their Allotment.

Times changed. A few years later, Synod recognized the unfairness, combined both amounts into an Assessment and renamed the provision to lose a seat (and more importantly, a voice) at Synod for those who fell behind.

Every year the needs grew, however. By the early 1990s, the diocesan budget was in a very grave state and had to be reduced drastically. That meant that our diocesan outreach and mission projects were also going to be cut back substantially.

A new way of funding this outreach ministry was proposed: develop a unified campaign, like a church-wide United Way, to ask parishioners directly to donate to these mis-

ARCHBISHOP'S DIARY

BY ARCHBISHOP COLIN JOHNSON

sions. There was strong opposition to the idea. Why should Outreach be removed from the budget and left to the whims of parishioners' chequebooks and not be required from parishes? If Outreach was truly central to the Gospel, then it should be front and centre in the budget. If people were so certain that it could continue to raise the required amount voluntarily, why not put the more sensitive, people-oriented work in the budget and ask for voluntary contributions to the administrative portion – paper clips, staff and archives?

The arguments had merits, but it was clear that the diocesan budget was going to be cut severely. If Outreach continued to be part of the diocesan budget, it was going to be cut back, too.

So, 20 years ago, with the support of Fr. Jeff Brown, then chair of the Community Ministries Board, Ann Keating its director, and a newly created board to oversee the new direct ministry fundraising project – Richard Parton, Rogers Gardham and Ward McCance, among others – FaithWorks was born.

It has been a resounding success. As diocesan budgets have gone down substantially in real dollars from the early 90s, the commitment to the ministries supported by FaithWorks has increased. An additional round of cuts removed about \$1 million from the diocesan core budget in the early 2000s, but FaithWorks' gifts continued to increase.

New ministries have been launched to meet emerging needs of people in various parts of the diocese. Good funding for other ministries has provided a launching pad for their independence in seeking broader support.

Parishioners are presented directly with the stories and hopes that their donations will fund. It is so much better than a portion of their regular offering being directed to projects they had likely heard nothing about.

Because parishes receive 15 per cent of undesignated FaithWorks' donations for their own outreach projects, creative new work is happening locally.

FaithWorks is an opportunity to tell stories that link what we give to how it is making a difference in real people's lives. And the institution of FaithWorks has allowed us to invite partners from the wider community who would never support church budgets directly, to join in supporting outreach to people in the community in need through our agencies.

We give thanks for those whose vision and energy made it happen, for those who give generously, for those who minister faithfully and for those whose lives have been touched.

The Diocese of Toronto now contributes some 16 per cent of its total budget to FaithWorks' ministries, plus another 20 per cent to the national and international church beyond our own diocese. Clearly, Outreach has retained a central focus in our lived proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

FaithWorks has been a resounding success, something to celebrate, although it almost didn't happen.



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Archbishop of Canterbury:

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, Lambeth Palace, London, England SE1 7JU.

In Canada:

A community of about 600,000 members in 30 dioceses, stretching from Vancouver Island to Newfoundland and north to the Arctic Ocean.

Primate:

The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Church House, 80 Hayden St. Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

In the Diocese of Toronto:

A community of 254 congregations in 210 parishes covering 26,000 square kilometers. Of the nearly 5 million people who live within the diocesan boundaries, 376,000 claim to be affiliated with the Anglican Church, with about 80,000 people identified on the parish rolls. The diocese is home to many ethnic and language-based congregations, including African, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hispanic, Japanese, and Tamil. The City of Toronto has the largest population of aboriginal peoples in the country.

The Archbishop of Toronto:

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson

York–Credit Valley:

The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole

Trent–Durham:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick White (interim)

York–Scarborough:

The Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu

York–Simcoe:

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Pray for and support our new bishops



I look forward to welcoming to the College of Bishops of the Diocese of Toronto our bishops-elect, the Rev. Riscylla Walsh Shaw, Canon Kevin Robertson and Canon Jenny Andison. I also look forward to working with them and sharing in the ongoing leadership of our diocese.

I ask for the prayers of the faithful in our diocese for Archbishop Colin Johnson, the new bishops and me, as we go through this period of transition in the months ahead. It will be a time of building a new leadership team, as well as making adjustments and adaptations required for doing so.

The bishops-elect are gifted priests that Synod, in its prayerful consideration and discernment, has chosen to be leaders of the clergy and people they will serve. As is true with any change of position and leadership in our church, it will require a significant degree of encouragement, patience, prayerful support and cooperation, as the new bishops begin their new ministries.

I was very grateful for the support, advice and encouragement I received when I began my ministry as a bishop. Clergy and people were most welcoming, and made the initial days in my new role pleasant and enjoyable. My hope is that our new bishops-elect will receive the same kind of support, advice and encouragement as they begin their ministries in their respective areas.

We affirm the baptismal ministry of all the faithful in our church and are appreciative of the wonderful work and witness carried out across the length and breadth of this diocese. It is from among the faithful people of God that women and men are called to ordained

BISHOP'S OPINION

BY BISHOP PETER FENTY

ministry in our diocese, and we are blessed with dedicated clergy who serve our church well.

Our bishops-elect are among the able, dedicated and good clergy now called to serve as leaders in the diocese. We pray for them during this period of preparation and transition. We also pray that their families will be strengthened in order to be able to deal with the many changes they will face.

Riscylla, Kevin and Jenny will be leaving parish families that they have come to love during their years of parish ministry. Let us pray for those parishes as they too will be in transition, anticipating selection processes and the eventual call of new clergy to serve them. We thank these parishes for contributing to and sharing in the growth and leadership skills of our bishops-elect. I encourage the faithful of those parishes to honour the ministries of their priests now called to the office of bishop, by continuing the good ministry, work and witness that they shared through the years.

As a bishop, it is a privilege and honour to share with others in this vocation of service and leadership. We are mindful of how weighty a ministry it is and the trust and responsibility placed upon us by the church. It has to be approached with humility, prayerfully and a willingness to be Spirit-led. We are also mindful that in accepting this ministry, we do so trusting in the grace and help of Almighty God. As bishops we realize the importance of listening, working with others and discerning what God is up to in the world that God has wonderfully made. It is

crucial that in reading God's word, we listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church at this time.

In weekly services across our diocese and the Anglican Communion, bishops are prayed for by name. We are appreciative, comforted and encouraged in the knowledge that we are upheld in prayer by many.

The days ahead are anticipated to be exciting, invigorating and missional-focused. I expect that our bishops-elect will bring new energy, enthusiasm and perspectives that will enhance the work we are called to do.

In the ordination service, the bishop is reminded of her role and responsibility and asked a number of questions by the Archbishop and other bishops. One of the questions asked is, "Will you encourage and support all baptized people in their gifts and ministries, nourish them from the riches of God's grace, pray for them without ceasing, and celebrate with them the sacraments of our redemption?" The bishop-elect answers, "I will, in the name of Christ, the shepherd and bishop of our souls." Another question asked is, "Will you share with your fellow bishops in the government of the whole church; will you sustain your fellow presbyters and take counsel with them; will you guide and strengthen the deacons and all others who minister in the church?" The answer given is, "I will by the grace of God given me."

God's grace is sufficient to meet all our needs as people, deacons, priests and bishops, in living into our baptismal ministry. I pray that the grace of God will enable, empower and sustain the College of Bishops in the days ahead, as we welcome our new bishops into this wonderful ministry to which Almighty God has called us.

FaithWorks at 20: a brief look back



BY SUSAN MCCULLOCH

Archbishop Colin Johnson has often remarked that “FaithWorks is one of the best things we do together as a diocese.” Since 1997, FaithWorks has raised more than \$25 million to support life-giving ministry to people in need throughout our diocese, across Canada and around the world.

The success of FaithWorks is the result of faith-inspired work by volunteers to raise the funds required, along with faith in the generosity of our parishes, the corporate community, foundations and individuals to respond to the needs of people who need our help. The name FaithWorks, suggested originally by Suzanne Lawson and Ward McCance, parishioners of St. Peter, Cobourg, has certainly lived up to its promise.

Those who remember the birth pangs of FaithWorks may be surprised at its longevity. It was created to help ensure diocesan financial support for outreach ministry at a time of deep fiscal uncertainty. By the early 1990s, the level of parish assessments had become unsustainable. Deep cuts to the diocesan operating budget had decimated key areas of

ministry. Outreach support provided by the fundraising campaigns of the 1980s would run out by the end of the decade.

The problem was exacerbated in 1995, when Ontario’s “Common Sense Revolution” eliminated funding for key social services throughout the province. With the loss of government support, faith communities struggled to respond to the ever-widening gaps in the social safety net. The diocesan response was to create an annual parish appeal, the proceeds of which would protect outreach ministry from fluctuations in future budget years.

With faith in the power of the Holy Spirit to inspire abundant generosity, the first FaithWorks campaign was planned for the spring of 1997. The fundraising goal was set at \$1.35 million, with a vision of 100 per cent participation by parishes. The campaign fell well short of its objectives, raising just \$686,898 with only 65 per cent of parishes participating. Despite the disappointing results, faith in the potential of FaithWorks remained strong.

A speakers bureau, launched under the leadership of Joan Francis, a parishioner at All Saints, King City, helped to spread the good news of FaithWorks throughout the diocese. In 1998, Diocesan Council approved a measure that allowed parishes

to retain 15 per cent of the funds raised through FaithWorks to support their respective local outreach ministries. In addition, each episcopal area would retain five per cent of the parish totals for area outreach.

These enhancements quickly paid off. The 1998 FaithWorks campaign raised \$1,083,611, a 58 per cent increase over the previous year. Eighty per cent of parishes participated, and it was becoming apparent that FaithWorks had the potential to breathe new life into diocesan outreach ministry. As FaithWorks took hold, many parishes took advantage of the campaign’s offertory envelopes to encourage giving throughout the year, while some parishes made FaithWorks an option for those who participated in the pre-authorized remittance (PAR) program.

In 2004, the FaithWorks Corporate campaign was launched under the leadership of Peter Misiaszek, who had recently joined the diocese as the director of Stewardship Development. Tony Van Straubenzee, a parishioner at Christ Church, Deer Park, served as the first FaithWorks Corporate campaign chair. In its first year, FaithWorks Corporate raised \$232,000 toward the campaign total and quickly became an important element of the annual campaign. A Faith-


Works endowment was created in 2008 and has become a significant source of revenue that helps protect against fluctuations in campaign proceeds.

In 2003, 80 per cent of FaithWorks proceeds came from parishes. Today, parishes contribute about 60 per cent of FaithWorks revenue. Additional support is provided by corporations, foundations, individuals and income from endowed funds. In anticipation of the adverse impact that the diocese’s Our Faith-Our Hope campaign might have on annual support, the FaithWorks Allocations Committee had set aside a healthy reserve from previous years’ income and was able to provide a sustained level of funding until FaithWorks revenues normalized.

In 2015, FaithWorks raised \$1.67 million, the best result in its history. It continues to provide essential operating support that allows its ministry partners to serve the needs of some of the most marginalized people in our diocese and around the world. An ongoing process of discernment helps to ensure that FaithWorks will remain a vital, dynamic and relevant ministry.

Susan McCulloch is the former FaithWorks campaign manager.

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The two places I feel most fully alive

The Rev. Canon Michael Burgess is the artistic director of Stage Centre Productions in Toronto and is a priest of the diocese.

I am responsible for choosing the five plays we present each season and involve our audiences in helping choose – I prepare a shortlist of about 12 plays and invite people to rank them in order of preference. I select a director for each play and, in consultation with them, cast the play and put together a backstage team. Usually I direct one play each season myself. I also conduct annual auditions. I write the text for brochures, flyers and press releases, and sit on the board of Stage Centre Productions. Along with the president, I am the public face of the company. I try to be at every performance of every play and thoroughly enjoy interacting with our patrons and getting their feedback.

We have just successfully kicked off our 40th season with the North American premiere of an English comedy, *Entertaining Angels* by Richard Everett, at the Fairview Library Theatre. Although it is extremely funny, it deals with important issues and provides much food for thought. The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario was our guest of honour on the first night. The second play of the season is *The Best Man* by Gore Vidal, on stage between Nov. 24 and Dec. 3.

I made my first stage appearance in an amateur production when I was a child, then, bitten by the showbiz bug, went on to do numerous amateur productions in the U.K. before working backstage in the West End theatre, finally graduating to acting on stage. I was lucky to keep in work most of the time, toured the U.K. extensively, and even appeared in three different West End musicals.



The Rev. Canon Michael Burgess

While I was at the Chichester Festival Theatre, I got to know some of the students at Chichester Theological College (we drank in the same pub) and soon realized that God was calling me to priesthood, so offered myself and was selected. After training at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, I was ordained in Chelmsford Cathedral and served six years in England, first at St. Margaret's, Leigh-on-Sea (Diocese of Chelmsford), then at St. Peter in Thanet (Diocese of Canterbury), before coming to Canada as chaplain to what is now Royal St. George's College (Toronto), Canada's only Anglican choir school. Since I was also head of drama, I could not have been more fulfilled.

During my years as a parish priest, I wasn't involved on stage – too many potential time conflicts – although I sat on various theatre boards and did some plays and concerts in the various parishes I served. The Stage Centre Productions job more or less fell into my lap soon after I retired.

While I was at Royal St. George's College, I was an honorary assistant at St. Anne, Gladstone Avenue. A brief interim at the Church of the Advent, West Toronto followed, and I then served for almost 15 years at the Church of the Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale. My final full-time position was six years at the Church of the Transfiguration in Toronto. During this time, I also sat on various diocesan boards and committees. After retirement in 2010, I became an honorary assistant at St. John, Norway, and have been interim priest-in-charge there since the beginning of August this year.

I have been blessed in spending most of my life doing a job that I love, in places that I love, among people that I love. And I am doubly blessed because I know that I am blessed. It doesn't get any better than that! However, although I don't want to suggest that I have not found parish ministry fulfilling, I confess that I look back at my time at Royal St. George's College as golden years: more than 27 years after my leaving, there are still a good many former students who keep in touch. I also have fond memories of staging the diocese's sesquicentennial Eucharist in the (then) SkyDome, and I was privileged to be part of the delegation from the Diocese of Toronto to Seoul, Korea in 1990 to celebrate the Diocese of Seoul's centenary.

It feels as if I have never been away from the theatre. I love it. This might be a good place to point out that at the altar

and in the theatre are the two places I feel most fully alive.

Soren Kierkegaard, the Danish philosopher, pointed out that the church is very much like the theatre: "The congregation is the actor; God is the audience; and the preacher is the prompter." The word worship equals "worth ship," the offering to God of what God is worth. I feel that if we don't take time and trouble over our offering of worship, we have missed the point. For me, theatre always has a sense of occasion about it. It would be wonderful if our services of worship could have a similar sense of occasion. In the same way that no actor would dream of going on stage unhearsed and unprepared, we should be equally well prepared when we worship – not just the clergy and the choir and the readers, but every single one of us. Worship is not just what the people in the chancel and sanctuary do, it's what all of us do together. I forget where I read it, but I like the definition of true worship as "when spirit touches spirit – when our spirit reaches out to God and when God's spirit reaches out to us simultaneously." That thrills me.

Another thing: in the theatre, people forget their personal differences and unite in order to ensure that the production they are working on is the very best it can be. Sadly, parish life isn't always like that...

Five years from now, I'd still like to be enjoying good health, still able to laugh at myself, and still able to make a contribution in the church, in the theatre and in the community.

My favourite passage from scripture is John 10:10: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." The Christian life is meant to be fulfilling.

BRIEFLY

Retreat explores peace in dying process

On Nov. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the St. Andrew Anglican Retreat House in Alliston is hosting

"Bringing Peace to the Dying Process," a workshop facilitated by psychotherapist Wendy Graham. The event will feature discussions, videos and interactive exercises. The cost is \$90, which includes lunch, refreshments, handouts and packages of references. To register, visit the Retreat House website, www.thereatreathouse.ca.

Area hosts fundraising dinner

York-Scarborough is hosting the Bishop's Company Regional Dinner on Nov. 10 at the Dragon Legend restaurant in Markham. The evening begins with a reception at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$75. For tickets, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Diocese appoints new manager of annual giving

PAIGE Souter is the new manager of annual giving for the Diocese of Toronto and the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation.

"This new position expands the original FaithWorks campaign manager portfolio to include the annual giving responsibilities of the Bishop's Company and the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation," says Peter Misiaszek, director of Stewardship Development. "Streamlining the annual giving function will assist in future branding and ensure a better coordination of fundraising activities."

Ms. Souter has more than 20 years of experience in the non-profit, for-profit and public sectors, spanning community development, education and information technology. Her career has focused on program management, communications, promotions, marketing, fundraising, strategic planning and community-building.

At the heart of Ms. Souter's work is her commitment to live out Matthew 25:40 and serve the "least of these." She is committed to building communities that are



Paige Souter

"compassionate, vibrant and inclusive." She has studied theology at both Wycliffe College and St. Michael's College and is an active teacher of the faith. Her workshops, lectures and classes focus on scripture, social justice and care for creation. Most recently, she was the education program coordinator of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation program at Scarboro Foreign Missions, where she developed a new parish-based program inviting participants to care for creation and for vulnerable people.

"I think of myself as a bridge builder – building bridges that enable the development of communities that live out Jesus' commandment to love one another," says Ms. Souter. "I look forward to working with everyone to make God's kingdom a reality."



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REVIVED

St. Stephen, Downsview concluded its Revival 2016 event of worship, word, music, song and dance with a gospel concert on Sept. 25. Clockwise from top right: The Toronto Children's Concert Choir of TC3, directed by the Rev. Denise Gillard (in red jacket); the Rev. Jacqueline Daley, interim priest-in-charge of St. Stephen's; enjoying the music; the Church of South India Choir; the Sudanese Community Choir. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



Prayers and congratulations pour in

Continued from Page 1

dates! It is difficult waiting in the outfields! Thanks to everyone for their dedication!"

The online conversation also provided a few moments of levity during the long day. Synod members compared snacks brought

from home, an outside observer suggested an episcopal dance-off, and the Rev. Tyler Wigg-Stevenson, tweeting from inside St. Paul's, said, "I think @anglicandioTO should commission white smoke/black smoke emojis for

tweet-announcing an episcopal election."

To get regular updates from the Diocese of Toronto on Facebook and Twitter, visit www.facebook.com/torontoanglican and www.twitter.com/anglicandioTO.

Bishops concur with elections

Continued from Page 1

geographical area of the diocese, stretching from Pickering to Brighton and from Lake Ontario to Haliburton. York-Scarborough consists of 55 parishes in the central and eastern part of Toronto. York-Credit Valley consists of 50 parishes in the western part of Toronto and extending out to Clarkson. York-Simcoe, located in the northwest part of the diocese,

has 47 parishes.

Bishop-elect Walsh Shaw has been the incumbent of Christ Church, Bolton since 2009. Previous to that she was the incumbent of the Parish of Minden-Kinmount. Bishop-elect Robertson has been the incumbent of Christ Church, Deer Park in Toronto since 2011. Before that he served incumbencies at St. Nicholas,

Birch Cliff in Toronto and St. Peter, Oshawa. Bishop-elect Andison has been the incumbent of St. Clement, Eglinton in Toronto since 2013. She also served as an associate priest at St. Paul, Bloor Street.

Archbishop Johnson said the Ontario House of Bishops unanimously concurred with the election of the new bishops.



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Church changes for new generations

Parish
overcomes
cultural,
linguistic
differences

BY STUART MANN

In late September and early October, the clergy and laity of St. John, Willowdale, had three town hall meetings to discuss the future of the parish. Specifically, they discussed whether it would be good for the parish to become a “new generation church,” focusing on the parallel growth of ministry and worship in both English and Chinese. Given that the children and grandchildren of many Chinese Anglican immigrants are English-speaking, the church also explored the possibility of having an English-speaking cleric as its next incumbent.

For St. John’s, a predominately Chinese church for more than four decades, the decision to have a leader whose first language was English was a big one. It also marked the evolution of a parish that has worked hard to become truly multicultural.

The changes undertaken by St. John’s over the past few years were driven by a common concern – young people leaving the church and not coming back. “When our people started the church and worked really, really hard for it, they dearly wanted the next generation to stay and be part of it,” says the Rev. Canon Simon Li, incumbent. “But what happened is far from what they had hoped.”

Instead of staying, generations of young adults left the church, he says. One of the reasons for the disconnect was a difference in language. The children of the parish increasingly spoke English as their first language, while the services and meetings were conducted in Chinese.

“We did things to accommodate the English-speaking people but it was always on the fringes,” says Canon Li. “As a result, they did not feel integral to the church’s life.”

Another problem was the cultural divide between the founding generation and their children and grandchildren who were born and educated in Canada. “Their concerns were not ours,” explains Canon Li of the younger generations. “They were very concerned about the environment and social justice, things like that. Their parents’ generation was slow to catch on to it. They weren’t apathetic – they just didn’t see those things as integral to the church’s life. There was a disconnect there.”

The disconnect was compounded by the Chinese tradi-



tion of young people deferring to their elders, he says. When asked for their opinion in a group setting, they would often remain silent or non-committal, not wanting to upset the status quo or break with tradition. Conversely, the original founders said they wanted the younger generations to assume leadership roles but would often offer only simple tasks.

Not having a real voice in the direction of the church and marginalized by language and cultural differences, successive generations went elsewhere – often to nearby Chinese mega-churches that offered not only full English language worship services but also programs such as mission trips and outreach events. Some left the faith altogether.

“It was very sad, seeing the former generation’s labour of love evaporating,” says Canon Li.

For some churches, that would have been the beginning of the end. But not for St. John’s. “People were not blind to what was happening,” says Canon Li. “They were just immobilized and couldn’t find a way out.”

Determined to grow, the church started to take action. A morning prayer service in English was started, and official meetings were increasingly conducted in English. In a largely ceremonial but significant gesture, the church dropped the word “Chinese” from its name. In 2009, it hired its own first English-speaking associate priest.

Progress continued after the church relocated to its current site, the former church of St. Patrick’s, Willowdale, in 2013. “The move was supported by the diocese and, by God’s grace, became a catalyst for a yet more beautiful transformation,” says Canon Li.

When the Rev. Jordan

Parishioners and clergy of St. John, Willowdale celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday with a group photo of the Chinese and English congregations on Oct. 9. At right, church members, neighbours and friends enjoy St. John’s Canada Day fair in July. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON AND ST. JOHN’S.

Wellington, the current associate priest, started two years ago, he encountered a group of English-speaking parishioners who “felt lonely, a little abandoned and burned out” trying to keep their worship and fellowship going, he says.

He began by asking them what sort of worship service they wanted. It turned out to be a liberating experience for them. “It was great because everyone was so open-minded,” he says. “That was a blessing and part of the reason why we’ve grown.”

The 10 a.m. service became a Eucharistic service that includes both traditional and contemporary elements. Conducted in English, its attendance has grown from about 30 to more than 60. (The church’s Chinese-language service is held at 11:15 a.m.).

Some of the growth has come from parishioners, mostly senior citizens, of the former St. Patrick’s. A few stayed during the transition while others have come back, welcomed by the church’s Chinese parishioners and enlivened by the new English-language service.

Mr. Wellington has also developed new programs for young people. Last year, a group of young adults went on the church’s first mission trip – to the Yukon. He has also started a downtown fellowship for young adults who have moved to the



city’s core but still want to be part of the church.

“They can’t always make it to church on Sunday but they still want that spiritual and cultural connection to St. John’s, so we bring the church to them,” he explains. “We meet in their condos and do topical studies instead of a homily. We eat together, talk together and pray together. It’s very simple but it’s growing, and we love it. People have invited their friends.”

While growing the English-language congregation, he has been careful to seek the support of the Chinese-speaking congregation and honour Chinese traditions. For instance, the 10 a.m. service celebrates Chung Yeung, a Chinese custom of honouring the departed that is similar to All Souls Day. Small but important measures like that have created a bond and mutual respect between the two congregations, he says.

“It’s not like two congregations – there’s a lot of intermingling, a lot of relaxed conversations,” says Canon Li. “Now we have people from the Caribbean, south Asia, Korea, Hungary and the Ukraine. Anybody who walks in would feel comfortable.”

The bond has played out in

other new ways. For the past two summers, both congregations have come together to host a Canada Day fair. This year’s event attracted more than 300 people from the neighbourhood and beyond who were welcomed by St. John’s 100 parishioners. Young career adults from the English-language congregation are holding leadership positions in the church.

“All of St. John’s clergy, churchwardens and deputy churchwardens are in strong agreement that the church is almost ready to take the next step to become a new generation church while continuing to have worship, mission and ministry in Chinese,” says Canon Li.

Teddy Ho, the people’s churchwarden, says the church is moving in the right direction. “I’m very excited by the position that we’re in. It’s been exciting to see the former St. Patrick’s parishioners rejoining us, and also to see neighbours, friends and young people coming to the church.”

He says the growth has not all been in the English-language congregation. “On the Chinese side, we’re also seeing new faces coming in, joining us and staying with the church. It’s a very encouraging sign.”

Church marks milestone on missional journey

St. Christopher, Richmond Hill held a celebration on Oct. 1 as part of its 25th anniversary. For the past three years, under the leadership of its incumbent, the Rev. Philip Der, the parish has been going through a missional transformation. The theme of the first year was to "Awake Theologically." Through preaching and small group discussion, the congregation learned missional theology and the meaning of Jesus' command to "love your neighbours as yourself."

"Parishioners became more aware, and they began to take the initiative to know our neighbours," says Mr. Der.

The parish's goal this year is "Caring for Our Community." The anniversary organizing committee decided that a meaningful way to celebrate the 25th anniversary would be to live out the calling of the church. All members are encouraged to serve 25 hours of community work, and each small group will take up one community project.

"Through service, we are learning to listen and to discover what God is doing in our neighbourhood," says Mr. Der. "Our motto is, 'People won't care how much we know until they know how much we care.'"

Some of the community projects parishioners have completed so far are picking up garbage in the neighbourhood during Earth Week, visiting seniors or shut-ins, visiting marginal youth at 360 Kids, riding a Big Bike with a city councillor to raise funds for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, giving out carnations to mothers in a local mall on Mother's Day, and giving out keychains to fathers on Father's Day. The church also sent 14 volunteers to General Synod, raised \$1,900 at the St. Christopher's Community Fun Day for a foodbank and youth resource centre, and sent members to the Richmond Hill Mayor's Prayer Breakfast.

The church surveyed 148 people in the area on the needs of the community and the role of the church. The results showed that children and teens' education and physical health were high priorities. Other issues were mental health, friendship and loneliness.

"These results will prepare St. Christopher's to go into the third year of the transformation to 'love our mission field,'" says Mr. Der. "A missional parish needs to take root in the community. The community's concerns will become our concerns. The parish will discern our next steps in response to these needs. From caring to loving, St. Christopher's is transforming and bringing God's faithful presence to our community."

Thrift shop proceeds help Ugandan school

The Parish of Minden-Kinmount continues to share the proceeds from its thrift shop with worthy causes around the world. This past July, Marjorie Robertson presented a cheque for \$4,000 from the parish to Bishop McAllister School, an Anglican school



The Rev. Philip Der and members of St. Christopher, Richmond Hill take part in the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Big Bike ride.



Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell and Rev. Canon Drew MacDonald, incumbent of St. John, York Mills, view the church's founding gift from Francis Gore, the third Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, given in 1816.

in Kyogyera, Uganda. A few days earlier, the school had been attacked by robbers and three staff members were killed.

"With the funds, the school was able to build a new dormitory for its female students," says the Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, incumbent of Minden-Kinmount. "The building includes secure doors, an apartment for the attending

matron, and washrooms inside so the students don't have to walk outside alone at night."

Ms. Robertson is the daughter of John and Eleanor Irwin of St. Peter, Maple Lake and a member of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Sackville, NB. For the past several years, she has spent six weeks each summer volunteering as a teacher at the school.



Marjorie Robertson presents a cheque from the Parish of Minden-Kinmount to the Rev. Canon Caleb Twinamatsiko (left), headmaster and assistant rector of Bishop McAllister College, and the Rev. Canon Paul Jeffries (right), rector of the school.

Church turns 200, looks ahead

St. John, York Mills celebrated its 200th anniversary on Sept. 18 with two services. One, following the 1815 Book of Common Prayer, recalled Morning Prayer as it may have been conducted in the congregation's founding year. The other was a lively, forward-looking celebration that welcomed Archbishop Colin Johnson and Lieutenant-Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell, as well as other dignitaries.

"To honour the past, let the past shape and form you," said the Rev. Canon Drew MacDonald, incumbent of St. John's. "But don't live there. We have to move forward."

Forward motion has been the hallmark of the congregation's recent mission activities. In 2009, the church underwent a visioning process and chose as its mission statement, "To know Christ and Make Him known." With an eye

to those who have questions but little or no experience of church, St. John's restructured its Sunday morning worship. After the 9 a.m. Eucharist service is a gathering at 10:30 a.m. called The Open Door, focusing on teaching. This leads into a relaxed half-hour of questions and answers – with coffee.

The church's worship experience is supported by midweek Christian "apprenticeship" – a structured program of faith development led by both clergy and lay parishioners. "Our goal is 'oak trees' – mature Christians bringing the Gospel into every area of their lives," says Canon MacDonald.

This year, the congregation formed a unique partnership with nearby St. Leonard, Toronto. With financial and organizational assistance from the diocese, St. John's will be ministering to St. Leonard's existing congregation while building a fresh expression of church at the same location.

To submit items for Looking Ahead, email editor@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the December issue is Nov. 3. Parish- es can also promote their events on the diocese's website Calendar at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Music & Worship

NOV. 2 - Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, an All Souls' Day service of Holy Communion, 7 p.m., St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto. Remembering aloud the names of loved ones, former parishioners, former rectors, and others who have died. Participants will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved ones. Call 416-769-5686.

NOV. 9, 13, 23, 27 - St. Philip's Jazz Vespers at All Saints, Kingsway, 2850 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke. Starts at 4 p.m. except for Nov. 9 and Nov. 23, when it will begin at 12:30 p.m. Call 416-233-1125.

NOV. 15-20 - "Naomi's Road," an opera based on a novel by Joy Kogawa, 8 p.m. on Nov. 15, 16, 17, 18 and 2 p.m. on Nov. 20, St. David, 49 Donlands Ave. Tickets are \$25-\$35. For tickets and more information, visit tapestryopera.com. Performances on Nov. 15 and Nov. 20 are by donation for parish members.

NOV. 27 - Healey Willan Singers presents "John Rutter: Dancing Day," with special guest harpist Karen Koh and other music for upper voices to celebrate the beginning of the festive season, 3 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets \$20 and \$15. Call 416-519-0528.

DEC. 4 - Annual service of Advent lessons and carols, 7:30 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Enjoy the music of Willan, Casals, Near, Thalben-Ball, Gardiner and others performed by the church choir. Freewill offering will be donated to an outreach charity in the parish. Reception will follow. All invited.

DEC. 10 - Voices Chamber Choir, 8 p.m. with special guest Flautas del Fuego, Canada's premier flute duo, St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets \$20 and \$15. Call 416-519-0528.

DEC. 11 - Annual community Christmas carol sing, 7:30 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Seasonal songs and stories followed by refreshments in the parish hall. A freewill offering will be collected with money donated to charity. Call 416-283-1844.

Rummage Sales & Fairs

NOV. 5 - Early Bird Christmas Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Church of Our Saviour, 1 Laurentide Dr., Don Mills. Home baking, home-made soups, books, costume jewellery and more. Call 416-385-1805.

NOV. 5 - Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Mary & St. Martha, 1149 Weston Rd., Toronto. Baking and deli items, crafts, silent auction, lunch and more.

NOV. 5 - St. Matthew's Poinsettia Bazaar, knitting, baking, attic treasures and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 135 Wilson Rd. S., Oshawa. Lunch Room available.

NOV. 5 - Christmas market, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Barnabas, 361



VISIT FROM CHINA

Members of the Shanghai Christian Committee of Three-self Patriotic Movement and Christian Council visited the diocese in September during their tour of North America to learn about church life. While visiting the Diocesan Centre they met with Bishop Patrick Yu (centre) and James Liu (fourth from left) and Morning Wong (far right) of the diocese's Mandarin Fellowship. PHOTO BY MARTHA HOLMEN

Danforth Ave., Toronto. Craft tables, bake table, refreshments and raffle.

NOV. 5 - Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Joseph of Nazareth, 290 Balmoral Dr., Brampton. Raffle, bake table, cafe, jewellery, books and more. Call 905-793-8020.

NOV. 5 - Christmas bazaar with raffle, silent auction, bake table, jewellery, crafts, tea room and more, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Meet and have photos with Santa Claus between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

NOV. 5 - Christmas bazaar with crafts and Christmas decorations, baked goodies, meat pies, candies, preserves, books, attic treasures and more, noon to 3 p.m., St. Nicholas, 1512 Kingston Rd. Call 416-691-0449.

NOV. 5 - Faire to Remember, St. Peter, Erindale, 3041 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga. Bazaar showcases talents of parishioners, baked goods, crafts, knitted items, antiques and more. Contact the church at 905-828-2095.

NOV. 12 - Annual Christmas bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., All Saints, Whitby, 300 Dundas St. W. Jams, jellies, preserves, cakes, Christmas crafts, books and more. Silent auction and tea room. Call 905-668-5101.

NOV. 12 - Christmas bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Christ Church, Scarborough Village, 155 Markham Rd. Bake table, knitwear, silent auction, lunchroom and more.

NOV. 12 - Christmas bazaar, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Grace Church, 19 Parkway Ave., Markham. Call 905-294-3184.

NOV. 12 - Annual bazaar featuring a lunch of homemade soups, sandwiches and dessert, plus a silent auction, an art sale, gift

baskets, hand-made jewelry, vendors and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. James the Apostle, 3 Cathedral Rd., Brampton. Call 905-451-7711.

NOV. 12 - Rummage sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. George on-the-Hill, 4600 Dundas St. W., Etobicoke. Quality used clothing, books, movies, kitchen items, china, toys and more. Call us at 416-239-2341.

NOV. 12 - Holly Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Martin, Bay Ridges, 1203 St. Martin's Drive, Pickering. Tea room, craft and deli tables, bake sale, bottle boutique and more. 905-839-4257.

NOV. 12 - Christmas fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Cuthbert, Leaside, 1399 Bayview Ave. Art gallery, books, church calendars, crafts, small electrical appliances, gift baskets, home baking and preserves and more. Call 416-485-0329.

NOV. 12 - Christmas bazaar with crafts, bake table, lunch and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Church of the Holy Family, Kennedy Road, Heart Lake, Brampton. The church is located on the west side of Kennedy Road, north of Bovaird Drive, south of Sandalwood Parkway.

NOV. 12 - "Ring in Christmas," crafts and bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Timothy, 4125 Sheppard Ave. E., Scarborough. Contact Peggy at 416-291-8325 or the church at 416-293-5711.

NOV. 12 - 71st Christmas Tree Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Christ Church, 4 Elizabeth St. N., Brampton. Baked goods, deli items, candy, needlecrafts/knitted goods and more. The Shepherd's Crook Cafe will be serving lunch from 10:30 a.m. Call 905-451-6649.

NOV. 17-19 - St. Jude, Wexford's craft sale and raffle, held at Parkway Mall during mall hours. The mall is located at Victoria Park Avenue and Ellesmere Avenue,

Scarborough. Call Marguerite at 416-444-4180.

NOV. 18 & 19 - Ten Thousand Villages Festival sale of gifts, home décor, handcrafted accessories and more, noon to 6 p.m. on Nov. 18 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 19, St. James, 58 Peter St. N. Orillia. Call 705-325-2742.

NOV. 19 - Sugar Plum Christmas Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Margaret in-the-Pines, 4130 Lawrence Ave., Scarborough. Baked goods, Caribbean table, crafts, collectibles and more. Call 416-284-4121.

NOV. 19 - Holly Berry Fair, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Luke, 904 Coxwell Ave., Toronto. Tea room, crafts, knitted goods and more. Call 416-421-6878, ext. 21.

NOV. 19 - "Festival of Christmas," a selection of handmade gifts, decorations, a large bake sale and festive luncheon, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Holy Trinity, 140 Brooke St. in Thornhill. Call 905-889-5931.

NOV. 19 - Christmas bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John the Baptist, 719 Dundas St. E., Mississauga. Vendors welcome. For more info, contact Mary at 416-709-9299 or Barb Sturton, 905-890-7876.

NOV. 19 - Annual bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Christ Church, 22 Nancy St., Bolton. Big bake sale, craft tables, Nearly New room, lunch room and more. Call 905-857-0433.

NOV. 19 - Holly Berry Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Home-baked goods, lunch room, handcrafted items, jewelry and more. Call 416-283-1844. Free admission.

NOV. 19 - Nutcracker Fair with silent auction, bake table, crafts and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Call 416-767-7491.

NOV. 19 - Christmas Craft Show

and Coffee House, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto. Unique handmade crafts and a coffee house with festive treats. Proceeds to support AURA. Call 416-769-5686.

NOV. 25 - Family event with crafts, music and storytelling, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Call 416-261-9503.

NOV. 26 - St. Timothy's Christmas Kitchen with silent auction, plus home baking, preserves, lunch and activities for children, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., St. Timothy, North Toronto, 100 Old Orchard Grove.

NOV. 26 - Christmas at St. Mark's with over 20 artists and artisans from the Northumberland and surrounding area presenting their wares for Christmas shopping, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Mark, Port Hope. Call 905-885-6706.

NOV. 26 - Christmas bazaar and luncheon, featuring gifts, bake table, church calendars, knitting, jewellery and more, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., St. Mary, 10030 Yonge St., Richmond Hill. Call 905-884-2227.

NOV. 26 - Annual Snowflake Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John, 11 Temperance St., Bowmanville. Lunch from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Bake sale, handmade crafts and more. Call Shirley at 905-697-0380 or the church at 905-623-2460.

NOV. 26 - Christmas bazaar, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring baked goods, gift baskets, Christmas crafts and more, St. Paul, Innisfil, corner of Yonge Street and Maplevue Drive.

NOV. 26 - Annual Craft Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John the Baptist, Norway, 470 Woodbine Ave., Toronto. Local artisans will have crafts and gifts for the home and the holidays. Lunch and home baking available. Call 416-691-4560.

DEC. 10 - Annual Christmas Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Philip's Parish Hall, 60 Dixon Rd., Etobicoke. The hall is newly renovated and accessible.

Workshops & Gatherings

OCT. 28 - The Yorkminstrels Show Choir presents "Cabaret on Broadway," a fundraiser for Faith-Works, 7:30 p.m. at St. Timothy, 100 Old Orchard Grove, Toronto. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under. To order tickets, call 416-488-0079.

OCT. 29 - Church of the Nativity's 20th anniversary scholarship presentations, 7 p.m., with speakers retired Deputy Police Chief Keith Forde and Laura Wilson, a lawyer. The church is located at 10 Sewells Rd., Scarborough. Admission is \$30. For tickets, call Elaine at 416-439-0757.

NOV. 1 - Faith in the Public Sphere with Dr. Christian Elia, executive director of the Catholic Civil Rights League. The evening begins at 6 p.m. with Communion followed by a light supper and Dr. Elia's talk. At St. Olave, Bloor and Windermere streets, Toronto. Call 416-769-5686.

NOV. 3 & DEC. 8 - "We Should Know Each Other," a monthly series of informal talks aimed at initiating dialogue and encouraging the sharing of Japanese-Canadian experiences both past and

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READING THE BIBLE

BY THE REV. CANON DON BEATTY

Epistle unaffected by Paul's theology

About the only book in the New Testament not affected by Paul's theology is the Epistle of James. There are several reasons this epistle has avoided Paul's thoughts. Credited to James, the brother of Jesus and the leader of the young church in Jerusalem, it was written very early in the life of the church and is very Jewish in content, dwelling on obedience to God's law (hearing and then doing). There is also no mention of the passion of Jesus, the resurrection or the Holy Spirit – topics that were so much a part of the early church's proclamation. In fact, the name of Jesus is mentioned only twice in the five chapters.

The Epistle of James is a series of moral laws and exhortations, typical of much Jewish preaching of the day. Preachers were taught not to dwell too long on any one subject, so they would read out a series of laws with brief commentaries, one after the other. This letter is a good example of that Rabbinic style.

Perhaps the epistle was a sermon preached especially to those Jewish Christians who were on the verge of fleeing Jerusalem during the first wave of persecution and the beginning of the dispersion, and James was trying to encourage them to lead a moral life in exile. This would place the letter very early in the life of the church, perhaps as early as 40 CE – before Paul's writings were in circulation. The main theme of this letter was to be "doers of the word and not hearers only. Faith without works is dead." This is very different from Paul's talk about being justified by faith alone.

This little epistle is experiencing a renewed existence in the life of the church, especially with the rebirth of healing ministry so much in evidence today. It is in James that we read those beautiful words, "Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over you, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick" (James 5:14).

This demonstrates quite clearly the practice of the first-century church. It has also become the practice of the 21st-century church and the church throughout the ages. Many Christians today are practising the same ministry given by Jesus to the first Christians and passed on to us.

How do we reconcile Paul and James? Let us look briefly at St. Paul's "justification by faith." Although it is mentioned in a number of epistles, the most complete summary of his theological position is found in the first seven chapters of his Epistle to the Romans. However, if I know that I am saved by my belief in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour, then good works should naturally follow. If Jesus is my saviour, I must do something about the poor and disadvantaged in our midst. If I know I am saved by my belief in Jesus Christ, my response must be to help others come to this belief too. Thus I am called to be an evangelist or a witness to the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We need to remember that Paul's letters are occasional documents, written at various times and places to address specific issues. Much of the time he is handling emergencies, addressing practical problems and misunderstandings, responding to threats and defending himself against his enemies. He often assumes rather than explains the details of his teachings. His letter to the Romans is a fortunate exception to this general rule. It comes very close to a formal treatise, expounding Paul's view of the Gospel.

Perhaps that is why Paul expands so thoroughly on justification by faith in Jesus Christ in his letter. This is central to his proclamation and has affected theologians throughout the ages, from Augustine to Martin Luther to more modern-day theologians like Paul Tillich. Dare we ignore this topic? I trust you have enjoyed this dialogue with Paul, our first Christian theologian.

The Rev. Canon Don Beatty is an honorary assistant at St. Luke, Dixie South, Mississauga.

PRAYER CYCLE

FOR NOVEMBER 2016

1. Our Saviour, Toronto
2. St. Christopher, Richmond Hill
3. St. Cyprian, Toronto
4. St. George on Yonge, Toronto
5. St. John, Willowdale
6. Council of General Synod and the Provincial Executive
7. St. Theodore of Canterbury, North York
8. The Postulants of the Diocese
9. Parish Administrators

10. Members of the Order of Toronto
11. Military Chaplains
12. The Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario
13. Flemingdon Park Ministry (FaithWorks)
14. The Bridge Prison Ministry (FaithWorks)
15. Couchiching Jubilee House (FaithWorks)
16. The Dam Youth Drop-In (FaithWorks)
17. Downsview Youth Covenant (FaithWorks)
18. Lakefield After-School Program (FaithWorks)
19. North House (FaithWorks)
20. FaithWorks
21. Philip Aziz Community Hospice

- (FaithWorks)
22. Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (FaithWorks)
23. Samaritan House Community Ministries (FaithWorks)
24. St. John Peterborough Community Ministries (FaithWorks)
25. David Busby Street Centre (FaithWorks)
26. The FaithWorks Allocations Committee
27. St. James Cathedral
28. New Hope Mandarin Ministry
29. Toronto Council Fire
30. Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto

IN MOTION

Appointments

- The Rev. Carol Langley, Honorary Assistant, Trinity, Streetsville, July 18.
- The Rev. Susan Snelling (Diocese of Huron), Interim Priest-in-Charge, Good Shepherd, Stayner, Aug. 2.
- The Rev. Jeffery Kennedy, Honorary Assistant, St. Thomas, Huron Street, Sept. 6.
- The Rev. Kenneth Korsah (Diocese of Kumasi in the Province of West Africa), Priest-in-Charge, Ghanaian Anglican Church of Toronto, Sept. 13.
- The Rev. Carol Hardie, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. James, Orillia, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Chris Horne, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Timothy, Agincourt, Oct. 2.
- The Rev. Karen Hatch, Priest-in-Charge, St. John the Divine, Scarborough (in addition to

her Incumbency of St. Margaret-in-the-Pines, West Hill), Oct. 23.

- The Rev. Dr. John Stephenson, Associate Priest, St. Margaret-in-the-Pines, West Hill, Oct. 23.
- The Rev. Canon Judy Herron-Graham, Incumbent, St. George Memorial, Oshawa Nov. 15.
- The Rev. Christopher D'Angelo, Assistant Curate, St. Thomas, Huron Street, Nov. 27.

Vacant Incumbencies

Clergy from outside the diocese with the permission of their bishop may apply through the Diocesan Executive Assistant, Mrs. Mary Conliffe.

Trent-Durham

- Bobcaygeon, Dunsford & Burnt River

York – Credit Valley

- All Saints, Kingsway
- Christ Church St. James,

Toronto

- St. Stephen, Downsview
- St. Philip, Etobicoke

York – Simcoe

- St. James, Orillia
- Trinity Church, Bradford

Conclusions

- The Rev. Mark Tiller will conclude his ministry at St. James, Caledon East on Dec. 31. He will be taking up ministry with the Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island.

Deaths

- The Rev. Christopher Caton died on Sept. 27. Ordained deacon in 2005 and priest in 2006, he served as assistant curate of Grace Church on-the-Hill, Toronto, until 2007, and then as associate priest until his retirement in 2012. His funeral was held at the church on Oct. 12.

CANADA BRIEFS

New development for downtown

HAMILTON - A new, fully accessible 6,000-square-foot church unit will be constructed for the congregation of All Saints as part of the multi-storey condominium complex situated at 15 Queen St. S. in Hamilton. In August, the derelict church and its associated buildings were demolished to make way for the

new facility.

Nearly two decades ago, All Saints was damaged in an earthquake, and in 2009, ongoing structural and safety issues forced the congregation to find a temporary meeting space. Since then, the Diocese of Niagara, on behalf of the parish, entered into an agreement with Hamilton-based Rise Real Estate to redevelop the property into a new, fully accessible church development that will include meeting and worship space.

The church exterior will be reminiscent of a storefront, showcasing the work of local artists and community partners, but efforts to preserve the heritage of the former church are al-

so being undertaken. The altar, stone font, bell and cornerstones will be incorporated into the new church unit. Steps are also being taken to retain some of the limestone bricks, which will be carved and sold by a local artist. *Niagara Anglican*

Parish reaches out to senior newcomers

EDMONTON - After discerning a call to provide greater support to newcomers to Canada, St. Patrick's Anglican Church entered into a relationship with the Welcome Centre for Immigrants and the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers to offer free English and literacy classes

for seniors who have recently arrived in Canada. After securing a grant from the Anglican Foundation of Canada, the church

was able to fund three mornings of instruction per week between July 19 and Oct. 27.

The Messenger



NEW ALTAR

Bishop Ann Tottenham (top left) consecrates the new altar in the chapel of Bishop Strachan School in Toronto on Oct. 6. The altar was designed and created by students of the school, including, from left to right, Tania Tang, Cordelia Zhang, Katie Rockburn, Kira Cheung, Kattly Li and Rania Phillips. A panel in the altar (left) depicts scenes from the Bible. The students were assisted by members of the Ontario Wood Carvers Association. The altar was made in honour of the school's 150th anniversary. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



Sally Armour Wotton signs copies of her new book, *Can God Come Out To Play?*, at Crux Books. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Author reflects on liturgy in life

SALLY Armour Wotton, professor of storytelling and sacred writing at Trinity College, Toronto, launched her second book at Crux Books at Wycliffe College on Oct. 3. Titled *Can God Come Out To Play?*, it examines liturgy not as a religious frill or Sunday morning ceremony, but as a basic reality of life. In a series of essays covering both ancient and modern rituals, Ms. Wotton provides a historical perspective on liturgy as a communal response to the sacred, with the power to heal and inspire. She also shares some of her own liturgical experiences and designs, from proven ecumenical services of worship to non-religious, spirit-filled events. Ms. Wotton expects *Can God*

Come Out To Play? to appeal to readers who are looking for a spiritual approach to contemporary challenges, interested in imaginative forms and methods, and willing to recognize God as their mysterious, playful companion. *Can God Come Out To Play?* is Ms. Wotton's second published work. Her earlier book, *We Storytellers: Blending Our Stories with God's Story*, was published in 2013. *Can God Come Out To Play?* costs \$17 and can be ordered through Amazon or Ingram as well as from the publisher directly by visiting www.wipfandstock.com. In Toronto, it is available at Crux Books and Book City on Danforth Avenue.

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Billy Newton-Davis, 2015

St. James Cathedral

Molly Johnson, 2015

Canadian Men's Chorus, 2015

Looking Ahead

Continued from Page 10

present, with the hope of nurturing a sense of openness and belonging. Raymond Moriyama will be the guest speaker on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. and Mona Oikawa, Izumi Sakamoto and Pamela Sugiman will be the guest speakers on Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. At St. David, 49 Donlands Ave., Toronto. Space is limited. Call 416-441-2345. **NOV. 26** - Advent Quiet Day: "The Four Last Things," 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Mary Magdalene, 477 Manning Ave., Toronto. A day of prayer and reflection on the traditional Advent themes of death, judgment, heaven, and hell. Guest speaker: the Rev. Dr. Walter Hannam. A continental breakfast is provided. Please bring a bag lunch. RSVP 416-531-7955. **DEC. 3** - A Fireside Christmas

Gift, 7 p.m., St. Theodore of Canterbury, 111 Cactus Ave., Toronto. Breathe out, relax for an hour or two and let us rekindle the spirit of the season. Storytelling and carols, mulled cider and mince pie. **DEC. 9-11, 16-18, 22-24** - The Christmas Story, a tradition since 1938, professional musicians and volunteer cast present this hour-long nativity pageant, Holy Trinity, 19 Trinity Square, Toronto. Evening performances at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, 10, 16, 17, 22, 23. Matinees at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 10, 11, 17, 18 and 24. The performance on Dec. 24 will be at 1:30 p.m. Suggestions donation is \$20 for adults and \$5 for children. For tickets, visit www.thechristmasstory.ca or call 416-598-4521, ext. 301.