

APRIL 2021 ISSUE

ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

COVID-19 updates newsletter



Hello!

I hope you're doing well through this current lock down period. We've been working away in the background, and I hope that this newsletter brings up up to speed on some of our activities.

The executive has had a preliminary meeting with consultants about creating a parish profile and taking the next steps in our search for new leadership, but I fear this will be a slow process. They will be looking to speak with members of the congregation in due course, but I expect it will be summer before that time comes. Please be patient while we work towards this goal!

As ever, if you have content suggestions, prayer requests, or any other news to share, please forward me the information at megan.bruce@gmail.com, or call me at (613)328-0487.

Megan Bruce
Deputy Warden

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DEAN'S CORNER

by the Ven. David Selzer

We were all prepared for Easter. The Flower Guild had been working on floral preparations, we had service bulletins ready to print, we were in the midst of COVID 19 style Holy Week services, and were actively preparing for the Easter message of hope – and then almost immediately (although there was a growing foreboding that it was coming) we were in lockdown mode again, and remain so at least through 20 May. We quickly reconfigured our worship to go back to a single Sunday YouTube service, sent out as much notification as we could, and celebrated the Resurrection in lockdown mode amid the lovely flowers and Easter decorations. We tried to offer light in the midst of darkness, hope in the midst of disappointment and frustration.

Bishop Michael Oulton preached on Easter. Then, Bishop George Bruce preached on 2 Easter. Then, Bishop Kevin Robertson (Diocese of Toronto) preached on 3 Easter. Then, Archbishop Anne Germond preached on 4 Easter. They all offered hope, and I realized that this could not have happened without the lockdown. Thanks to Brad Barbeau, our Sunday worship services and Evensongs (done every other week) are not only on YouTube, but now on FaceBook, and we have doubled our viewers, something we could not have done with our attendance limits of fifty people per service, and only five people per Evensong.

We thanked Thom Bruce for his wonderful service these last seven months as Interim Custodian, and welcomed Brian English back from his long term disability. We mourned the death of Prince Philip and offered prayers and bell tolling (twice) as well as recorded the Navy Hymn and God Save the Queen for people to hear. We now mourn the death of Kathy Anderson – may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

We welcome Susan Graham Walker and The Ven. Michael Thompson, who are working with the parish to gather information on who we are (see Bishop Michael Oulton's letter to the congregation that we published at the end of 2020 for the outline). They will be working with the parish to discern our mission and ministry; they will offer more information very shortly on their process and scope of work. (Archdeacon Thompson is preaching this Sunday 2 May).

Given the lockdown and the absence of in-person worship, we are barely holding our own financially, and can use your financial support and generosity. We are working on easy ways of making donations, thanks to the work of Warren Everett, Marg Calcutt, and Brad Barbeau. Please continue to support the work of St George's Cathedral in your generosity.

DEAN'S CORNER CT'D

We continue, and we will change – the Pandemic has forced us to new ways of doing things and being the Church, and we know that what was will not return in the same way. This is hard for many of us, but inevitable. I know that in the midst of this, we are still feeding people lunch through Lunch by George, and that is a witness both to change and ongoing light.

It is almost like Apostolic times. When Jesus was crucified, there was a finality to his death, which was quickly upended when the women who came to the tomb were startled and frightened to view the empty tomb (see Mark 16). In the next period of time, Jesus appeared to many of the disciples in a variety of situations (the Upper Room, Emmaus, at the Sea of Galilee, etc.) and then finally at the Ascension (Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles) is taken into heaven. To say there was doubt and confusion and belief and disbelief and certainty all at the same time is, in my opinion, an understatement.

Yet, there is, in the Acts of the Apostles, the Day of Pentecost, where the promised Spirit descends on the believers, and subsequently their world and our world is transformed. This year Pentecost is on 23 May, and we will celebrate it in hope. Perhaps the Provincial lockdown will be ended by then, perhaps a lot more people will be vaccinated, perhaps the contagion and death rates will be down, and perhaps, with great hope, we will be able to legally gather for in-person worship again. As the Gospel of John clearly states, ‘The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. (John 1.5 NRSV).

WELLINGTON ST DOOR UPDATE

by Brad Barbeau

We have installed a new intercom system at the Wellington St door that we will be changing to next week from the doorbell. This new system will be a great time saver: there is a camera and microphone so that the clergy and staff inside can see who is at the door, speak to them, and unlock the door remotely. The new system is located on the left side of the door and all you need to do is to press the bottom at the bottom to ring for someone.



UPDATE FROM THE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

by Jann VanVugt

The H. Family has completed and passed their first interview by the Canadian Government

We are required by the Canadian Government not to disclose the full identity of those we are hoping to sponsor. This is for their own security and privacy, so we do not use names.

On April 6, the H. Family finally had their first interview with the Canadian visa office in Beirut. This interview had been delayed for over a year due to Covid circumstances and we are so happy to learn that they passed the interview and now await their medical screening. Once that is completed and approved, the government will prepare for them to travel to Kingston. This time frame has in the past been about 12 weeks, but again, with Covid limitations, we expect it may take a little longer. Our hope is that they will arrive by September, in time for the children to start the school year.

The past year has been a very difficult one for the H. Family, with illness, lack of work, precarious housing and now no school for the children. Still, their spirits are strong and they are very eager to get to Kingston and escape the trauma of war and being refugees.

The Sponsorship Committee is now hard at work preparing to outfit an apartment and provide all the household items, furniture and food, this family will need to begin their life in Canada. We give thanks for the many ways the people of St George's have generously supported this ministry. There are still funds needed to support this young family and donations may be made at the church office or by contacting Marg Calcutt.



REMEMBERING BISHOP MICHAEL BEDFORD-JONES

By Tanis Fairley

I always felt that Michael Bedford-Jones was a true gift from God for us at St. George's. He was equally comfortable with all age groups, children, teenagers, young couples, middle aged folks and, of course, the elderly. When you were talking to him, whether it was about something serious or something fun, he was equally engaged. He had an excellent sense of humour, and he also had a very kind approach to understanding things that were serious, important, and needed to be dealt with. He was always kind, and seemed to be able to understand and cope with anything that came up. His memory for names and individual strengths was amazing, and everyone at the Cathedral felt valued by him. When he left us to go on to be a Bishop we all knew that he would be an outstanding example to others, and would make everyone he interacted with feel highly valued. We send our most sincere sympathy to his family and to all those with whom he interacted in his role as a man of God. He will never be forgotten.

QUEEN'S MUSIC STUDENTS

by Brad Barbeau

During the 2020/21 academic year, I was able, thanks to the support of the Wardens and Dean (and with proper safety and cleaning processes in place), help a number of music students from Queen's University who were without an instrument to practice on or place to record performances. While a seemingly small form of outreach, we actually assisted 15 music students with their studies in a very meaningful and tangible way. I know that each of the students has appreciated our kindness.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2nd - 10am - **Morning service** - YouTube/Facebook only

May 9th - 10am - **Morning service** - YouTube/Facebook only

May 9th - 3pm - **Evensong** - YouTube/Facebook only

May 16th - 10am - **Morning service** - YouTube/Facebook only

May 23rd - possible return to in-person worship; please refer to the website or weekly newsletter for updates!

May 23rd - 3pm - **Evensong** - YouTube/Facebook only

May 30th - possible in-person worship; please refer to the website or weekly newsletter for updates!

Please note that there are currently no in-person services at this time. The earliest we are able to return to in-person worship is May 20th, but we have not been advised by the Diocesan office whether this will be possible. Please check the website, refer to the weekly newsletter, or call the main office for updates.

Direct link to our YouTube channel: <http://bit.ly/SGCKingston>

FLOWER GUILD

by Megan Bruce

A special thanks to the Flower Guild for all their hard work in preparing the Cathedral for our Easter services. Although we were closed after the Good Friday service, the flowers were in place and looked wonderful!

I'm sure you will agree that they do a tremendous job throughout the year!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Your ongoing prayers are requested for the following parishioners and their households. If you have a prayer request that you'd like added please let us know!

The Very Rev Sharon Murdoch, The Rev Don Goodwin, John Bate, Dee Padfield, Jim Anderson and family, Sandy, Jason, Allie and Dev Kauenhofen, Paul Robertson, Richard Watson-Laird, Danielle Clarke, Sean Lovett, Ralph Brose, Diana Davis Duerkop, Gill Cleghorn, Carol MacDonnell, Sue Kilpatrick, Elspeth Stevenson, Rosalind Walton, The Most Reverend Andrew Hutchison, the family of Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones.



CONGRATULATIONS

Happy birthday to Peter Cory, Barbara Stewart, Gaby Nasseh, Connor DeMerchant, Gordon Nuttal, Victoria Preston-Walker, Marilyn Goodyear-Whiteley who have celebrated birthdays this month!

An early happy Mother's day to all the wonderful moms, grandmoms, step moms, moms-to-be, surrogate moms, and fur-baby moms in the congregation!



THE
Anglican
DIOCESE OF ONTARIO FOUNDATION

Fearless Generosity

"Fear not, for I am with you" Isa 41:10

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ONTARIO FOUNDATION APPEAL

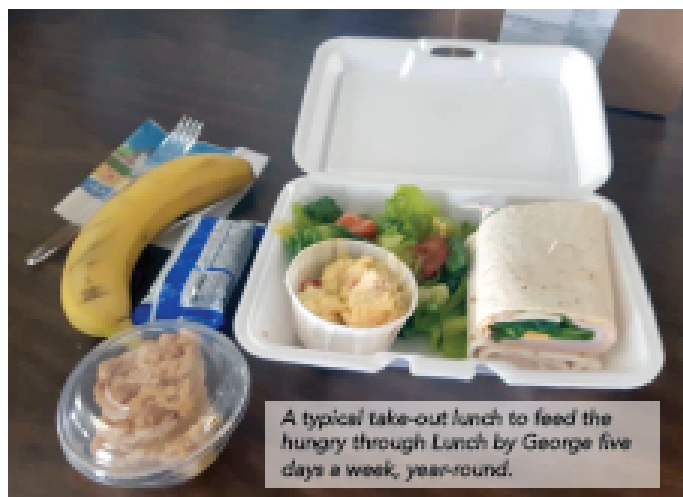
Imagine...

a Church where tradition is not only honoured, but celebrated. Imagine a Church where tradition, combined with innovation and community partnerships, has the power to engage new members and friends, and respond in creative ways to ministry opportunities through our Diocese and communities we serve. Imagine a Church which these ministries and programmes have the resources they need to thrive.

It's not just a dream.

With your help, it becomes a reality.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Foundation shifted its grant-making emphasis to projects to address urgent community needs. For example, we have helped reduce hunger through sharing with Lunch by George and Lionhearts, Inc. and other important initiatives with the partnership of many generous supporters.



A typical take-out lunch to feed the hungry through Lunch by George five days a week, year-round.

Photo credit: Brad Barber

The Foundation's areas of priority include:

- Emerging Ministries;
- Community Partnerships
- Children and Youth Ministries
- Campus Ministries
- Ministries to Prisoners and Ex-offenders
- Reconciliation Initiatives

Projects to enhance accessibility will also be considered for up to 50% of the total project cost.

I/we want to support the annual appeal of the Anglican Diocese of Ontario Foundation with a gift of

Individual and Families

- ☐ Student and non-waged (\$35-\$49)
- ☐ Companion (\$50-\$499)
- ☐ Benefactor (\$500 - \$999)
- ☐ Directors Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)
- ☐ The Bishop's Circle (\$5,000+)

Parishes including multi-point congregations

- ☐ \$100 or more annual membership



Name: _____ Company/Community Group: _____

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Parish/Congregation (as applicable): _____

My gift is in honour / memory of: _____

Fearless Generosity

"Fear not, for I am with you" Isa 41:10

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ONTARIO FOUNDATION APPEAL

The Anglican Diocese of Ontario Foundation supports innovative approaches to the building of God's Kingdom through Christian education, service, and a bold celebration of the Anglican tradition.

As responsible stewards of God's gifts, the Foundation provides funding to revitalize Anglican parishes, and supports ministry to the broader community. This is especially true in time of urgent need experienced by the most vulnerable people in our midst.

Our vision is to build a community in which the faith-filled generosity is an important vehicle through which the love of Jesus Christ becomes known.

The Anglican Diocese of Ontario Foundation depends entirely on the support of generous donors to fulfill our mission. We are counting on your *Fearless Generosity* to make these dreams become reality.

We invite you to join us.



Our Foundation is here to help generous people support the imaginative vision of other ministries in the Diocese of Ontario

For more information about the Foundation, or to discuss making a legacy gift to support its ministry, please contact:

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Development Consultant

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Archdeacon Bill Clarke, President

Payment Information

☐ Personal cheque enclosed (please make cheque payable to Diocese of Ontario Foundation)

Thank you
for your generous support!!!

Tax receipts issued for donations of \$10 or more.

For more information or to make a secure, online donation through CanadaHelps, please visit our website

www.dioceseofontariofoundation.ca