

Meeting Jesus at the **BORDER**
A eucharist in solidarity with asylum seekers
Event also held in Gaspé.
See page 4 for details.



Curtis Patterson celebrates 40 years of ordination. Find out where and when on page 5



FAQ: the election of lay delegates on page 3.



Calling all members of Synod 2015, you need to vote! See page 5.



Quebec Diocesan Gazette

JANUARY 2018

A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

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Gabriel Kwenga and Gene Ross ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons

By Giuseppe Gagliano with photos by Linda Annesley Hoy

The Deanery of St Francis is delighted to welcome two newly ordained ministers. On the Feast of the Reign of Christ, November 26th at 4:00 pm at the Church of St George, Lennoxville, the Right Rev'd Bruce Myers OGS ordained the Rev'd Gabriel Kwenga and the Rev'd Gene Ross to the Sacred Order of Deacons. Residents of Sherbrooke, Gabriel and Gene have been serving local parishes as Deanery Lay Readers and Pastoral Visitors. It became clear to those around them that they were called to the service of Christ as ordained ministers.

The service of Holy Eucharist reflected the joy and gratitude of the occasion. Every pew was filled to capacity with two hundred twenty-five people braving the weather to participate. Anthems were sung by the Chœur Ô Gospel, a gospel choir from Sherbrooke with twenty-two voices. The presence of local ministers, visiting clergy, and various ecumenical guests was a further blessing to those gathered. The Ven. Dr. Edward Simonton OGS preached on God's paying attention to the world, and of the deacon's role in reflecting that love and attentiveness. The two new deacons, vested for their vocation, served at the altar on either side of Bishop Bruce as the holy mysteries were celebrated.

Gabriel and Gene will be serving the churches of the St Francis Regional Ministry in their new vocations. Parishioners and clergy alike look forward to seeing their ministry unfold.

See additional photo on page 4



Ordination to the Priesthood of Carol Elizabeth Edgar and Adèle Joan Finlayson

By Graham Jackson with transcription by Christian Schreiner. Photos by Yvan Belanger

In a magnificent service on November 4, 2017 Bishop Bruce Myers OGS ordained to the priesthood Carol Elizabeth Edgar and Adèle Joan Finlayson. This lovely service was held in the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and was carefully designed to be bilingual.

The entrance hymn began "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation". The officiant, of course, was the Rt Reverend Bruce Myers OGS, the Lord Bishop of Quebec, who greeted the congregation which packed the cathedral.

The first reading was taken from the Book of Ruth and the Reverend Kevin Flynn based his homily on this passage stressing the role of all priests to be faithful and helpful at all times.

The Cathedral Choir, led by Sandra Bender, then sang Psalm 37 which began "Put your trust in the Word and do good". The second reading was taken from Hebrews and was read by Carol and Adèle's professor, the reverend Dr. Norman Provencher OMI. The reading centered on faith, "now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen". The gospel from St Matthew was read by the Very Reverend Walter Raymond OGS, former Dean of the Cathedral. In this gospel Jesus responded to a trick question by saying to the Sadducees that "God is not the God of the dead but of the living".

The gospel reading was followed by the sermon preached by the Reverend Kevin Flynn, Director of St. Paul's College University of Ottawa.

An anthem followed, beautifully led by Sandra Bender, sung entirely in Latin.

Continued on page 4 with additional photo

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Faithful stewardship

Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), we in the church have been entrusted with treasure. Some of that treasure is actual money—such as financial contributions from individual church members and returns on investments—and the story Jesus tells in that parable is about how different servants exercised their stewardship of the money that was in their keeping.

Each year the Diocesan Executive Council (DEC), which includes the officers of Synod and elected representatives from each of the diocese's five deaneries, does its best to be faithful stewards of the treasure entrusted to us for the life and work of the church in the Diocese of Quebec.

Because of the well-known demographic and financial realities facing our church, balancing available resources with the expressed needs has been a challenge. For several years the Diocese of Quebec has incurred deficits, sometimes amounting to more than \$300,000 in a single year. Although some progress has been made in reducing these deficits, they have remained significant. Recognizing that such a pattern is both undesirable and unsustainable, diocesan Treasurer Mike Boden expressed a hope at Synod in 2015 that we could achieve a balanced budget by 2018.

Supporting this desire for our church to live within our means, in October the DEC unanimously approved a 2018 budget for Synod with a relatively small projected deficit of \$10,000. Achieving this near-balanced budget involves three main factors:

1. Delaying a meeting of the diocesan Synod – It was my hope and intention to convene a meeting of the diocesan Synod in 2018. However, as a cost-saving measure, the DEC has requested that I delay gathering the diocese together in Synod until 2019.
2. Restructure deanery grants – The DEC has decided to return to an earlier model of distributing Synod funds to support mission and ministry projects throughout the diocese. Funding will still be available to the deanery councils to support, for example, honoraria for lay readers. However, requests for funding to assist other initiatives will now go to a subcommittee of the DEC, which will distribute a reduced amount of funds across the diocese. More information on this application process will be available soon.
3. Maintaining the current level of Fair Share – Since 2015 Fair Share, which is the apportionment each congregation contributes to the life and work of the wider diocesan family, has been 18.5 per cent of annual revenue. (Congregations choosing to make investments outside of the diocesan Pooled Funds are assessed at 20.5 per cent, as per Synod's policy.) The DEC has decided to continue this level of Fair Share, which remains among the lowest of the 30 dioceses of the Anglican Church of Canada, and which supports my ministry as your bishop, the services provided by the staff at Church House, and mission initiatives throughout the diocese and the wider church.

In addition to Synod's near-balanced budget for 2018, the Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec, which oversees investments committed to the diocesan Pooled Funds, has passed a balanced budget for 2018. Our financial challenges as a church remain significant, but achieving budgetary equilibrium is an important step in addressing those challenges.

I am grateful to the members of the Diocesan Executive Council, as together we seek to be faithful stewards of the treasure entrusted to our church. Living within our means is a necessary aspect of good stewardship. In doing so we also help enhance our longer-term sustainability, so that we can continue to try and be the church God is calling us to be for years more to come.

+ Bruce



Intendance assidue

Au même titre que les serviteurs de la Parole des Talents (Matthieu 25 :14-30), on nous a confié, en tant que membres de l'Église, la garde de ce que l'on pourrait définir comme un trésor. Une partie de ce trésor consiste en de réelles sommes d'argent – les contributions financières des membres de nos églises et le rendement sur les investissements – et l'histoire que Jésus raconte dans sa parabole illustre comment différents serviteurs ont effectué l'intendance des sommes d'argent qui leur avaient été confiées.

À chaque année, le Comité exécutif diocésain (DEC), composé des officiers du Synode et de représentants élus de chacun des cinq doyennés du diocèse, fait de son mieux pour effectuer l'intendance assidue du trésor qui nous a été confié pour mener la vie et le travail de l'Église dans le diocèse de Québec.

Notre église fait face à des réalités financières et surtout démographiques avec lesquelles nous sommes tous familiers; c'est tout un défi que de trouver l'équilibre entre les ressources disponibles et les besoins exprimés. Depuis plusieurs années, le diocèse de Québec réalise des pertes, pouvant même aller jusqu'à excéder 300 000 \$ en une seule année. Bien que d'importants progrès aient été réalisés pour réduire ces déficits, ils sont demeurés significatifs. Reconnaisant qu'une telle tendance était à la fois indésirable et insoutenable, Mike Boden, notre trésorier diocésain, avait exprimé lors du Synode de 2015 son souhait d'atteindre un budget équilibré en 2018.

Démontrant son appui à ce désir que notre église vive désormais selon ses moyens, le DEC a, en octobre dernier, approuvé à l'unanimité un budget du Synode présentant un déficit relativement faible de 10 000 \$ pour 2018. La réalisation de ce budget quasi équilibré repose sur trois facteurs principaux :

1. Le report de la tenue d'un Synode diocésain – J'avais l'espoir et l'intention de convoquer la tenue d'un Synode diocésain en 2018. Toutefois, dans le but de réduire les dépenses, le DEC m'a demandé de reporter cette rencontre diocésaine du Synode à 2019.
2. La restructuration des subsides versés par les doyennés - Le DEC a pris la décision de revenir à un modèle antérieur de distribution des fonds diocésains au soutien des projets de mission et de ministère partout dans le diocèse. Les conseils de doyennés continueront de recevoir des fonds pour verser, par exemple, des honoraires aux lecteurs laïques. Cependant, les demandes de financement pour aider d'autres initiatives seront maintenant soumises à un sous-comité du DEC, qui distribuera une quantité réduite de fonds à travers le diocèse. Plus d'informations sur le processus de demande de ce type de financement seront bientôt disponibles.
3. Le maintien du taux actuel du « Fair Share » - Depuis 2015, le taux du « Fair Share », qui se définit comme la dotation, la « juste part », que chaque congrégation contribue au financement de la vie et du travail de la famille diocésaine élargie, s'élève à 18,5 % de ses revenus annuels. (Les congrégations qui ont choisi de réaliser des investissements ailleurs que dans les fonds communs du diocèse contribuent à hauteur de 20,5 %, en conformité avec la politique adoptée par le Synode.) Le DEC a décidé de maintenir ce taux, qui demeure l'un des plus bas parmi les 30 diocèses de l'Église anglicane du Canada, et qui soutient mon ministère en tant qu'évêque, les services fournis par le personnel de Church House, et les initiatives de mission à travers le diocèse et l'église en général.

En plus du budget quasi équilibré du Synode pour 2018, la Société d'Église du diocèse de Québec, qui administre les investissements effectués dans les fonds communs diocésains, a elle aussi adopté un budget équilibré pour 2018. Alors que les défis financiers auxquels nous sommes confrontés en tant qu'Église demeurent importants, l'atteinte de l'équilibre budgétaire est une étape très importante qui nous permettra de mieux relever ces défis.

Je suis reconnaissant aux membres du Conseil exécutif diocésain, alors nous cherchons ensemble à être les gardiens assidus

suite à la page 3 lettre de l'évêque



JANUARY 2018

A ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Quebec founded in 1894 by the Rt. Rev. A.H. Dunn

Jim Sweeny
Editor

Guylain Caron
Translator

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The mandate of *The Gazette* shall be to serve as a means of encouragement, communication, and community building among the regions of the diocese, with special emphasis on regional activities and matters of concern for both laity and clergy. It shall provide an opportunity for the bishop to address the people of the diocese directly and seek to cover items from outside the diocese that bear on its corporate life. *The Gazette* shall provide a channel for information and a forum for discussion, shall be encouraged to express a wide range of opinion within the diocese, and shall enjoy editorial independence. (Canon 22 of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec)

Editorial and advertising enquiries, as well as letters to the editor, should be directed to:

editor@quebec.anglican.ca

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The deadline for articles is the first of the month prior. For example: January 1st for the February paper.

Election of lay delegates to diocesan synod explained

By James Sweeny

At our last Diocesan Synod the members voted to reduce the size of future synods. Our synods will now be roughly 50% of their former size. This is in recognition of both the smaller number of members in the diocese and the costs of holding a large synod.

The Diocesan Synod will have a membership of the five officers of Synod, lay incumbents licensed by the Bishop, recognized postulants for ordination, thirty lay members and ten clerical members.

The diocese will be using a new system for the election of both lay and clerical delegates to diocesan synod.

Parishes are about to move into the season when they hold their annual vestry meetings and so here are some Frequently Asked Questions and Answers to help everyone understand the process.

Does our parish elect delegates as in the past? The simple answer is no. Parishes at their an-

nual vestry meeting may now nominate lay and youth to stand for election at the deanery level.

Why are we electing delegates this year as no synod is planned before early 2019? We are required to have delegates elected each year in case there is a need for a synod. The 2019 Synod will most likely be held in the first half of 2019 before the meeting of General Synod that July and there may not be time to hold delegate elections before the Bishop summons our Synod. Also, this year is a good chance to make sure the new system works as we have never done it this way. There have been some negative comments made but as the new method and size of synod is yet untried it is hard to state if it will meet our needs until we try the process.

How many people can we nominate? There is no fixed number; you can nominate as many as you want or none at all. Remembering that these persons are to attend if elected and should, for example, your parish nominate two names they both will be on the ballot.

Who can be nominated? Any member of vestry can be nominated. According to our canons a member of vestry is someone who is at least 16 years old, professing to be an Anglican, who belongs to a Parish, is not an Incumbent of that Parish and who declare themselves in writing to be regular attendant at the Services of the Parish. Under Quebec statute law you cannot be a member of any other denomination and you can only be a member of one vestry in the diocese. An exception to this is that Anglicans can be members of a second vestry if it is for a summer parish.

How will the voting take place? As part of the signing of the register, parishioners will be asked to provide an email or a full postal address. Before March 15 each year the Vestry Clerk will send to the Synod Office a photocopy of the annual vestry meeting attendance register and the contact information of those who signed and wish to exercise their right to vote for delegates to diocesan synod. The Secretary of Synod will oversee the voting in each deanery. As

requested by Rural Deans and approved by the DEC the voting will be by blind electronic voting and/or postal ballots.

Do I still get to vote even if my parish does not nominate anyone? Yes, every person who attended the vestry, signed the register and provided either an email or postal address has the right to vote as long as the list has been submitted by March 15.

Do I have to vote? No, we hope you would but if you do not wish to you cannot be forced to vote. If you know in advance you do not want to vote then you can just not supply your email or postal address. Only those with such contact information will be sent ballots.

How many delegates does my deanery elect? Each deanery has a minimum of two delegates as well as a youth if one is nominated and elected. There are additional members assigned to deaneries based on the deanery's percentage of average attendance across the whole of the diocese.

What if an elected delegate cannot attend? The results of the deanery voting will be recorded and the person who was not elected but has the next largest number of votes will be named and will attend. If that person cannot attend, then the Secretary of Synod works down the list based on number of votes received.

How will clerical delegates be elected? All full time stipendiary clergy will be delegates to Diocesan Synod. After the summoning of a synod the Secretary of Synod will conduct an election among the other clergy eligible to attend under the Constitution to bring the number of clerical delegates to synod to ten.

What if I want more information? You can contact the Secretary of Synod synodsecretary@quebec.anglican.ca; the Registrar registrar@quebec.anglican.ca or the Synod Office synodoffice@quebec.anglican.ca for further clarification.



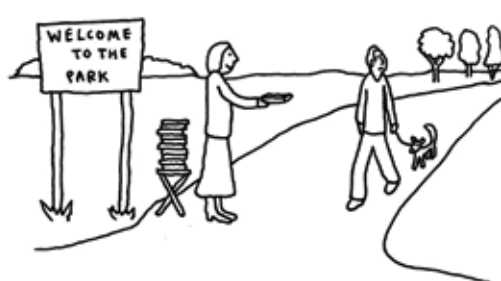
This month's Two Minute interview is with the dioceses' Canon Theologian, Jeffery Metcalfe, who is based in the synod office. These interviews are designed to give readers a broader view of those in leadership roles in the diocese.

The Two-Minute Interview

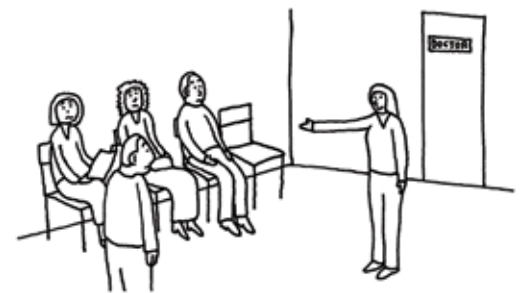
- Favourite book of the Bible** - Gospel of Luke
- Birthplace** - Calgary, Alberta
- What you love most about God** – God's ability to work redemption even in the midst of great suffering and evil.
- Favourite place on Earth** - Forests
- Farthest you've been from home** - Santa Cruz, Bolivia
- Favourite meal or dessert** - Crème brûlée
- Biggest fear** – Running out of coffee
- Hidden talent** – Coffee roasting
- Favourite movie or book** – Des hommes et des dieux (2010)
- Your hobby** – Beekeeping, mountaineering, orchid horticulture
- Three things always in your fridge** – Lactose free milk, cheese from l'Abbaye de Saint-Benoît-du-Lac, water
- Favourite sports team (or person)** - Shauna Coxsey, winner of the IFSC Bouldering World Cup in 2016 and 2017

SIDESPERSONS

TYPICAL OFF-DUTY ACTIVITIES



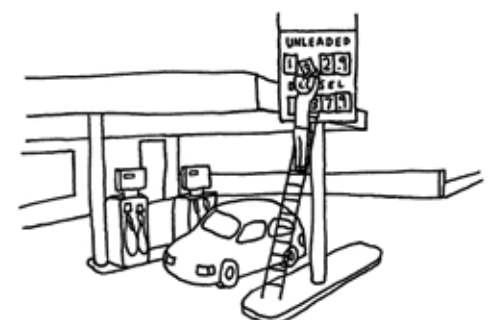
GIVING OUT HYMN BOOKS



DIRECTING PEOPLE TO SEATS



PASSING AROUND A COLLECTION PLATE



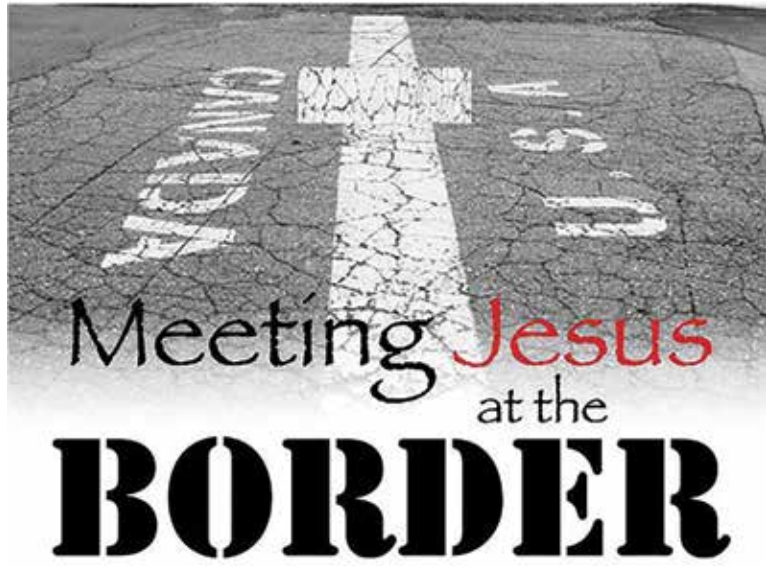
CHANGING NUMBERS

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à partir de la page 2 lettre de l'évêque

du trésor confié à notre église. Vivre selon nos moyens est un élément primordial de bonne intention. Ce faisant, nous contribuons également à maintenir notre pérennité pour le long terme, afin que nous puissions continuer à essayer de devenir l'église que Dieu nous appelle à être pour les années à venir.

+ Bruce



Meeting Jesus at the BORDER

A eucharist in solidarity with asylum seekers

Parallel event held in Gaspé

Article and photos by Joshua Paetkau

On Saturday October 14, 2017 16 people from the Parishes of Gaspé, All Saints by the Sea, New Carlisle, Port Daniel and Shigawake journeyed to St. Peter's Anglican Church in St. Georges de Malbaie to celebrate a Feast of Holy Eucharist in solidarity with refugees and as an act of affirming our call to serve Christ in all persons.

We prayed, sang, and broke bread together, joining our prayers to those of our brothers and sisters who stood at the Canadian-U.S. border for the Meeting Jesus at the Border event. As the Rev. Douglas Johnson read out the gospel passage from Matthew 25: 35, we were reminded of the simple, yet powerful message of the gospel: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

We prayed for refugees and other migrants, for those who welcome and receive them, and for those who are suspicious or fearful of strangers. We were reminded of the power of God's love to break down barriers as we reaffirmed our commitment to the joyful work of welcome.



From page 1 Ordination to the priesthood

Following the Nicene Creed the two candidates were presented to the Lord Bishop. The presenters were the Venerable Pierre Voyer, the Reverend Michel Royer, Dr. Gordon Johnston, Gaston Michaud, Alma Sandy and Ruby Sandy. The Bishop then proceeded to examine the candidates. He asked: "In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come. Do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?" The candidates both replied "I believe I am so called."

After the litany, sung by Sandra Bender, Bishop Bruce proceeded to consecrate the two priests, Carol and Adèle: "Send down your Holy Spirit upon your servant, whom we consecrate in your name to the office and work of a priest in the Church."

Then there was a pause in the service as the Peace was exchanged. A celebration of the Eucharist was beautifully conducted by the Lord Bishop. Following the Episcopal Blessing the closing hymn was sung: "Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart". The reception, held in the narthex of the Cathedral, was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



From page 1 Ordination of Gabriel and Gene as deacons



The newly ordained deacons, the Rev Gabriel Kwenga and the Rev Gene Ross, share the task of cutting the celebratory cake.



Members of the 2015 Diocesan Synod to vote electronically in February for our delegates to Provincial Synod

By James Sweeny

The Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada has summoned a Provincial Synod to be held on June 8-10, 2018 in Halifax. At our last Diocesan Synod in 2015 we did not elect any delegates to Provincial Synod as there was an expectation that we would be holding a Diocesan Synod in 2017.

Under our canons the members of the 2015 Diocesan Synod are the pool from which both nominations and voters can come. We need to elect two clerical members, two lay members and one additional lay member between the ages of 16 and 25 as of June 2018 who will be our youth member.

In order to elect our delegates the Diocesan Executive Committee has approved that an electronic vote be held to fill these vacancies using a program called Simply Voting. All members of the 2015 Synod will receive an email from the Nominating Committee requesting nominations. Nominations must be received by the committee by 4 p.m. on February 2, 2018.

Those nominated will be contacted to see if they wish to make a statement of not more than 150 words regarding their qualification and why they would like to represent our diocese at the Provincial Synod. Any such statements received will be distributed by Simply Voting along with the voting package

Voting will take place from 9 a.m. February 13 until 4 p.m. February 16 2018. Each member will receive from Simply Voting an invitation to vote and a personal password. Voting is by orders, clergy members will elect their two delegates, lay members will elect their two delegates plus the youth member.

The two members of the houses of clergy and of laity who receive the most votes will be elected as our delegates. The youth with the most votes will be elected our youth delegate. The nominees not elected will become the alternates in case one of those elected are unable to attend. Alternates will be chosen in descending order based on the number of votes received.

If there is a tie vote, other than for the two clergy and lay members who receive the most votes, a runoff vote will be conducted among those nominees who tied to decide a final ranking. Only the order where there is a tie will vote. If needed the vote will take place from 9 a.m. February 20 to 4 p.m. February 22, 2018.

The Simply Voting is run by an outside firm, the diocese will know if you voted but not who you voted for and you can get from them a confirmation that your vote has been recorded.

If you need further information please contact: the Secretary of Synod synodsecretary@quebec.anglican.ca or the Registrar registrar@quebec.anglican.ca



Curtis Patterson feted on the 40th anniversary of his ordination

Article and photos by Linda Ransom

The congregation of Christ Church, Harrington Harbour was delighted to have the Rev Curtis Patterson and his wife Beverly with us for 6 weeks.

During his stay he held services in Harrington, Chevery, the D. G. Hodd seniors home, a few funerals

and did quite a bit of visiting.

Curtis and Beverly first came to this area 40 years ago, shortly after he was ordained as a priest. A pot luck supper was held on Oct. 19th in honour of his 40th ordination anniversary. They were presented with a lovely basket of local preserves.

On Sunday, Oct. 22nd, Curtis led a service of celebration with the choir singing a number of gospel songs and dedicated one in particular for them.

Their time here was greatly appreciated look forward to maybe having them back again.





The Church of the Ascension on the left and the Villa Collina, Cadenabbia above.

Information on the retreat provided by Roger Williams

Peaks, shallows and deeps

**Lakeside reflections on Christian Discipleship today
A guided holiday retreat hosted by the Church of the Ascension,
Cadenabbia, Lake Como, Italy 7-12 October, 2018**

Church of the Ascension

This lakeside church serves a large community of summer visitors and a small community of full-time residents and holiday home-owners. Although part of the Church of England, those who attend are from all over the world and the priest, the Rev Roger Williams, is from Australia.

Why are we hosting a retreat?

Lake Como is a beautiful setting and we wanted to share with visitors some of its hidden gems, which have inspired pilgrimage and reflection for centuries. Our recent 125th anniversary prompted us to look to the future and the need to both raise money to conserve the building and to build our own community. We hope this retreat will provide visitors and church members alike a chance to slow down and reflect about our lives in these very special surroundings.

Retreat theme – what can you expect?

How can we refresh our discipleship and be willing to move forward on our journey of faith? How can we cope with changes in ourselves, our circumstances, the church and the world? In what ways can we let God breathe new life into us when our spirituality feels tired or stuck, especially as we get older? These are some of the questions we hope to address in this holiday retreat through daily worship, bible study on events in Jesus' own lakeside ministry, spiritual exercises and resources, discussion groups, times of meditation and reflection, visits to sacred places, as well as through relaxation and companionship, enjoying the inspiring panoramas of Lake Como itself. For some this retreat could form a part of a longer holiday in the area.

Retreat conductor, the Rev Lyn Philips

Lyn is a retired Church of England priest originally from Cardiff, where he was ordained in 1971 after training at Cuddesdon College, Oxford. He served in parishes in the Welsh Valleys, Cardiff and Wolverhampton as well as in Hampstead and Twickenham in London. Fifteen years of his ministry was spent as a full-time hospital chaplain and hospice chaplain. And some of his happiest years were spent as chaplain in Milan in the early 1990s, when he learnt to love all things Italian! Although retired, he helps out in the parish church of Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, where he now lives, and is a trained spiritual director offering individual accompaniment as well as quiet days and retreats.

Yoga: there will also be optional yoga sessions with a qualified teacher, Mina Weight.

Accommodation

A number of rooms with half-board, have been reserved at Villa Collina, Cadenabbia, where we will also have the welcome dinner and some sessions. If you have local friends or wish to make your own arrangements, you may join as a day visitor. However the final night of the retreat will be spent at Piona Abbey, a Cistercian Monastery.

Cost and what is covered (Minor alterations to the program may occur)

The retreat can be booked:

- As a complete package including accommodation (dinner, bed and breakfast at Villa Collina with one night at Piona) as well as program excursions, simple lunches and sessions and materials, or
- As a day visitor (excursions, lunches and sessions/materials as well as the overnight visit to Piona abbey with meals there) for those who live or have friends on the lake.

Please note: Depending on the availability of single rooms at La Collina, there may be an upcharge for single occupancy.

Complete package: 695 Euros (Deposit 250 euros)

Day Visitor: 395 Euros (Deposit 150 Euros)

Please ensure that you are covered by normal travel insurance.

How to book

- E-mail Jeannie Willan (jeanniewillan@btinternet.com) stating how many places you are booking, whether you want shared accommodation or single occupancy at Villa Collina, or whether you are registering as a day visitor. If the latter please state where you will be staying.
- Please give your name, postal address, phone number, any special dietary requirements and/or mobility limitations.



Canada Briefs
Articles from other diocesan newspapers compiled by Tali Folkins of the Anglican Journal

Ontario church uses outdoor cupboard to connect with homeless

A Mississauga, Ont., church is connecting with homeless people in the neighbourhood by offering free food and other necessities in an outdoor cupboard.



This June, volunteers at St. Peter's Anglican Church built "The Little Deacon's Cupboard," a wooden box with glass cabinet doors resembling a free book exchange depot, not far from the church. The idea, says the church's incumbent, Canon Jennifer Reid, was that local people would stock non-perishable food and drinks in the box, for the needy. The cupboard, based on similar food cupboards offered by churches in the southern U.S., allows people to get free food and drinks anonymously and in privacy.

Since it was built, the cupboard has also begun to serve as a means of communicating between parishioners and local homeless people. A handwritten note of thanks was found in it, after which churchwarden Allison Gray left a small notebook allowing users to list things they especially needed. In response to written requests by users of the cupboard, donors have begun to stock it with other provisions, including toiletries, socks, underwear, cutlery and can openers. Inspired by the response to the cupboard, the parish is now considering converting a janitor's closet into a shower room and installing a washer and dryer for the homeless.

—*The Anglican [Toronto]*



Port Colborne, Ont., church plans parkette, youth project in derelict space

An Ontario church is planning to transform a derelict property that once housed a biker gang into an urban haven of peace, beauty and community service.

Last year, the diocese of Niagara authorized the Parish of St. James and St. Brendan to purchase a property across the street from the church, consisting of an overgrown lot and two buildings. One of these, according to rector Canon Robert Hurkmans, was "a former notorious hangout for a Niagara biker gang," and the other housed a menagerie of snakes.

The parish, Hurkmans says, plans to redevelop the lot into "a place of beauty, rest, community and learning." The empty lot will be made into a parkette with benches, artwork, trees and a fountain—an inviting spot for lunch breaks, art shows, concerts or weddings, he says. The former biker gang clubhouse will be repurposed to house "Ozzy's Garage," a planned youth outreach centre.

Partnering with the parish on the outreach centre will be a married couple, Rick (Ozzy) and Heather Osborne. Rick, Hurkmans says, is himself a former biker gang member who spent 25 years in prison and "has painful and harrowing stories to tell" about his experiences. Rick is now a much sought-after gang expert, he adds. Ozzy's Garage will provide mentoring projects to youth, including bike-rebuilding classes.

The project will cost close to \$500,000, Hurkmans says, and the parish is undertaking a "multi-pronged approach" to raising funds.

—*Niagara Anglican*

Tea at Trinity

Article and photos by
Margaret Oman

Trinity ACW in Ste Foy held their annual Remembrance Day Tea & Sale on Nov. 11th on a sunny crisp day.

The Bake Table was filled with delicious goodies & there were lots of books, plants, & knitting as well as a white elephant table. Tea, sandwiches & sweets were served and a good time of community fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to all who helped make this a success.



FAITHFUL REFLECTIONS

By Louisa Blair

Our baffled hearts

I just came back from Walmart. I don't believe in Walmart, but someone told me to go there and buy a big blow-up ball that will make me completely healthy if I bounce around on it in various ways, so I obeyed.

Entering Walmart, you see vegetables to the left. It's a grocery store. Straight ahead of you are the clothes. It's a clothes store. Then you find yourself among pill bottles. It's a pharmacy. It's a toy shop. An electronics store. You can buy a drone for under \$100. You very quickly forget what you came for, as you suddenly remember that you need some ginger, a pair of socks, and possibly a drone. Now I know why the other shoppers look as if they've been wandering around the store for several years.

It may be efficient, to find everything you need in a single store. But compared to shopping online, it's exhausting. Online you can't get lost, you don't need to walk around for hours looking for a clerk to ask about where to find a bouncy ball. You don't have to look at the other shoppers and try to imagine their lives. You don't need to move at all. Moving is tiring and often very dangerous.

So we sit, immobile, buying more stuff. I have magazines and newspapers piled up high waiting for the time to read them that I will never have. I have a huge array of clothes waiting and ready for me to lose 15 lbs. I have books which I've already read and weren't even worth reading the first time. I have lots of adorable little dusty knick-knacks. I'm not alone. Hoarding gained its very own entry in the DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) four years ago. And as a society, our pathological consumption has stretched the capacity of the planet to breaking point.

Why am I so tangled up with things? Perhaps because I have a feeling the planet is going to be destroyed soon anyway, as none of us can stop doing what we're doing, so what does it matter. Or I believe the ubiquitous commercial message that pounds me from all sides: I possess, therefore I am. Pope Francis says that the constant flood of new stuff "baffles our hearts".

Marie Kondo, the guru of tidiness, says the answer is that we should declutter. "I want to help as many people as possible tidy up once and for all," she says pertly. Take each object you own in your hand, look at it, caress it, and ask yourself, Does it spark joy? If not, says she, chuck it. It sounds like a lot of work to me. And she doesn't tell us how we can do it online.

There's something to her idea though – there's a charge that comes off a beloved object that speaks of an unmeasured extravagance. Perhaps this was Marie Kondo's insight – that when an object sparks joy, at some level it transcends our individual efforts or desires or sufferings and points to someone else. Someone who loves us, who is faithful, who gives us this and everything else, without counting the cost, down to each breath we take, moment by moment.

Seeking only this kind of joy should be at the heart not only of our lives, but of our economy. This is the economy that will save the planet. As Wendell Berry said,

...Nothing
Is given that is not
Taken, and nothing taken
That was not first a gift.

Gleanings

Gleanings is a monthly column by Meb Reisner Wright, the diocesan historian, who delves in to the back issues of the Quebec Diocesan Gazette to present us with interesting nuggets of our past.

Before the War it had been usual for the Editor of the Diocesan Gazette to make some reference in the January issue to the turning of the New Year, or perhaps to events of the year just past, but in January 1918 not a word on either subject is to be found. Readers had to wait until the February issue to get any notion that a New Year had in fact begun and had been marked in any way.

At the conclusion of an article titled "Happenings at Chute Panet" under parish news from Bourg Louis is the following note:

"At the beginning of the New Year the Incumbent of Bourg Louis," probably the writer of the February article, "received a very pleasant surprise. An envelope inclosing a sum of money and a letter was given to him. The letter stated that the congregation at Chute Panet wished him to accept the money as a small token of their appreciation of his work in conducting the services and wishing his wife and himself every good wish for the year 1918."

"In thanking them for their gift, the Incumbent [Revd William Alfred Adcock] in a few words said that he was extremely pleased to know that his ministrations among them were so well appreciated, and hoped that the good fellowship be-

tween them and him would continue and increase more and more."

The Revd Adcock had come to the Diocese from England in 1888, having received his theological education at the University of Queen's College, Birmingham. His first appointments had been south of the St Lawrence River: Fitch Bay, East Angus, St George de Beauce and Durham. His ministry at Bourg Louis and Chute Panet began at his appointment to Portneuf and Halesboro in 1914 where he seems to have remained until his retirement in 1929.

The Gazette's January 'Lead Article' concerns Food Saving so that Canada could feed our Armed Forces and as well as send food to starving allied civilians overseas.

"The Food Controller," it was reported, had "issued an urgent appeal to the people of Canada to do all that they possibly can to save food, especially wheat, beef and bacon, in order to meet the desperate shortage which exists in Europe ..."

"Mr Herbert Hoover, Food Administrator of the United States said recently"—for the Americans had finally joined in the conflict—"I feel it my duty to emphasize that the food situation is one of the utmost gravity, which, unless it be solved, may possibly result in the collapse of everything we hold dear in civilization' ..."

"The facts stated by the Food Controller are as follows:

"1—France this year had a crop which was only between one-third and one half of that of a normal year ..

"2—The harvest in Italy was far below normal and today hundreds of people are in peril of starvation. Great Britain, and even dauntless France, have been sending food to Italy..

"3—Until, and unless, new shipping becomes available, it is impossible for the Allies to spare many cargo carriers to transport foodstuff from more distant countries such as India, Australia, New Zealand and even the Argentine Republic. This means that the Allied Nations are practically dependent upon North America to supply them with the food which must be forthcoming, if terrible suffering is to be avoided and the fighting efficiency of the Armies maintained. ..."

"Canada is fortunate above nearly all the countries of the world in having an apparent abundance of food. But that apparent abundance involves a tremendous obligation to our Allies. ... The supreme food needs overseas are for wheat and wheat flour, meat, sugar and fats and the people of Canada must restrict their use of these commodities to an increasing extent. Fortunately we have a large supply of wholesome substitutes, and these should be used more freely in order that the vitally needed foodstuffs may be released for export. ..."

"Production, too, must be increased to the greatest possible extent"

A second article, titled "Voluntary Food Saving", outlined "some practical rules" which would help accomplish this. Readers were encouraged not to eat "bacon or ham unless you are engaged in extremely heavy manual work," not to eat "meat in any form at more than one meal per day," as well as "not [to] eat both butter and jam with bread," just one or the other.

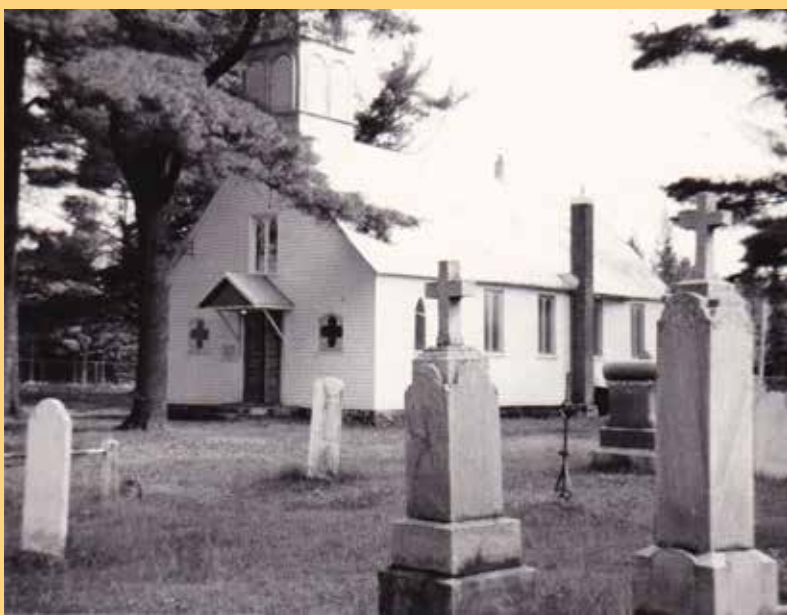
"In place of a slice of bread, eat one extra potato every day" and, finally, to discourage any notion of second helpings, "not [to] display a joint of meat on the table. It is an inducement to eat more than you need."

"The United States," the appeal points out, "has not a single bushel of wheat for export," should help from that quarter be argued.

"The United States Food Administration is endeavouring to bring about a reduction of 20 percent in home consumption of wheat and flour. This would release 100,000 bushels for export, but the Allies will require nearly five times that amount before the 1918 harvest."

Even across so many years, one can't help feeling grateful to the incumbent of Bourg Louis for the one sparkle of pleasure in an otherwise sombre New Year of uncertainty and privation.

And now for something unique....



St. Bartholomew's Church in Bourg Louis, built in 1852, referred to in Gleanings above has a unique and unusual feature. It has a fireplace in one wall. The fireplace is sealed off and not in use but was once used to heat the church. There are a number of small country churches that had or still have wood burning box stoves in them, but this is the only church in the diocese with a fireplace.

In the 1960s some photos of the church's interior were taken and a few years later Mrs. Ethel Gilpin went through her photo album and sent to Dean Paul James a photo she had of the fireplace. Dean James in turn sent it to the diocesan archives.

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