
By Silas Nabinicaboo,
Photos by Amanda Swappie and Tshiueten Vachon

On the 3rd Sunday of Lent, March 24th, 2019 there was a special service held at St. John’s Parish, Kawawachikamach, for the dedication of the translated book of Psalms in the Naskapi language. This is another important milestone for the work the Naskapi translation team does in making the Bible available and accessible in our own language.

Work began on the Naskapi Bible translation project in the 1990s. The Naskapi Development Corporation (NDC) partnered with St. John’s Parish and Wycliffe Bible Translators to build a translation team that sought to fulfill the vision of the late Joseph Guanish, long time chief of the Naskapi Nation, former president of NDC, and mentor and inspiration to the team and the community.

He lived to see his vision begin to be fulfilled with the publication of the New Testament in the Naskapi language in 2007, followed by the dedication of the book of Genesis in 2013. The Translation of the Psalms into Naskapi was initially a part of Lectionary Readings for Sundays and Holy Days (2012), using the Psalter included in Bishop John Horden’s 1889 Book of Common Prayer in the Cree language as the primary source material.

With the present publication, the Naskapi Development Corporation is pleased to present all 150 Psalms to Naskapi readers for the first time in a single volume. Our prayer is that these Scriptures would bless the Naskapi people for generations as they have blessed millions of God’s people around the world for thousands of years.

The Psalms is one of the books of the Bible that give us wisdom on how to live well. It is a collection of raw, honest prayers poured out to the Lord that cover a wide range of life experiences. Each was composed in response to a real-life situation or celebration. Together they cover the full spectrum of human emotion, from exuberant joy to agonizing pain.

The Psalmists invite us to express our true thoughts and feelings to God. We do not have to hold anything back. We are not alone in the ups and downs of life. Instead, we have the assurance that God is faithful and good, and His presence is with all who trust in Him.

We, the translation team, are proud of this accomplishment, and the Naskapi people are also proud and grateful to have still another part of the Bible to have translated into our Naskapi language.

Continued work on translating the Old Testament into Naskapi is still an on-going project that we are committed to, and provides us with another way of preserving our Naskapi language.

The Naskapi community and St. John’s Parish would like to express our deep thanks to those who have been dedicated to this project. The early drafts were prepared and reviewed by the late Joseph Guanish, and work continued over more than fifteen years by Silas Nabinicaboo, joined by Naskapi Language Specialists Amanda Swappie, Ruby Nabinicaboo, Tshiueten Vachon. We are filled with gratitude to everyone who provided their guidance, and assistance, and to all who gave their support for this project.

The Naskapi Development Corporation (NDC) partnered with St. John’s Parish and Wycliffe Bible Translators to build a translation team that sought to fulfill the vision of the late Joseph Guanish, long time chief of the Naskapi Nation, former president of NDC, and mentor and inspiration to the team and the community.
MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Pray for the General Synod

In just a couple of months, from July 10 to 16, members of our church from across this country will gather in Vancouver for the 42nd meeting of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The General Synod gathers every three years in a different part of the country, drawing together laypeople, deacons, priests, and bishops from every diocese (and also the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples and the Anglican Military Ordinariate) to pray, discuss, discern, deliberate, and make decisions about our common life as members of the Anglican Church of Canada.

This meeting of the General Synod has three particularly important decisions to make.

We will be asked to give our blessing to the next stage in the development of Indigenous self-determination within our church. This is part of our church’s covenant with First Nations peoples to live into our commitments with respect to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The General Synod will continue its consideration of amending our church’s canon law on marriage to include same-sex couples. This is the latest development in a decades-long discernment about the full inclusion of gay and lesbian people in the life of the Anglican Church of Canada.

A new priory for our church will also be chosen by this General Synod. After a dozen years of extraordinarily faithful ministry to our beloved church, our beloved Archbishop Fred Hiltz is retiring. The bishop who is chosen to succeed him will become our church’s national and international ambassador, spokesperson, will exercise pastoral and spiritual leadership at a churchwide level, and lead the Anglican Church of Canada in discerning and pursuing God’s mission.

You can read in detail about each of these and other significant matters coming before the General Synod in the Anglican Journal and on the Anglican Church of Canada’s website, anglican.ca.

In addition to learning more about these important decisions up for consideration at this churchwide assembly, I invite you to pray.

Please pray for all of the members of the General Synod as they prepare to gather in Vancouver in July, especially the six individuals who will be attending on behalf of the Diocese of Quebec. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s wisdom and guidance as a new chief pastor for our church is chosen. Pray for God’s discernment and holy charity as we discuss matters that can be difficult and divisive. And pray that we might emerge from this gathering united as disciples of Jesus Christ and credible witnesses to God’s reconciling love in the world.

+ Bruce

Reminder the deadline is coming!

The national church’s communications department is taking over the subscription lists. You need to confirm your subscription. If they do not hear from you, your subscription will come to an end with the June 2019 issue!

Contact them with your name and address and they will ensure that you continue to get both the Anglican Journal and the Quebec Diocesan Gazette. Email them at yes@national.anglican.ca or use the form found in this month’s Anglican Journal

Gardez le Synode général dans vos prières

Dans seulement quelques mois, du 10 au 16 juillet, des membres de notre église en provenance de tout le pays se réuniront à Vancouver pour la 42ème réunion du Synode général de l’Église anglicane du Canada.

Le Synode général se réunit tous les trois ans dans différents endroits à travers le pays, réunissant laïcs, diacres, prêtres et évêques en provenance de tous les diocèses (ainsi que le Conseil anglican des peuples autochtones et l’Ordinariat militaire anglican) pour prier, discuter, délibérer et prendre des décisions concernant notre vie commune en tant que membres de l’Église anglicane du Canada.

La prochaine réunion du Synode général sera appelée à prendre trois décisions particulièrement importantes.

Il nous sera demandé de donner notre accord à la prochaine étape du développement de l’autodétermination autochtone au sein de notre église. Ceci fait partie de la convention intervenue entre notre église et les peuples des Premières Nations de respecter nos engagements en ce qui concerne la Commission de vérité et réconciliation du Canada et la Déclaration des Nations Unies sur les droits des peuples autochtones.

Le Synode général poursuivra l’examen du projet de modification du droit canonique de notre Église concernant le mariage afin d’y inclure les couples de même sexe. C’est le dernier développement à date dans le cadre de la réflexion amorçée depuis plusieurs décennies quant à la pleine inclusion des personnes gaies et lesbiennes dans la vie de l’Église anglicane du Canada.

Ce Synode général sera aussi appelé à choisir un nouveau prêtre pour notre église. Après une douzaine d’années de ministère extraordinairement loyal auprès de notre chère église, notre archevêque bien-aimé, Fred Hiltz, prend sa retraite. L’évêque qui sera choisi(e) pour lui succéder deviendra l’ambassadeur et le porte-parole national et international de notre église, devra exercer son leadership pastoral et spirituel à l’échelle de notre église dans toute son étendue et devra guider l’Église anglicane du Canada dans le discernement et la poursuite de la mission de Dieu.

Vous trouverez plus d’informations sur chacune de ces questions et sur d’autres questions importantes dont le Synode général sera saisi dans le Anglican Journal et sur le site Web de l’Église anglicane du Canada, anglican.ca.

En plus d’en apprendre plus sur les importantes décisions qui seront soumises pour examen lors de cette assemblée de toute l’église, je vous invite à prier.

Je vous invite à prier pour tous les membres du Synode général alors qu’ils se préparent à se réunir à Vancouver en juillet, en particulier pour les six personnes qui y représenteront le diocèse de Québec. Priez pour que le Saint-Esprit insuffle sa sagesse et sa lucidité à tous les participants lors du choix du nouveau pasteur en chef de notre église. Priez pour que le discernement divin et la sainte charité soient avec nous lorsque nous discuturerons de sujets difficiles qui peuvent devenir sources de disensions. Et priez pour que l’issue de ce rassemblement nous trouve unis comme disciples de Jésus-Christ et témoins crédibles de l’amour réconciliant de Dieu dans le monde.

+ Bruce

Reminder the deadline is coming!

The national church’s communications department is taking over the subscription lists. You need to confirm your subscription. If they do not hear from you, your subscription will come to an end with the June 2019 issue!

Contact them with your name and address and they will ensure that you continue to get both the Anglican Journal and the Quebec Diocesan Gazette. Email them at yes@national.anglican.ca or use the form found in this month’s Anglican Journal
A colt that has never been ridden

As they are walking to Jerusalem, Jesus tells two of his disciples to go into the next village, find a donkey, and bring it to him. Let us imagine their conversation as they hurry ahead.

“What is this guy, a messiah or a mafia boss? Asking us to steal a donkey for him! We’re going to get fined, flogged, or even hanged for this!”

“He seemed to suggest the owner won’t mind.”

“Yes but what if he does mind? What does he want a colt for, anyway?”

“To ride it into Jerusalem, of course, you broody viper.”

“But a colt that’s never been ridden? This is going to look like a rodeo competition, not a grand entry into the Holy City.”

“Perhaps he’s tired of walking and his feet hurt.”

“Well he’s going to get bucked off and strike his head against a stone. We carry the Messiah unconscious into Jerusalem with a cracked skull. How impressive is that?”

“No, listen, you whitewashed room. Don’t you remember Zechariah’s prophecy? Fear not, daughter of Zion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass’s colt. Jesus is telling everyone that he’s the King.”

“Look, perhaps Zechariah was having a bad day. A king should arrive in a horse-drawn chariot, or on a prancing stallion, brandishing a sword. He’s got to show those Romans who’s boss.”

“I don’t know, maybe’s a different kind of king.”

“You bet he is! A king who rides an ass! Couldn’t he have fulfilled a different prophecy? Couldn’t he do Ezekiel’s prophecy that the Nile will dry up? I don’t know, maybe’s a different kind of king.”

“You go it, you’re better at knots.”

“Look, perhaps Zechariah was having a bad day. A king should arrive in a horse-drawn chariot, or on a prancing stallion, brandishing a sword. He’s got to show those Romans who’s boss.”

“And so our Saviour did indeed ride into Jerusalem on a young donkey, taken from a hitching rail in front of a saloon. The guy we worship was telling us what the power of God is not. It is not about winning wars, or a top position, or even winning arguments. It is not about looking good. It is not risk-free (the risk of concussion was high). The power of God is not about success – unless you call being arrested as a criminal and executed a success.”

This upside-down notion of power confused a lot of his followers. They made the mistake of thinking that God’s power involved having a place of honour at the dining-room table in Paradise (Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom), or that God’s power was the exclusive preserve of their group (we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us).

“We’re just the same. Our human notions of power, all tied up with control, status and exclusion, are difficult to put aside. But the power of God is love, a love that is stronger than death. And we cannot control love, as if it were a neat equation: If I am good, then God will love me. If you are good (or look like me, think like me), then God will love you. If you are good (or look like me, think like me, agree with me) I will love you. That’s not how God’s power works. It is a gift, not a payment. I can never remotely deserve it. Let us pray this Lent that we will be open to the limitless contagion of the power of unconditional love, given and received. It is foolish, impossible, illogical and countercultural. Our king rode to his death on a young donkey.”

Reginald Clive Meredith
November 8, 1932 - March 8, 2019

After a short illness Clive passed away peacefully at the CHUL on March 8th. Having always loved an early morning walk, and ready for the end of his time here on earth, Clive left us at dawn. Predeceased by his parents, Rex and Elsie Meredith, and his son, Ned Meredith, he will be deeply missed by his wife of 59 years, Diana, his children, Helen and Will, his daughter-in-law, Kirsten, and his grandchildren, Hazel and Simon.

Clive was an enthusiastic Quebecker, rooted in his historical connections to people and place and so proud to have stayed when so many others left. He particularly loved exploring his hometown (ideally with a black Labrador at the end of a leash) and through his writings he shared Quebec City with others near and far.

For years he wrote a weekly essay in the Quebec Chronicle Telegraph where he recorded his love of the city, his early morning walks, life at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, his work as a translator, and his passion for the village of St Patrick where he had a summer home. Thirty years ago, these essays became his book in all weathers, in all seasons and in time spurred his two books about the history of the Cathedral. For a number of years he also wrote a monthly column for this paper.

A romantic at heart, Clive had a soft spot for the underdog, a deep appreciation of classical music and an unrivalled loyalty to the people of his communities. He delighted in taking (and sharing) photos of favourite people and places.

Clive’s funeral was held at The Cathedral of Holy Trinity. Clive’s burial will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18th at Mount Hermon Cemetery, 1801 Chemin St. Louis, Quebec City.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be welcome to either the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity (for the Clive Meredith Music Fund) or Fondation CHU du Quebec (http://fondationduchudequebec.org/).

In his memory, take an early morning walk and toast him with a glass of Moût de Pomme.

The Rev. Donald McIntosh Hinton
1933-2019

The Rev. Donald McIntosh Hinton died on Thursday, March 21, 2019, after suffering a stroke a week before. Born in 1933 in Deer Lake, Newfoundland, his first vocation was as a teacher at the elementary, secondary and university levels. Ordained to the diaconate in 1980 and to the priesthood in 1995, he faithfully served St. Michael and St. Matthew in Sillery, the Parish of the Magdalen Islands, and Trinity Church in Ste-Foy, before fully retiring from active ministry in 2007.

The funeral for Father Hinton took place at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity on Saturday, March 30.
**Gleanings**

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

Although by the spring of 1919, the War had been over for almost half a year, many of those who had served at the Front were still eagerly awaited by their families and friends at home. A small item under ‘Diocesan Notes’ in the May issue of the Diocesan Gazette announced that “the Rev. Canon F[rederick] G[eorge] Scott... who has distinguished himself so greatly as a Chaplain, and won the admiration and regard of thousands of soldiers in the Canadian Army, is expected home in early May.”

As if to underscore the widespread appreciation, expressed not only by the men in the field, but also by both the military establishment and the Crown, Scott’s honours are listed following his name: ‘Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (CMG)—one of the six orders of Chivalry—and the Distinguished Service Order (DSO), described as ‘a military decoration of the United Kingdom, awarded for meritorious or distinguished service by officers of the armed services during wartime, typically in actual combat.’

At that period, military authorities preferred to have chaplains remain behind the lines well out of danger, but Scott had always insisted adamantly on staying with the men at the front and in the midst of the action where, he believed, a chaplain is most needed. This resolve had its costs. It had not been long since Scott had been released from hospital for wounds received to both legs during the action at Cambrai on Sunday, 29 September, 1918, where he had been assisting a soldier whose hand had just been shot off. As a consequence, he almost lost a foot to amputation.

With four others, one of whom was dying, Scott was carried off the scene, first by stretcher, then by ambulance, initially to Agoes-les-Duisans, then Camiers and finally—as Scott records in his memoirs—back to England “to the Endsleigh Palace Hospital near Euston Station [London], where I arrived with another wounded officer at 3.10 a.m. I was put in a little room on the seventh storey, and there through long nights I thought of our men still at the front and wondered how the war was going...” It was there that he heard the bells of London as they rang out their joyous peels at 11 a.m. on November 11th.

“The troops had to wait on board the ship till the train was ready. All had a finer Guard of Honour.”

On board the 16thBattalion with whom I had sailed away in 1914, the 8thBattalion, the Machine Gun Battalion, the 3rdField Ambulance and some of the Engineers. Like those awakening from a dream, we saw once more the old rock city standing out in the great river. There was the landing and the greeting of loving friends on the wharf within a stone’s throw from the place whence we had sailed away. While I was shaking hands with my friends (on board), an officer told me I had to inspect the Guard of Honour which the kind Officer had furnished.”

“A brief presentation must have taken place at dockside when he was met there by Mrs Scott and others because readers were told that “the Canon was driven home with his family in the motor car which has been presented to him by friends in the city as a mark of grateful appreciation of his splendid service during nearly five years overseas.”

Four days later, according to a further article, “the parishioners of St Matthew’s Church, Quebec, celebrated the safe return from the Front of their beloved Rector... by holding a service of Thanksgiving in the Church, on Thursday, May 8th, followed by a Reception in the Parish Hall.”

An “Address of Welcome was read by Mr A.J. Teakle, People’s Warden, after which a handsome Communion Set in travelling form was presented to the Rector by Dr Laurie, Rector’s Warden. A Queen Anne Silver Tea Service and a basket of flowers were presented to Mrs Scott, by Miss Mary Barton, and Miss Naomi Teakle presented Miss Mary Scott with a handsome bouquet of roses.”

After many more speeches and replies, refreshments were served “by the ladies of the Parish in their usual good style and altogether nothing was omitted to make the evening pass happily. It will certainly live long in the memories of all those privileged to take part in the event.”


“The men called out ‘Speech,’ ‘Speech,’ as they used often to do, half in jest and half in earnest, when we met in concert tents and estaminets in France. I told them what they had done for Canada and what Canada owed them and how proud I was to have been with them... Then, telling them to remove their caps, as this was our last church parade, I pronounced the Benediction, said, ‘Goodbye, boys,’ and turned homewards.”

The June issue of the Diocesan Gazette records what happened next (although it got the date wrong; it was the 4thnot the 5th): “Lt-Col. the Rev. Canon Scott, M.A., D.C.L., C.M.G., D.S.O., arrived in Quebec by the Empress of Britain on Sunday Morning May 5th. The Bishop and Archdeacon Ballour, with a large number of [Scott’s] friends were on the wharf to meet him, and Canon Scott was given an enthusiastic reception.”

As if to underscore the widespread appreciation, expressed not only by the men in the field, but also by both the military establishment and the Crown, Scott’s honours are listed following his name: ‘Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (CMG)—one of the six orders of Chivalry—and the Distinguished Service Order (DSO), described as ‘a military decoration of the United Kingdom, awarded for meritorious or distinguished service by officers of the armed services during wartime, typically in actual combat.’

At that period, military authorities preferred to have chaplains remain behind the lines well out of danger, but Scott had always insisted adamantly on staying with the men at the front and in the midst of the action where, he believed, a chaplain is most needed. This resolve had its costs. It had not been long since Scott had been released from hospital for wounds received to both legs during the action at Cambrai on Sunday, 29 September, 1918, where he had been assisting a soldier whose hand had just been shot off. As a consequence, he almost lost a foot to amputation.

With four others, one of whom was dying, Scott was carried off the scene, first by stretcher, then by ambulance, initially to Agnez-les-Duisans, then Camiers and finally—as Scott records in his memoirs—back to England “to the Endsleigh Palace Hospital near Euston Station [London], where I arrived with another wounded officer at 3.10 a.m. I was put in a little room on the seventh storey, and there through long nights I thought of our men still at the front and wondered how the war was going...” It was there that he heard the bells of London as they rang out their joyous peels at 11 a.m. on November 11th.

“There was wild rejoicing in the city and the crowds went crazy with delight,” he wrote, “but it seemed to me that behind the ringing of those peals of joy there was the tolling of spectral bells for those who would return no more. The monstrous futility of war as a test of national greatness, the wound in the world’s heart, the empty homes, those were the thoughts which in me overmastered all feelings of rejoicing.”

Scott’s gripping memoir of his wartime experience, The Great War as I Saw It, concludes with the docking at Quebec of the troop ship on which he finally came home:

“On Sunday morning, the 4thof May, 1919, on the Empress of Britain, after an absence of four years and seven months, I returned to Quebec.”

“On board were the 16thBattalion with whom I had sailed away in 1914, the 8thBattalion, the Machine Gun Battalion, the 3rdField Ambulance and some of the Engineers. Like those awakening from a dream, we saw once more the old rock city standing out in the great river. There was the landing and the greeting of loving friends on the wharf within a stone’s throw from the place whence we had sailed away. While I was shaking hands with my friends (on board), an officer told me I had to inspect the Guard of Honour which the kind Officer had furnished.”

“I did not know how to do this properly, but I walked through the rows of stalwart, bronzed men and looked into their faces which were fixed and immovable. Each man was an original, and every unit in the old 1stDivision was represented. For four years and seven months, they had been away from home, fighting for liberty and civilization. Many of them wore decorations, many of them had been wounded. No General returning victor from a war could have had a finer Guard of Honour.”

“The troops had to wait on board the ship till the train was ready. All along the decks of the great vessel, crowded against the railings in long lines of khaki, were two thousand seven hundred men. Their bright faces were ruddy in the keen morning air. On their young shoulders the burden of Empire had rested... It made a great lump in my throat to look at them and think of what they had been through...”