



## Adoration of the Christ child

**BOSCH, HIERONYMUS**  
**ADORATION OF THE MAGI**  
**(CENTRAL PANEL) C. 1510**  
**OIL ON WOOD, 138 X 72 CM**

THE CENTRAL PANEL displays the adoration of the Christ Child by the three Kings or Magi. The Infant Christ sits solemnly enthroned on his mother's lap. The Virgin and Child resemble a cult statue beneath its baldachin, and the Magi approach with all the gravity of priests in a religious ceremony. The splendid crimson mantle of the kneeling King echoes the monumental figure of the Virgin. That Bosch intended to show a parallel between the homage of the Magi and the celebration of the Mass is clearly indicated by the gift which the oldest King has placed at the feet of the Virgin: it is a small sculptured image of the Sacrifice of Isaac, a prefiguration of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross. Other Old Testament episodes appear on the elaborate collar of the second King, representing the visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, and on the Moorish King's silver orb, depicting Abner offering homage to David.

A group of peasants have gathered around the stable at the right. They peer from behind the wall with lively curiosity and scramble up to the roof in order to get a better view of the exotic strangers. The Shepherds had seen Christ on Christmas Eve, but they frequently reappear as spectators in fifteenth-century Epiphany scenes. Generally, however, they display much more reverence than do Bosch's peasants, whose boisterous behaviour contrasts strongly with the dignified bearing of the Magi.

The most curious detail of Bosch's Epiphany is the man standing just inside the stable behind the Magi. Naked except for a thin shirt and a crimson robe gathered around his loins, he wears a bulbous crown; a gold bracelet encircles one arm, and a transparent cylinder covers a sore on his ankle. He regards the Christ Child with an ambiguous smile, but the faces of several of his companions appear distinctly hostile.



Because they stand within the dilapidated stable, time-honoured symbol of the Synagogue, these grotesque figures have been identified as Herod and his spies, or Antichrist and his

counsellors. Although neither identification is quite convincing, the association of the chief figure with the powers of darkness is clearly suggested by the demons embroidered on the

strip of cloth hanging between his legs. A row of similar forms can be seen on the large object which he holds in one hand; surprisingly, this can only be the helmet of the second King,

and still other monsters decorate the robes of the Moorish King and his servant. These demonic elements undoubtedly refer to the pagan past of the Magi.



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# When Halloween comes with a Christmas message

AS HARD AS WE STRUGGLE to keep a good Advent here at St. Bart's, the world is upon us at every turn. Snow has been drifting down on our flat screens for weeks it seems and if we have ventured into the big city, the Malls have been full of talking Christmas trees and 'sicko' elves even before the Halloween candy is history.

Speaking of Halloween candy....our spiritual leader has been spending long periods of time in a dentist's chair. It seems that the expected hoards of trick or treaters were a no-show at the rectory so Billie, thinking only of her family's health, decided to look after the remaining molasses kisses...besides, no one else would eat them! One cracked tooth and a missing gold crown later, 'the rev' as she hates to be called, was booked in to see a specialist in tooth repairs of the expansive and time consuming kind.

No one here has been bold enough to say "I told you so" and we all have nothing but sympathy for Billie...everyone but Pops that it. He says it was her own d\*\*m fault ; besides nobody can stand those molasses kisses and if she had brought home mini Mars



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

Bars as he requested her smile would still be perfect!

I did say smile. The tooth that took the licking was a front tooth that had been filled years ago and had born the brunt of apple eating, corn on the cob nibbling and nail biting for a very long time. The tooth and it's filling had done well to last as long as it had but that final kiss of the sticky, chewy kind snapped it off. Billy had a huge gap in her mouth and our rector, who smiles at everyone and everything was left with a tight lipped grimace.

Vanity. Vanity sayeth the preacher ....truer words were

never spoken. Vanity made Billie swallow her fear of dentists, her concern over the expected high costs and get into the city as fast as she could. She has been seeing a specialist who is fixing up her smile in stages and she is spending days in one of the huge Malls where the offices of said specialist are found.

Malls; November and Christmas overload: they all add to Billie's distress . She says she hears nothing but 'Holiday' music where ever she goes. At her urging, the receptionist at the office has turned off some of the offending tunes....if only when she is there.

I guess lying upside down with tubes and rubber dams in her mouth, with strange sunglasses on her nose to save her eyes from the glare of the lights she has been told; to listen to the chatter of the specialist and his assistant as they discuss their Christmas plans. To hear the tuneless, under the breath humming of 'Rocking Around The Christmas Tree' as the second assistant takes even more x-rays of the front of her mouth., to feel like a fool as she retells the story of just how her front tooth snapped off....all of this has made this

Advent a time of reflection and penance for Billie .

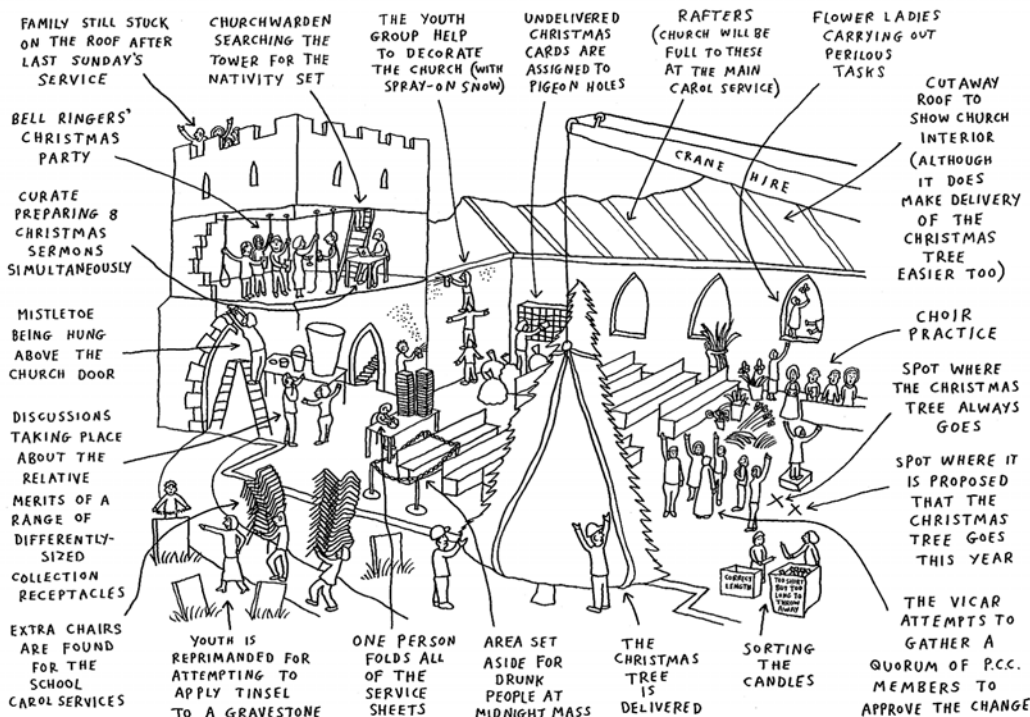
All those days spent at the Mall has also made Christmas shopping easier for her. She has seen the 'world' before Christmas close and personal so to speak and she tells us that we are blessed to live in a quiet rural community where the world can be kept a bay if we refuse to watch the seasonal specials offered on our televisions. We are being urged to light our Advent wreaths and open our calendars, one day at a time and wait for the blessed arrival of our Christmas. It starts here By the Bog on December the 24th and lasts for the twelve days until we welcome the Magi on January the 6th.

There will be no sticky kisses of the chewing kind in the candy bowls at the rectory over the twelve days of Christmas, but there will be joy and good cheer and a few extra treats that came from the busy Mall.

From us at St Bart's By the Bog, we wish you all a very Blessed and Holy Christmas season.

I'll keep you posted,  
Aunt Madge

## CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS



CartoonChurch.com

© Dave Walker

## BISHOP'S MESSAGE

## 'Love came down at Christmas'



The Right Reverend Sue Moxley,  
Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince  
Edward Island.

**MAKE NO MISTAKE** - Christmas is religious observance! In spite of what those "politically correct" folks try to say or do, Christmas is the observance of the birth of God as a human, Jesus! Some of us have forgotten what an extraordinary claim that is and we take it for granted because it is foundational to our faith. Two years ago someone asked, "What's God got to do with Christmas?" Well I felt obliged to tell the story! "But why would God do that?" he asked next. Because God cares about us, God loves us. "Even me?" he asked next. That conversation led him to the possibility of faith in a God who loves him and he is still asking questions!

Now Christmas is coming around again and the Christmas music is playing in the stores. I have discovered that many people know the tunes but not the words. I standing in line waiting for a cashier when I heard the woman beside me humming along to *Away in a Manger*. "Oh are you a Christian too?" I asked. "No why would you think that?" she asked. "Because that is a Christian song you are humming!" As there were six people in front of us, I felt obliged to tell the story! "I didn't know any of that. So you think God would even love me, do you?" YES! "That's why those people go to church on Christmas Eve then?" YES! "Maybe I will have to check that out. It must be nice to know God loves you", she said wistfully. So she may be in your church Christmas Eve and I hope she hears the real Christmas story.

My favourite Christmas hymn is not one I have ever heard in a shopping mall.

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas-  
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus-  
What shall be our sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
Love be yours and love be mine;  
Love to God and neighbour,  
Love for prayer and gift and sign.

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

It seems to me that tells the whole story.

What is your favourite Christmas hymn? "O Come All Ye Faithful"? What a mixture of power and glory and awe filled fear! This definitely a different view of the birth of Jesus from the one we hear in "All Poor Folk and Humble". Different again is "Of Eternal Love Begotten" which sets the birth of Jesus into the history of seers and prophets. Or what about "What Child is This?" that sets the lowly birth in contrast to the One born, Christ the King?

Christmas hymns give us a glimpse of the truth of God's incarnation. What do your favorite Christmas hymns tell you about your understanding of the birth of Jesus the Christ and what that says about your relationship to God?

In the week before Christmas Day, make time to reflect on the meaning of the birth of Christ. Maybe using your hymn book will help.

And whenever you get the chance, tell the real story of Christmas!

+Sue

## Conspire to pray this Advent



Prayer

Steve Laskey

**HAVE YOU HEARD** about the Advent Conspiracy? In 2006 a number of pastors in the US were sitting around complaining about how the Christmas seemed to get lost in all the rush of shopping and buying. Advent is no longer a prayerful time of preparation. It has become, for many, a frenzied time of desperation. They began a movement which has four aims: to Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All. This movement gained momentum year by year and it has really been the young people who have made the movement grow. They have found a joy in worship, in taking the focus off spending, in finding ways to give gifts that matter like clean water and supporting justice movements. It is a way to Love All and to spend time with one another. This is definitely an exciting way to spend Advent and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

We are not squirrels trying to stuff away as much as we can

to do us through the winter. We are the children of God who have received life in our Lord, Jesus Christ. I would like to invite us to conspire to pray through Advent so we can avoid being drawn into what seems to be an inescapable vortex of busyness and chaos of parking lots, malls, and shops. The prayer of Advent can help us focus on what really matters in this season and we can use the prayers to meditate on what God is calling us to be and do.

Below are three prayers you might like to use over the weeks of Advent. They can be used to start your day, sustain your day, and finish your day. They can be used anytime. If you wish they could be used to mediate on the themes we often see during Advent: Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. You can pray alone, with your family, prayer group or with friends. They can be prayed in Sunday worship to send us out each week. They can even be prayed when we do go shopping to remind us who we

are and what we are about. It is a great conspiracy

Advent Prayer by Henri Nouwen  
Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.  
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.  
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

Advent Prayer based on a teaching of St. Francis of Assisi  
Lord Jesus, we wait for you in these times of wanting everything now.  
May we cultivate patience this Advent and take the time to truly listen to your desire

for our lives as we make our journey through this world. Teach us about ourselves that we may come to a deeper awareness of what is important in life. May we seek out quiet moments and spaces away from the rush of the crowds as we prepare our hearts to receive you once again. Amen.

Lord Jesus, you come as a gift to me. Help me to unwrap the gift of your love. As my life unfolds may I journey with a joyful hope to know the depths of your love for this world and the fullness of your peace which is for all your children. Give me an awareness of the gifts you have placed in me that I may offer these back to you in service to my brothers and sisters and in particular those whose lives I touch each day. Amen.

Conspire to begin each day with prayer this Advent. See where the journey takes you. For more about the Advent Conspiracy movement, you can find it on the web at: [www.adventconspiracy.org](http://www.adventconspiracy.org)

# Enriching life across the dioceses

ANGLICAN  
FOUNDATION OF CANADA   
imagine more

In every jurisdiction, the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) is working to revitalize the Anglican experience by providing grants and loans for projects that enhance church life. Eligible initiatives range from physical-plant renovations, accessibility upgrades and new construction to diverse projects in the arts, Christian education and vocational development, history and heritage, healing and reconciliation and social welfare. Here are a few examples.

## NOVA SCOTIA & PEI

All Saints Cathedral in Halifax has a new sound system and St. Francis by the Lakes in Lower Sackville, N.S., has an expanded parking

lot, thanks to AFC grants. The 80-foot steeple and at the 192-year-old Trinity Church in Liverpool was safely restored with grant/loan assistance. "The steeple was rotted at the top, and the large weathervane could easily have fallen into the church and prevented worship," says former warden Pamela Oliver. Other recipients of assistance were the LEAP for Faith Book and Program, a user-friendly interactive process for developing a relationship with God, and the Nichalodian Theatrical Society's 2013 maritime tour of the musical *Godspell*. Selma Doucet of Sydney has served on the AFC board for many years.

# Music Matters

BY MEG JOHNSON

'Be still and know that I am God.'  
(Psalm 64:10)

I'VE BEEN a church musician for 30 years and during that time I received many comments: about the soloist who sang during the offertory, the choir's anthem, the 'amazing Postlude', etc. And I enjoyed receiving the many positive remarks, (and have wondered why I can't please everybody with the music presented.)

But lo! We musicians are not to present their music as an evaluation but as gift to God, no matter what the comment, and to do this to the best of our ability.

It is important to set the mood of our services, not just with the opening hymn or music after a scripture or the sermon, but initially with the pre-service music, or rightly called, the Prelude. One enters the sanctuary each Sunday with usual greeting to his or her friends, has a chat, but what after that? I invite you not to eliminate the "hellos", but then to enjoy sitting, relaxing with thoughts far from your kitchen and problems of your life or the world. Let the music take you away and be at peace with God.



As musicians, we must present the Prelude not as a talkative comedy hour or a concert but simply use music to set the special mood needed to calm each and every soul present. The Prelude can consist of relaxing music (old favorite hymns or spiritual songs, familiar and unfamiliar), or it can be uplifting music (classical or familiar); whether instrumental or with singing, it is all presented to praise our God.

Getting others involved in this area is one of my goals, and this can be a contagious experience! When one or more sing or play an instrument, it encourages others to get involved by singing or clapping, or tapping a foot! And so the Prelude should be an invitation to come join in and feel the Spirit move!

Another way to look at this

special time, the Prelude, is by comparing it with a meal. (And we all enjoy eating!) The Prelude is the aperitif, just setting our taste buds and appetites going, preparing us for the main meal, the "service proper", or main part of the service, which includes the hymns, scriptures, sermon, prayers. (The dessert is the Postlude or close of the service, which I shall discuss at a later date.)

Therefore, I ask you to enter your parish next Sunday, ready to be fed by the Spirit, beginning with one of the important parts of the service, the Prelude. Allow the music to calm you, to quiet you, and know that God is working through you and all of us.

Meg Johnson is the Music Director at Trinity Church, Halifax.

# Will we have a youth and family ministry coordinator?

AT THE MAY 2013 Diocesan Synod, a motion was moved:

**"Resolved that the Diocesan Council be asked to find the funds necessary to re-establish the Youth Ministry Co-ordinator position for two years by January 1, 2014."**

People spoke passionately at Synod. When that motion passed, the work to find new funding began. Why do we need new funding?

Up to now, with the funds from our Leap for Faith Campaign and then a bequest, we have been blessed to be able to employ excellent people in the Youth Ministry Co-ordinator position – knowledgeable, passionate about youth, connected to wider youth networks.



However, those funds are now gone!

We have accomplished so much – positive social media presence, leadership training, workshops on new ways of engaging young families, Diocesan Youth Conference, Care 2 Screen – to name a few. And yet there are still so many young people to reach. As one of our young women said, "Diocesan Youth Conference helps you grow as a person and realize that you are not alone... There are people there to help you...the friends you meet there really care about you..."

We want to offer the workshops that help develop leaders in congregations and regions. As one of our youth leaders said, "The conferences and workshops have made

me aware of best practices and given me confidence in participating in the youth program in my parish."

We want to help young families deepen their faith and pass it on to their children. We want to help youth develop a faith that will give them resilience – both roots and wings! As one small boy who was heading up the stairs from the church basement after his first Messy Church called back to his parents, "Hey, when are we coming back again? I want to come back here!" It was said enthusiasm!

I hope that we can count on your support!

How can you contribute to *Generation to Generation: the Fund in support of the Youth*

Ministry Coordinator position?

- By credit card VISA, Master Card - Phone 902 420 0717 and ask for Jana.
- By cheque payable to the Diocese of NS & PEI, marked Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator Fund, and mailed to Diocese of NS & PEI, 1340 Martello St., Halifax, NS, B3H 2Z1
- On the diocesan website: [www.nspeidiocese.ca](http://www.nspeidiocese.ca). Click on the DONATE button!

+Sue  
Diocesan Bishop



# Three days 'til Sunday

BY REV. ROB ELFORD

A COUPLE WEEKS AGO, on a Thursday, I greeted someone and asked how they were doing. Their response was, "Only three days until Sunday. I can't wait to praise God."

No one had ever said that to me before. I wanted to dig a little deeper with this person but, for whatever reason, I didn't. I was all the more surprised when, a few hours later, in a different setting altogether, someone responded exactly the same to me in response to my greeting them. This time I had to dig a little more deeply.

"I like the music; I like to praise God," was the response to my question about why wait until Sunday. It was followed by, "I don't get out much during the week, I am so busy and there isn't enough time."

I totally get it. It is hard for me, a priest, husband and father to keep my own life balanced and in some semblance of sanity. I know that many, if not most Christians struggle to honour their relationship with God and their family and friends amid the myriad of demands on their time. This is clearly having an impact on church life and our society in general; our entire walk with God.

We are people of the Sabbath. God created the Sabbath not for God but for us (Mark 2:27). But if soccer is on Monday and Friday and dance is on Wednesday and hockey is, of course, on Sunday morning, how do we bring God into focus? Where is the Sabbath? How can we dial down the busyness to hear the still voice of God saying, "I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you." (Isaiah 43:2)

I am not a very legalistic Christian – much to the chagrin of some – I have enough lists of things to do that remain undone, and have rarely (emphasis on rarely not never!) found following lists of dos and don'ts to be that effective in my ability to be open to God's grace. I am, however, profoundly fed by the rhythm of daily prayer.

Brother Lawrence gives us a sustaining glimpse of learning how to practice the presence of God in the kitchen as he prayerfully went about his chores. He knew that God has a very long track record of gently and persistently bringing us to life through Jesus Christ. God is intimately inviting us closer to God every moment of every day. It is this intimacy that draws us to focus



on the other, our families, friends and those in need around us.

So, what prayer will you say when you are in the kitchen... or in the bleachers at the rink? If the word 'thank you' comes to mind enjoy it, hold on to it and then release it back to God. Gratitude is a key to a rhythm of sustaining

prayer. Allow this thank you to do its work as you load the dishwasher. It is a thank you that may lead you to sit with a cup of tea, hold onto a verse of Scripture and go for a walk. You will be amazed at how the kingdom breaks in. It may change what you think and feel when you next walk to the communion rail to take, eat and drink. It may even

help you deal better with the chronic stress you have been experiencing.

Thank you! will help lead you to the great anticipation of sustaining union with our incarnate God. Praise God now... and praise God in three days too!

## You are a vergger ... but you may not know it

BY REV. HOLLIS HISCOCK

MOST ANGLICAN CHURCHES have vergers, they just don't know it.

At least Terry Hughes - one of four vergers at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Burlington, Ontario - thinks so, and the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church supports his view.

Today's vergers are laypersons who serve the church in a ministry of welcome. Often the visitor will see the vergger in a suit, simple cassock or a Canterbury style robe moving about the church preparing for worship. The vergger is able to respond to any inquiry concerning the upcoming service, church facilities or current program offerings.

Traditionally Verggers, who

have been around since the early days of the church, mainly led processions into the church or cathedral, often having to push through crowds of people and animals. In addition they kept order during worship, were responsible for the upkeep of buildings and prepared the liturgy.

Today they incorporate some of these duties, but their roles have expanded tremendously and are performed by a greater number of laity, and not restricted to one or two individuals.

The precise duties of the vergger will be specific to each parish church. He or she works under the direction of the rector or vicar to assist in the organization and operation of religious services in the Anglican Church of

Canada. For instance, in some parishes the vergger will process at all liturgies and in others, they only process on Festival days or not at all. Especially helpful with visiting clergy or special services, the vergger checks on additional seating, hospitality and welcoming newcomers. Most parishes, either small or large, and clergy who have verggers, wonder how they ever did without verggers.

At St. Luke's Parish, the vergger wears many hats. Hughes describes most of them ...

"We open and close the church for Sunday services, weddings, funerals and other special services.

"We make sure the bulletins and orders of service are in the church and are ready for the sidespeople to hand out.

"We also set the hymn boards and make sure the readings are set at the lectern. Church lighting, sound system, heating and cooling of the church are also part of our ministry duties.

"We are also called upon from time to time to serve at the altar and assist at communion as chalice bearers.

"We check the credence table prior to each service making sure the required elements are in place and check the candle inserts.

"There are many, many other small duties that we verggers carry out at St. Luke's, but it is most important to remember that the tradition of vergging in this parish dates back to the 1800s and the duties of the vergger has evolved over time."

For only the second time in its 25 year history, the Guild will meet in Canada in 2014. Approximately 100 members will converge on Burlington Ontario to hold their yearly conference at St. Luke's Church. During the four day event beginning September 25, in addition to excursions and social happenings, the group will hold their annual meeting and participate in in-service training and other educational sessions.

Approximately 35% of the Verggers Guild membership in the United States are females.

For more information about being a Vergger or the conference, contact Terry Hughes at [hugest@cogeco.ca](mailto:hugest@cogeco.ca) or 905-632-9535 or the Verggers Guild at [www.verggers.org](http://www.verggers.org)

# Diocesan Youth C

Camp Bayside, S



## DYC missio



### Socks for Seafarers –

Here is a photo of +Sue with all the socks. There were 1,077 pairs. They will go to the Mission to Seafarers and Out of the Cold in honour of her service as bishop in this diocese. Another 54+ pairs of socks were collected in Milton, PEI, and will be given to a PEI shelter. Their photo is also enclosed. During the offering this morning, a dozen of the youth brought the socks forward. One of the groups spent the last 24 hours sewing a sock monkey as a gift for +Sue to mark the larger gift. They were based at the Mission to Seafarers yesterday and had a secret mission to produce a gift for +Sue to go with the donation of socks. These are the missions the 11 groups of young people and leaders did on Saturday during DYC. The groups who hosted the outings sent back marvellous reports about the help they received!

### Feed Nova Scotia –

a junior high and a senior high team did a neighbourhood canvas for food and money donations around St. Mark's Church and then did a shift at the food warehouse including working with lots of potatoes.

### St. Mark's Church, Halifax –

a junior high and senior high team worked in the church's CAP Site and Sunday school rooms, shredded documents and worked in their food bank.

United Memorial Church – a senior high group painted the interior of the church hall – it was a massive undertaking and they had a great sense of accomplishment. The two people who hosted the group were thrilled with the accomplishment.



### Photos

Above - the entire DYC crew ju Saturday.

Top left - Bishop Sue and some c for seafarers.

Bottom left - two very happy bu team.

Left - one of the talented perform house. Visit our Facebook page i many others.

Right - one of the mission groups Far right - DYC organizers watc performances.

Top right - collecting socks on PI



# Conference 2013

ambro Head, NS



## on activities

### Out of the Cold Shelter at St. Matthew's United Church

— a senior high group cleaned, carried out garbage and debris from the kitchen renovation. They sorted boxes and boxes of clothes and heard about the ministry this group provides to the homeless.

### Mission to Seafarers

— This group of junior and senior high students visited the mission, cleaned and sorted supplies, and visited the Farmer's Market to learn about sustainable buildings. They accomplished the extra mission of building a sock monkey for +Sue.

### Cathedral Garden Project

— Paul Smith took everyone on a tour of the cathedral including a visit with John Hudson at the organ. They worked to prepare new cathedral flower beds at the front by the new steps for spring. It was

a cold, cold day for this work but everyone was cheered on by the distant promise of a lovely garden next year and by the immediate reward of hot chocolate and cookies supplied by the Dean.

### Emmanuel Church, Spryfield

— Carol MacDonnell hosted everyone at Emmanuel where groups polished the pews, tidied and cleaned and learned about the outreach at Emmanuel. These groups also removed recent graffiti from the exterior walls at the Spryfield Boys and Girls Club, and did a yard sweep at the Spryfield Lions Community Rink. A third group learned about the work of the Home of the Guardian Angel, cleaned playrooms and toys, raked leaves and did yard work. It was a cold day for outdoor work but much was accomplished.



st before heading out on  
of the many socks contributed  
t tired members of the DYC  
ners at the Saturday night coffee  
to see her performance and  
s on site on Saturday morning.  
h the coffee house  
EI for the Mission to Seafarers.





# imagine more

## ...and great things will happen!

By DIANA SWIFT

THE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION of Canada may be the best-kept secret in the Anglican Church. Few people realize that this organization, established in 1957 with an initial endowment of just \$25,000, has since provided Anglicans with grants and loans totalling more than \$28 million.

And the Foundation—with current investment assets of almost

\$14 billion—wants more Anglicans to benefit in more diverse ways. So it's embarking on an exciting journey of renewal—rolling out a new plan to ensure its funding has maximum impact. It also has a new strategy for enhancing creative ministry by proactively calling for annual proposals.

"We're helping Canadians in new ways," says the Rev. Judy Rois, the Foundation's executive director. "By making it easier to apply and increasing the impact of gifts, we're able to help more people with a wider range of projects and programs across the country."

Beginning in 2014, the Foundation will launch four



new funding initiatives:

- Multiple-year funding for ministry projects of up to \$10,000 a year for three years
- An annual call for proposals to encourage innovative ministry-related projects
- A donor/project matching program
- A streamlined twice-yearly application process for grants and loans

Underlining this new strategic focus is a streamlined brand identity anchored by the new tagline *imagine more*. The redesigned logo shows two halves of a maple leaf around a stylized stem that forms the letter A to reflect the close interconnection between the Anglican Foundation and the Anglican Church of Canada. *Imagine more* encourages people to dream the endless possibilities the Foundation is ready to support.

While maintaining funding

for construction and renovation, the Foundation is breaking new ground as it supports the fresh expressions of the Church's Vision 2019 blueprint. Initiatives include ecumenical youth strategies, hospice and elder care, theological education and literacy coaching. Its inspiring projects in the visual and performing arts range from an uplifting wall hanging in a B.C. prison chapel to intensive choral training for young girls in Ontario.

"This is funding ministry that matters and makes a difference in people's lives," says Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Anglican Primate and Foundation chair. "It's all about giving life to people, parishes and visions," says Rois.

The Very Rev. Shane Parker, Dean of Ottawa and the Foundation's strategic team leader, is thrilled with this

fresh direction and statement of identity, which, he says, "will provide abundant resources for innovative ministries, a strong Anglican presence and diverse infrastructure projects across the Canadian church."

No one knows better how inspiring Foundation support can be than Justin Cheng, a postulant with the diocese of British Columbia, who received a grant to do an internship this summer at St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem. "The experience allowed me to get a glimpse of the church's mission in the Middle East as well as meet Anglican pilgrims from around the world," he says. "The Foundation's financial support demonstrates the church's commitment to future ordained ministry."

Last May, the Rev. Beth Benson, rector of St. Cuthbert's in Toronto, attended the ecumenical Festival of Homiletics in Nashville, Tenn., with aid from the Lewis Garnsworthy Memorial Trust. "I came home refreshed and encouraged in my preaching ministry and eager to protect the time I need for study and sermon preparation," she says. "I am also eager now to experiment

with different preaching styles."

Traditional funding for church renovation continues. "The Foundation's generous support came at just the right time to raise our spirits and our hopes in the early days of our ambitious renovation project," says the Rev. Brian Pearson, rector of St. Stephen's in Calgary. "The church will be "pew-less" to make it an arts-friendly space."

Funding is driven by investment revenue, and relies on the continuing generosity and collective goodwill of its hundreds of individual donors as well as bequests, memorials, trusts and special gifts. Every Anglican parish is invited to become a member of the Foundation by making an annual donation.

The Foundation remains committed to making great things happen all across the country. Since 2010, it's disbursed approximately \$1.8 million to Anglicans across Canada. Become a catalyst for great things in your diocese. *Imagine* a project you could be passionate about, and let the Foundation know it!

To apply for funding or make donations, go to: [anglicanfoundation.org](http://anglicanfoundation.org)



## Workshops for those grieving and divorced

This Christmas is going to be different and difficult. Someone is missing. Whether your loved one has died or you are coping with a broken relationship, the holidays which used to be a time of great anticipation and excitement, are now causing you to feel anxiety and dread. You are not alone.

"GriefShare" and "DivorceCare" special

Christmas seminars offer participants support, encouragement and advice to survive the holidays. They are being hosted by St. Timothy's, Hatchet Lake, this month in the Prospect Road Area (a 10-minute drive from the Armdale Roundabout, Halifax.). GriefShare is for anyone mourning the death of a family member or friend. DivorceCare is for those

struggling with the pain of separation or divorce (whether married or living common-law).

Both workshops assist participants to discover practical, stress-reducing ideas that will help them face the holiday season. Each two hour session features video seminar teaching by experts, small group discussion with others who are dealing with the same challenges. There's also a personal Holiday Survival Guide to take home.

Rev. Cheryl Rafuse, Vocational Deacon, has been facilitating these seasonal sessions for five years. She says people don't have to face their new realities alone. "We are here to walk alongside them," she said. "We want to reach out to people in the communities and be a guiding light to them especially during their time of need, offering them hope and assurance."

The programs offer many benefits. "They will meet others who are going through

similar experiences," says Rev. Cheryl. "This gives them comfort in knowing that they are not the only person who is going through this. It is through the help of the support group that they meet others who understand, and they make lasting and authentic friendships."

Workshop teaching includes guidance on how to keep a focus on the true meaning of Christmas – a source of hope and comfort. "Participants will be equipped with tools for healing from their grief and pain, and help to discover a healthy approach to the holidays without their loved one," said Rev. Cheryl. "Quite simply, they will find the strength to go on."

Churches who host 'Surviving the Holidays' programs connect with people who might never attend a Sunday service. Leaders reach out, holding the Light of Christ to those who find themselves in dark times. Rev. Cheryl says, "This helps to

grow our churches by caring, sharing, loving and supporting one another."

**DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays is Tuesday, Dec. 3,** in St. Timothy's Hall, 2320 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake. **GriefShare Surviving the Holidays is Thursday, Dec. 5,** in the Prospect Road Community Centre, Hatchet Lake. Both sessions begin at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to anyone. To register, phone 902-852-4580. (These programs are supported financially by the Chebucto Community Health Board and The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia.)

Rev. Cheryl encourages those facing Christmas coping with loss and/or a broken relationship. "You are going through a great deal, so take special care of yourself," she said. "A healthy balance is key and spiritual renewal and focus is a must. Only God can heal a broken heart."



# It's A New Day!

## Operating as a community

BY REV. LISA G. VAUGHN

JESUS PREACHED IT. Now we are called to live it – Sign of the Kingdom. The last three marks of a healthy church are related to how the members of a congregation relate to one another. In Robert Warren's book "The Healthy Churches' Handbook – a process of revitalizing your church", he says a church "is called to embody the presence of God's reign in human society by the way it orders and expresses its life." This is distinctive from a gathering of individuals.

Mark 5 (the fifth mark of congregational health) is Operates as a Community – rather than functioning as a club or religious organization. Healthy parishes highly value relationships and the uniqueness of its members. Although there is ministry to be done, people are always a priority. Quite simply



Christian community is about belonging.

People in our culture today who are considering joining a church are seeking what Warren describes as "small, informal and fluid networks." They resist groups that are cold, rigid and domineering.

Small congregations can naturally offer this type of community, as long as they are open to new people and new ideas. Successful larger churches have learned that small groups are key to building authentic relationships.

One of the characteristics of a healthy church operating

as a community is through relationships that are intentionally nurtured, so that people feel accepted and are helped to grow in faith and service. This is best done in small groups where people are loved, supported to mature as disciples, and invited to join in shared ministry together.

If this is done well, the result is a wide number of people involved in a whole variety of ministries within the church. Members are encouraged to offer their particular and diverse gifts, instead of conforming to established roles. All are truly welcomed in that they are actively engaged in community life.

The second characteristic of this mark concerns leadership: lay and ordained work as a team to develop locally appropriate expressions of the marks of a healthy church. Effective leaders help identify, affirm and empower the 'releasing' of community

members' gifts. This means there has to be trust established and an enabling ministry of permission-giving. Leaders focus on encouraging as many people as possible to share the work. They celebrate all the passion, diversity and achievements rather than being threatened by them.

The last descriptor of this mark of healthy church is related to lay ministry: the different gifts, experiences and faith journeys of all are valued and given expression in and beyond the life of the church. Warren says that healthy Christian communities foster lots of opportunities for meaningful, active participation. He said, "Those whose faith is real want to do something about it and with it. Good churches make that possible."

Lay and clergy leaders in these congregations recognize and help create a culture of "process evangelism" - that all

Christians are on a journey of faith. Evangelism is a shared responsibility within the membership, with members offering different gifts to invite and help integrate new people.

There is also a recognition that skills developed in the church are transferable to other contexts including workplaces, homes and other social organizations. In other words, excellence and relational health in the congregation flows out into the rest of God's Kingdom.

January's column features the sixth mark of congregational health: Makes Room for All - being inclusive rather than exclusive.

*Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn is pastor and priest in Hatchet Lake and Terence Bay, and team leader of the Building Healthy Parishes VSST of the diocese.*

## Ground breaking Council meeting in Corner Brook

BY JIM SWEENEY

The meeting of the Provincial Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada held in Corner Brook was ground breaking for two reasons. The first was that it was quite bit smaller than in the past as the Provincial Synod meeting in Montreal last September reduced the size of the council by a third. The second was the Council had a number of its presenters and guests join the meeting electronically via Skype.

The theme for the council meeting was "Bearing New Fruit" which flowed naturally from the theme of last synod which was "Pruning the Vine". The major work of the council was following up on the direction set out by synod with concrete actions.

Synod asked that the dioceses in the Province to look at ways to work more closely together and as a result two motions were passed. The Dioceses in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada were formed into three groupings, the Quebec Dioceses of Montreal and Quebec; the Maritime Dioceses of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and Fredericton; and the three Newfoundland Dioceses of Western Newfoundland, Central Newfoundland and

Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and it was approved that during the next year each of these groupings will hold at least one joint mission-minded activity aimed at developing the marks of mission within their diocesan group. In the same vein of working together the Council directed that the Provincial Executive requests that Executive Officers and/or related staff of the seven Dioceses within the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada gather within their geographical cluster and/or provincially in order to share their current work and relationships, to investigate potential areas of sharing and report back to the Provincial Executive before the next provincial Synod.

There is not to be a face to face meeting of Council in 2014. It is hoped that there would be a number of video conferences with council members to carry out the work of the province. To further this the Council asked that dioceses to acquire the technology for Video Conferencing or enter into agreements with agencies that have that technology to enable council meetings on a more regular and economical basis.

Education and training also received attention. Mark

Dunwoody of Montreal joined the meeting by Skype and spoke about the proposed Train-the-Trainer event which is to be held in June 2014 in Montreal. The idea is that participants would go back to their dioceses and run training events in the summer or fall of 2014 for youth leaders in their dioceses. Part of the cost for this event will come from the savings resulting from not having a Council meeting in 2014.

Rt.Rev.Darren McCartney spoke about the difficulties of training clergy and lay leadership in the North, and his vision for an ongoing training program for the Diocese of the Arctic and answered questions via Skype. This resulted in the Council passing a motion that our dioceses, in conjunction with the Provincial Executive and the theological training institutions within the Province, explore options for South-North/North-South theological training, and to report back to the next meeting of the Provincial Council.

The Provincial Council commended the Diocese of Fredericton's 12-12-12 Post-Ordination Program for implementation by the Dioceses of the Ecclesiastical Province and that this step be

taken in cooperation with the Provincial Executive, and one or more of the three Anglican theological colleges/schools located in the Province: The Montreal Diocesan Theological College, Queen's College and the Atlantic School of Theology.

To better understand the wider church within Canada the Council approved a plan to have a pilot project of Parish-to-Parish sharing with a parish or other Anglican community within the jurisdiction of the Council of the North. This to be run in collaboration with the Council of the North and may include among other things shared social networking, the sharing of liturgy, the sharing of prayer through prayer cycles, youth gatherings, and face-to-face meetings and gatherings.

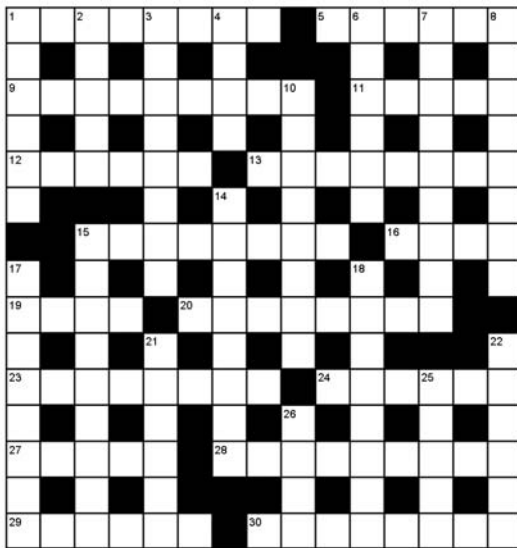
There was a panel to discuss "Safe Church" with Mike Thornhill, Vice President for Eastern Canada of Ecclesiastical Insurance, Jarvis deCondé (on speakerphone) and Jack Walworth (via Skype). Jack Walworth noted that over the past decade there has been an increasingly negative public perception toward all the churches, and we need to implement policies and safeguards as one way of regaining trust. Safe Church is a set of policies,

standards, procedures and forms to assist in this. Jarvis deCondé emphasized the need to implement procedures to create and maintain safe spaces and reduce the likelihood of abuse and misconduct and that this is non-negotiable, and we need to find the best way to get there. As a result of the discussion the Province adopted a Provincial Safe Church Regulation, including a Revised Provincial Misconduct Policy and a Revised Provincial Privacy Policy. The policy only applies to provincial events but the documents are recommended to all dioceses as best practices.

The meetings were not all work; there was plenty of opportunity for worship and great meals hosted at three local parishes. During supper on Friday, the Prolocutor read a citation from the Metropolitan, and the Metropolitan presented the first Province of Canada Award of Merit to the Ven. Alan Perry for his years of dedicated service as Member, Clerical Secretary, Prolocutor and member of the Governance Working Group. At super Saturday Council expressed its thanks to Bishops Sue Moxley & Cy Pitman on their upcoming retirement from office, for their leadership and contributions to Synod.

# Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



## DECEMBER Clues

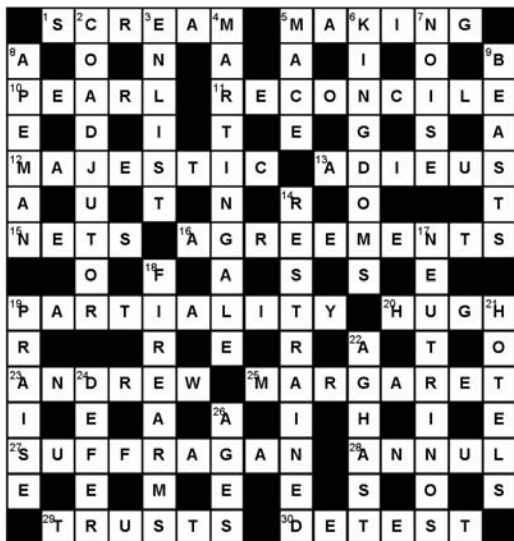
**ACROSS:**

- 1 – Last month of the year (8)
- 5 – First season of the church year (6)
- 9 – Lets stand in a mixture of oil and vinegar (9)
- 11 – Vast chasm (5)
- 12 – “Now this I affirm and \_\_\_\_\_ on in the Lord...” maintain firmly (Eph. 4:17) (6)
- 13 – “...the glory of the \_\_\_\_\_ God...” undying (Rom. 1:23) (8)
- 15 – “The cup of \_\_\_\_\_ that we bless...” favour (1Cor. 10:16) (8)
- 16 – A son of Adam and Eve (Gen. 4) (4)
- 19 – A New Testament book (4)
- 20 – “\_\_\_\_\_ things are spoken of you, O city of God”, wonderful (Ps.87:3) (8)
- 23 – Very sensitive to pollen, etc. (8)
- 24 – “I am slow of \_\_\_\_\_ and of tongue”, talk (Exod. 4:10) (6)
- 27 – Dominant assumptions of a people (5)
- 28 – Chemical element no. 52 (9)
- 29 – “Whoever becomes \_\_\_\_\_ like this child”, modest (Matt. 8:4) (6)
- 30 – “Surely \_\_\_\_\_ and mercy shall follow me...” kindness (Ps. 23:6) (8)

**DOWN:**

- 1 – Realm (6)
- 2 – King of ancient Persia (Ezra 1:1) (5)
- 3 – A son of Joseph (Gen. 48:1) (8)
- 4 – Ingests (4)
- 6 – “...you are like a \_\_\_\_\_ in the seas”, mythical winged beast (Ezek. 32:2) (6)
- 7 – “Joseph opened the storehouses and sold to the \_\_\_\_\_ Pharaoh’s people (Gen. 41:56) (9)
- 8 – Wrestling (8)
- 10 – Where one studies theology (8)
- 14 – King David was one (8)
- 15 – Where Jesus was born (Matt. 2:1) (9)
- 17 – Where Jesus grew up (Matt. 2:23) (8)
- 18 – Composed of two or more ingredients (8)
- 21 – A disinfectant (6)
- 22 – A disciple (6)
- 25 – “...my people go into \_\_\_\_\_ without knowledge”, expulsion from one’s home (Isa. 5:13) (5)
- 26 – A female voice part in a choir (4)

## November Solution



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Prayer – George Herbert

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**...a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.**

Luke 2:11



# Mark your calendar!

## ... for Feb. 3, the day after Groundhog Day!

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS the first Vital Church Maritimes 2014 Conference, to be held February 3, 4 and 5 at All Saints' Anglican Church, Bedford!

The theme is "Groundhog Day: Seeking Signs of Hope." This event, for both lay members and clergy, will offer inspiring teaching and dynamic workshops on approaches to ministry both for 'inherited' church and 'fresh expressions' of church. It's being sponsored by the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

We have secured Rev. Dr. Michael Moynagh as our plenary speaker. He is based at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, and works for Fresh Expressions (UK) as Director of Research. Moynagh advises businesses and government on social trends, as well as being involved in the education and training of Ordained Pioneer Ministers. He is the



author of "Church For Every Context: An Introduction to Theology and Practice" (2012, SCM Press). His other books include "Working in the twenty-first Century", "Going Global", "Changing Lives, Changing Business", "Changing World, Changing Church: and

"emergingchurch.intro." Details are still being worked out by the VCM Task Group of the Building Healthy Parishes Team, but so far proposed topics to be covered will include:

- basics of discipleship, the nature of church and mission.

- addressing spiritual needs in the 21<sup>st</sup>. century
- reaching seniors
- discover ministry growth opportunities in rural communities
- engaging young families and children
- using social media and other internet resources
- identifying volunteers, equipping and releasing new leaders
- and more!

bring teams of lay and clergy members.

Watch for more exciting details about VCM 2014 in the Anglican Net News, Diocesan website ([www.nspeidiocese.ca](http://www.nspeidiocese.ca)), the January edition of The Diocesan Times and our new Facebook group "Vital Church Maritimes 2014". For more information, contact Rev. Fran Boutilier [francesboutilier@eastlink.ca](mailto:francesboutilier@eastlink.ca) or Rev. Lisa Vaughn [lgvaughn@eastlink.ca](mailto:lgvaughn@eastlink.ca) (902-852-4580).

The list of other speakers, including leaders from our ecumenical partners, will be released soon!

We expect the conference will begin in the afternoon of February 3 and will wrap up around noontime on Feb. 5. The registration fee will be quite reasonable at \$200 or less and will include most meals. There will be incentives for parishes to

## Reimagining church resources and more

The Reimagining Church project has a Facebook group page with ideas and articles on issues related to the changing culture and the ways in which we do ministry. There are new items posted every few days. Join in the brain-storming and discussion. Invite your friends. Search: **Reimagining Church Diocese of NS & PEI.**



## Another year of changes

It is hard to believe another year is coming to a close. Once again the Diocesan Times has more stories than room to print them all so some are moving to our Facebook page ([WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DIOTIMES](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DIOTIMES)) and others will be added to an extended PDF version on the diocesan website ([WWW.NSPEIDIocese.CA/PAGE/DIOCESAN.TIMES.ASPX](http://WWW.NSPEIDIocese.CA/PAGE/DIOCESAN.TIMES.ASPX))

The Rev. Paul Friesen ended a 10 year run as Reviews Editor for The Diocesan Times in May. His contributions over that time provided many fine reviews of books and movies by himself and other reviewers. **Thank you!** to Paul and all who contributed. Harold Irving, our intrepid advertising person, has offered

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his resignation and we are actively seeking a replacement in early 2014. If you are interested, please contact The Diocesan Times at: [diocesantimes@gmail.com](mailto:diocesantimes@gmail.com) The Electoral Synod is still a week away as I write this so I hope our new co-adjutor bishop is ready to take on new

challenges and lead us forward. In case you missed it, we included a contribution envelope in the November paper. If you haven't already done so, we ask that you show your financial support for The Diocesan Times and put your envelope with your parish offerings or mail it directly to

the Synod office. And finally, we wish you and yours a blessed and peaceful Christmas this season. We will see you again in the New Year!



Paul Sherwood, Editor and all the members of The Diocesan Times Management Board.

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# The education of a deacon

BY REV. DAVENA DAVIS

WE HAVE SEEN vocational deacons in this diocese for a number of years. We see them at our Eucharists proclaiming the Gospel, preparing the altar, assisting the presider and dismissing the congregation. Outside of a worship service, we see vocational deacons at their workplaces, in their parish halls doing dishes or serving meals, leading bible study, visiting shut-ins, hospitals or prisons, to name but a few of their ministries.

Have you ever wondered how this all happens? What is behind this ministry?

First and foremost—I hope it goes without saying—is the sense of God's call. At the ordination of a deacon the bishop asks, "Do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to the life and work of a deacon?" (B.A.S. p. 655) At this service, the bishop also says, "As a deacon in the church, you are to study the holy scriptures, to seek nourishment from them.... You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns and hopes of the world.... At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself." (B.A.S., p. 655)

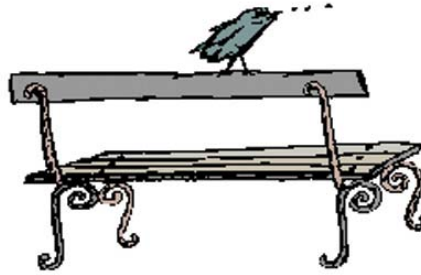
The "life and work of a deacon," it seems to me, encompasses a great many responsibilities. It is not entered into lightly. I quote from the draft of a discussion paper regarding competencies for Canadian vocational deacons set out by the Anglican Association of Deacons in Canada:

#### General Statement about the Diaconate

At the heart of the diaconate is a servant community living and proclaiming the Gospel in the world. The deacon's presence, bringing the needs, concerns and hopes of the world to the church, is a living reminder of the community's call to servanthood. A deacon is to enable the church to be justice makers, truth tellers, advocates and reconcilers in the world. At the heart of the diaconate is a person called to be an agent for hope, a change agent, a groundbreaking prophet; all these states of being are part of a deacon's DNA.

Our diocese has a thorough scheme to ensure that men and women who feel called to this ministry are well prepared to begin the ministry of a deacon. Within the Anglican Church of Canada each diocese has its own program of preparation. The Anglican Association of Deacons in Canada has developed a set of competencies which will at some future date be presented to the House of Bishops. (A national set of competencies for preparation to the priesthood has also been developed.)

The emphasis in the "life and work of a deacon" is the Bible. After vesting the deacon the bishop says, "Receive this Bible as a sign of your authority to proclaim God's word..." (B.A.S., p. 657) It's not merely a token, rather the Bible is the very backbone of a deacon's ministry. A deacon is "to study the scriptures [and] to seek nourishment from them..." (B.A.S., op. 655) Developing a



View from the deacon's bench

familiarity with the Scriptures is essential. Deacons preach; deacons prepare families for a baptism, deacons speak words of comfort to the sick; deacons lead Bible study. In this diocese the required courses for candidates for ordination to the vocational diaconate include a study of the Old and New Testaments as well as other courses such as the history, theology and spirituality of ministry and an introduction to Christian theology. This diocese recommends the Certificate Program in Theological Studies from Atlantic School of Theology, Education for Ministry (EFM), Thorneloe Associate in Theology Diploma or "other approved" program.

The programs from AST and Thorneloe are delivered on-line, EFM meets locally in a variety of spots. All are good programs to begin the understanding of ministry as a deacon. The AST program can be completed in two years—one year covering the Old and New Testaments, one year covering the history, theology and spirituality of ministry and the introduction to Christian theology ([www.asttheology.ns.ca](http://www.asttheology.ns.ca)). The Thorneloe program offers a Diploma in Theology (Dip.Th.), a one-year course

usually taken over several years in part-time study ([www.thorneloe.ca](http://www.thorneloe.ca)). EFM consists of four years of study taken one year at a time, meeting in small groups with a trained mentor. ([www.efmcanada.ca](http://www.efmcanada.ca))

In this diocese, deacons, once ordained, are encouraged to continue their education, and the Community of Deacons together develops a continuing education program on a three-year cycle. These generally take place on Saturdays a few times a year. The content is chosen for its applicability, e.g. liturgical practice, preaching techniques, outreach, etc. and the availability of experts in the field.

To give a further idea of "the life and work of a deacon" I quote from the proposed competencies. I reiterate that these are **proposed** competencies and have yet to be placed before the House of Bishops. However, they indicate what Canadian vocational deacons as a group desire for their order.

- Demonstrate competency in the scriptures and church history
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of Christian theology especially as it relates

to baptismal and diaconal ministry

- Demonstrate a competency in the area of ethical decision-making
- Demonstrate a competency in Christian worship with a special focus on the deacon in the liturgy
- Demonstrate one or more identifiable area(s) of diaconal ministry, (e.g. workplace ministries, outreach ministries, social advocacy ministries, environmental advocacy ministries etc.)

This article has focused on the education of a vocational deacon—in other words, a man or woman who is called to the ministry of servanthood in the church. The education of a transitional deacon—a person called to the priesthood—differs. In the NSOM program in this diocese the academic requirements are similar to those of the vocational deacon. In the stipendiary program, academic preparation is the M.Div. degree. Each has continuing education that is designed for their respective responsibilities and needs. "Almighty Father... we thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your word and sacraments." (B.A.S., p. 658)

*Davena was the Library Director at AST and continues to teach in the Certificate Program in Theological Studies at AST. She is an Honorary Assistant at the Cathedral, officiates on a part-time basis at Christ Church, Cow Bay and is honoured to be the chaplain to the Community of Deacons.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Dec 6 (the Feast of St. Nicolas) at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, four priests and two transitional deacons will be ordained.

*To the priesthood: Fred Grainger, Vivien Hannon, Myrna MacMullin and Nicole Uzans*

*To the Diaconate: Helen Chandler and Dorothy Tay*

Rev. David Morrison resigned as priest-in-charge of the parish of Cherry Valley, PEI effective January 15, 2014. At that time David will move into retirement.

Bishop Sue welcomes Rev. Paul Jennings to the Diocese.

Paul was formerly a priest in the Diocese of Montreal and on the faculty at Montreal Diocesan Institute. Paul has a Letter of Permission to Officiate and permission to preach when invited by the Rector of a parish. He is living in the Annapolis Royal area with his wife who is the United Church Minister now in Annapolis Royal.

Rev. Susan Channen appointed rector of the parish of Three Harbours Dec 1, 2013. Susan comes from the Diocese of Niagara.

Archdeacon Marilyn Newport appointed priest-

in-charge of the parish of St. Andrew Lock's Rd Oct 16. The previous rector, Trevor Lightfoot, left to become the new rector of All Saints, Bedford.

Archdeacon Debra Burleson appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of St. Luke's, Dartmouth, Jan 1, 2014 following the retirement of Rev. Carolyn Tomlin.

Rev. Katherine Bourbonniere appointed regional dean of Dartmouth on Oct 16, 2013.

Planning is underway for a diocesan event to celebrate the ministry of the Rt. Rev.

Sue Moxley at the time of her retirement. The celebration will include a dinner and dance on Friday March 21 2014 and on the morning of Saturday March 22, a Eucharist at All Saints Cathedral followed by a reception.

The Diocesan Times is looking for your photos of Bishop Sue. We will have a montage of photo memories in an upcoming issue and your contributions are important. Please mail your hard copy to the Synod Office or email your pictures to: [diocesantimes@gmail.com](mailto:diocesantimes@gmail.com)

And finally, Rev. Paul Friesen from St. Paul's, Halifax writes to "clarify an inexactitude in the Diocesan Times concerning St. Paul's, Halifax on St. Francis Day, 2013." The Full Count of the liturgy in ecclesiastical language, was as follows, and is recorded in the parish register: 52.

31 Parishioners  
12 Dogs  
7 Cats  
1 Hamster named Aslan  
1 Goldfish named Le Braun

*Ed: We always welcome clarifications (and pet names!)*