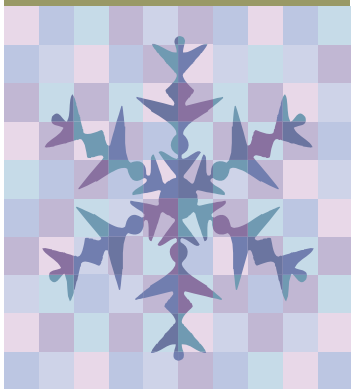


Winter Mailing

February, 2012



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, PETERBOROUGH

Lenten News

Where have all the Flowers Gone?

There is on the wall of the parish hall a framed photograph illustrating an exterior view of the church park and gardens taken many years ago. In this dated portrait the trees are small and the flower gardens are lush and abundant. Quite beautiful.

No less beautiful but by contrast today the trees in the church park are now very large and the flower gardens are less abundant. The reason of course being that the flowers now struggle to survive in the mostly shaded park dominated by the now mature trees. The environment has changed and while the trees thrive they now overshadow the less predominant gardens and flowers.

The neighbourhood community surrounding All Saints' Church has drastically changed over the past several decades as well. Many older families of our church still have fond memories of their childhood family homes originating in one of the old historic

houses still standing in this neighbourhood. Of course in adulthood most of our members have moved to other parts of the city or beyond. The houses that remain are now mostly multi-apartment rentals some of which are in poor repair. It has been identified that some of the streets surrounding the church are the most impoverished and experience the most crime in the city. As a result in an attempt to address community need the city provides an after school program for youth at risk in this and other similar neighbourhoods. All Saints' provides our parish hall for the use of one such city program for disadvantaged youth known as Get Real.

The result is an unfortunate disconnect between our church and the immediate community in which we live. There is enormous need that requires the response of caring friends. We need to ensure that the growth and maturity of the tree of our church does not

overshadow or cause us to ignore the flower of life that still flourishes in this neighbourhood but may require additional watering and cultivation in order to thrive.

Our mission at All Saints' is to better reconnect with our church's neighbourhood and the neighbourhoods in which we all live and come from. We want to rediscover what it means to be the church in this place and time. We desire not simply to respond to social need but to build relationships based on deeper conversations and a knowledge of who lives around us.

As a result we might better communicate the gospel and to be good news to those who long to hear. There are in our midst many broken lives that go ignored. Importantly there are also many hands around us that if given a chance would help us carry the water to those who thirst after a life of wholeness and faith.

Reimagining Church in Peterborough– Tuesdays in Lent- with Bishop Linda Nicholls– A Course and Conversation.

We all know the challenges the church is currently facing! We do need to *Reimagine* the church and we need to do that as teams of laity and clergy together as we listen for where the Spirit is leading us. To help engage in this conversation I will be facilitating the *Reimagining Church* course in Peterborough during Lent. The course is a newer version of the Mission Shaped Introduction Course originally developed by Fresh Expressions in the UK. Professor John Bowen of the Institute of Evangelism has revised and Canadianized it!

It involves 5 Tuesday evening sessions – and will take place at St. John’s, Peterborough – 7 – 9 p.m. beginning on March 6th and finishing April 3rd. I strongly encourage each parish to have a team of clergy & laity join me in the course – to listen and learn together and continue the important conversation of where we are going in the 21st Century in order to be faithful to God’s call to us.

The course involves a fee of \$50 per participant or \$150 for groups of 4 or more from one parish. If this is an issue in your parish or some individuals let me know.

To register, email Heather Burton at: hburton@toronto.anglican.ca or reply to this email with the number of participants along with their names and email addresses. Please send a cheque to our office addressed to: The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto. Bishop Linda.

Registration Fee provided through the church. Please contact the Rev. Bill Gray at the church office if you are interested.

Ash Wednesday: The Imposition of Ashes –Feb. 22/12

12:10 pm: Noon hour service with Holy Eucharist.

7:00 pm. Evening Choral Service with Holy Eucharist and All Saints’ choir

Imposition of Ashes at both.

Ash collected from the immolation (burning) of old Palm crosses are used in this ancient rite. The use of ash reminds us of the people of Ninevah who used ash as a sign of repentance and turning back to God.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent and call us into special observance and

a time of preparation through fasting, alms giving and self denial.

The imposition of ashes by making the sign of the cross on the forehead also reminds us of our mortality and that we should always be deeply conscious of God’s gift of this life.

We are but dust and to dust we shall return.

Shrove Tuesday: Pancake Supper: Feb. 21/12 5 to 6:30 pm

Upper Parish Hall

Cost:

Adults- \$5.00

Children- \$2.50 (under 5 free)

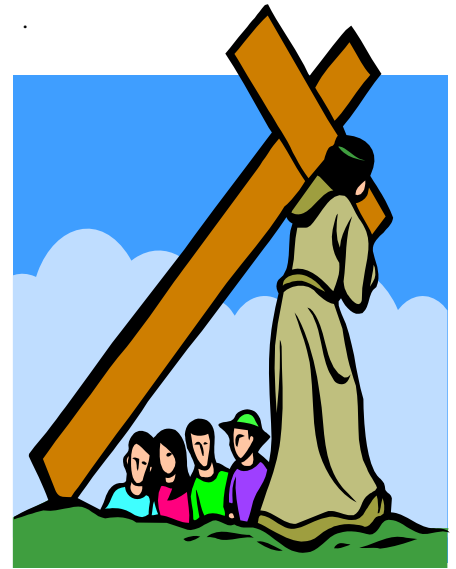
Please join us for this time of fellowship that marks the last big celebration before the penitential season of Lent begins.

Our men will work their magic once again in the kitchen as we sit down to enjoy a meal of hot pancakes and sausage.



Annual Meeting of the Church Vestry— Sunday, March 4th/12

1. 12:00 noon: following the 10:30 am service
2. Lunch provided by the ACW
3. Meeting to follow
4. Parish Events Reviewed
5. Missional Transformational Church Discussed
6. Review the year past
7. Accept 2011 budget
8. Elect and Appoint parish officers.
9. Report on Heating System Installation and Financing
10. Cornerstone Campaign Review
11. Acknowledgments
12. All Welcome



Wednesday Lenten Noon Hour Speaker and Lunch 12:10 to 12:50

1. Join us for our regular Wednesday mid-week service.
2. A different clergy person from our parish will be our speaker each week on a special Lenten theme.
3. A Simple Lunch of Soup and Bun will follow each service
4. All will be completed in the noon hour.
5. Watch your Sunday bulletin announcements for

a schedule of guest clergy and their speaking dates.

Begins on
Wednesday
Feb. 29th.



Lenten Envelope—



Please find enclosed your special Lenten Envelope in order to enable your special Lenten donation.

Please return anytime on or after Ash Wednesday or the first Sunday in LENT.

Lent is intended as a time of giv-

ing something up. Lent can be time of taking something on.

Either can involve sacrifice.

Please make a special effort this Lent to make an extra and sacrificial gift to the ministry of your church's mission.

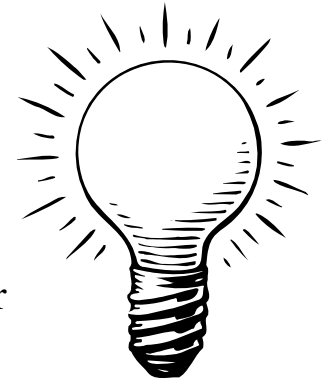


Thanks to the ACW

For the gift of new lighting for the parish hall.

Please join the ACW for the annual
Lenten making of Easter Eggs .

Help be a light and support the ACW in either
the making, selling or purchasing of eggs.



**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,
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Web Page

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Thank you from the Wardens and Treasurer

Due to your generosity in regular donations and positive response to the deficit appeal we have successfully achieved the church's budget for ministry in 2011. Thank you for your support.

**We are on
the Web-Look
us up.**

In order to achieve the proposed budget for 2012 we could avoid future deficits if parish members increased their parish donations by a mere \$4.00 a week or 16.00 a month. Given that not everyone may be in a position to do this we could still achieve our objective if a significant number of members increased their donations by \$25.00 a month or \$6.00 a week. Please respond as you are able.

Missional Transformational Church

The Parish Missional Support Team continues to guide our parish as a diocesan pilot Missional Transformational Church. The Diocese provides participating churches professional and diocesan coaching in order to help us redefine our mission strategy. We have access to the resources of the Roxborough Missional Network for this purpose. Members of the guiding team includes Lois MacVichie, (chair), Jamie MacVichie, David and Peggy Watton, Jean Koning, the Reverends Maisie Watson and Suzanne McMillan, Peter Savage and the Reverend Bill Gray. Parish on line surveys and personal interviews were conducted last year in order to help assess our mission readiness and awareness. The guiding team attended several diocesan workshops, support groups and training events in order to continue this missional development.

Advent Listening Groups provided members direct opportunity to further reflect on parish mission and ministry. As a result, suggestions for new experimental initiatives in mission ministry were presented at a parish leaders, retreat on Feb. 4, 2012. The parish advisory board reporting to vestry will make a final determination on which suggestions to implement which will be accomplished by a newly formed parish action team.