

Update from All Saints'

Email to the Parish from The Venerable Christopher Dunn

27 April 2020

Today is another day of very mixed emotions. There seem to be more and more of those these days.

It is 31 years ago today that I married my wonderful wife Blanche. She has put up with me through a great deal, she provides a wonderful ear when I need it, and she encourages me even when I do silly things. **Happy Anniversary Blanche** -- now I have to figure out the Take Out menus and what we can have for dinner!

As some of you are now aware though, today was also a day marked by tragedy.

The fire in Britannia Village at 3:00 o'clock this morning took the lives of **Olwyn and Allan Schoorl, their son Tim, and the family dog**. Many of you will know these wonderful people; I have attached a photo of Allan and Olwyn celebrating their anniversary and a photo of Tim.

Olwyn loved to participate in all the Educational events and in Movies with Meaning. She helped with the Church School and in so many other areas. Allan was a wonderful help to us during last summer's renovations of Steacy Hall and the Washrooms. He was our project manager on this big undertaking and he loved to talk about taking care of "his flooring" in Steacy Hall. You may not have met Tim over the years but he often showed up at the Church to help his father with little projects including wiring the "roof well" to melt the snow. Tim was a wonderful musician.

Of course you are also aware that Allan and Olwyn are the parents of **Helen Norman** our wonderful Parish Administrator. Helen, her husband Michael, and their son Devin (one of our fantastic servers), have lost all three of their immediate family members in this tragedy.

I was able to meet with Helen and Mike this morning while social distancing in the driveway, and we have spent the day trying to work through a number of phone calls and details. Because of Covid-19 restrictions we have to modify anything that can take place at this point.

Please keep Olwyn, Allan and Tim in your prayers, and pray for Helen, Mike and Devin and all the extended family who grieve this sudden loss. "Rest eternal, grant to Olwyn, Allan, and Tim, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them."



Tonight's prayer:

"O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen"

Be well everyone

Chris