

BREAD FOR THE SAINTS

All Saints' Westboro

August 30, 2020



AN UNUSUAL FALL

What would normally be a regular Welcome Back fall message is now a very unusual Welcome Back message. It's more like a "Welcome Back to a Limited Form of In-Person Services with Continued Online Worship" message!

Where do I start? I suppose I should start by thanking all of you for hanging in there. I know it has been a very difficult past few months. I've been in touch with many of you by phone, email and text, and I know that you are making do in a challenging situation.

Where do we go from here? We are looking ahead to a limited re-starting of our in-person worship services on September 6, 2020. We have a significant duty of care to the congregation and a responsibility to mitigate and limit risks. We do not want one single case of COVID-19 traced to our congregation because we failed to care for those who gather with us. By following our Diocesan plan, *In This Together*, we are preparing for limited in-person Sunday worship while continuing to provide worship and connection to our entire faith community.

In This Together and serves as our guide as we begin offering in-person worship and beyond. It is available on the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa's website or by calling the church office.

In This Together outlines four stages: Red, Amber, Yellow and Green. ASW, as well as all the parishes of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, has been in the Red Stage since mid-March. Our services have

been pre-recorded and shared online weekly. Our church building has been closed to the public. The Food Bank has remained open, operating with reduced volunteers and implementing masking and physical distancing practices.

On September 1, barring any announcement to the contrary between now and then, the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa will transition to the Amber Stage. The rest of this document serves to outline policies, procedures and practices that will shape our church life during this Amber stage.

Planning for re-opening is ongoing by your ASW Pandemic Planning Team: Amy Castle, Debbie Holzman, Doug Fisher, Julie Newlands, Helen Norman, and the Rev. Simone Hurkmans. We are working in close concert with our partner congregation, First United to ensure that our re-opening is a shared effort.

Here are a few key points about worship and church life in September. The *ASW Guide to Worship in the Amber Stage* covers all the details and is available on our website or by phoning the church office.

One Anglican Sunday worship service will be offered each week at 9:30 am. The 8 am Sunday service and the Wednesday 10 am service will initially not be offered and may be re-instituted once we feel the Sunday 9:30 am service is running smoothly. We will begin in-person worship slowly and cautiously, beginning with 15 people attending on the first Sunday of in-person worship, Sunday, September 6. We will gradually add more people each week, working our way up to a maximum number of 50 people, including clergy, musicians, sides-people and anyone else assisting with worship.

The 9:30 am worship service will be live-streamed and recorded, so that it can be viewed either live on Sunday morning at 9:30 am or at a later date. Instructions for participating in online worship will be sent via my weekly email and will be available on the ASW website.

Everyone attending a service must pre-register using an online form found on the ASW website, or by calling the church office. Registration will open on Monday mornings at 9 am for the following

Sunday and be on a first-come, first-served basis. Names and contact information (phone numbers and email addresses) must be provided for contact tracing. We will keep this information secure.

Before arriving at church, attendees are asked to self-assess for any of the usual symptoms of COVID-19 and to stay home if they are feeling unwell.

Only the Richmond Road (courtyard) door will be used. The rest of the church will be closed to public use. The washroom at the back of the sanctuary will be the only one available.

Masks must be worn at all times by all participants while inside the church. The only exception to this is that masks may be briefly removed when receiving Holy Communion. All visitors must sanitize their hands upon entry and exit. Households and individuals must keep at least two metres apart in all directions from other households or individuals at all times.

Well-ventilated spaces are safer - doors and windows will be open when possible. There will be no physical touching during any part of the service or before or afterwards. This includes sharing the Peace.

Parishioners are encouraged to donate their offerings through pre-approved withdrawal or online. Neither the congregation nor the officiant are allowed to sing. Sunday school and the nursery will not be available. Children will be required to stay with their families in their pews. No coffee hour or hospitality is to be provided.

I will bring Communion to those receiving in their pews, and Communion will be in one kind only: wafers.

During the week, in-person small group gatherings are not yet permitted. Funerals and weddings can occur in the church building following the protocols outlined for in-person worship. We plan to continue holding Virtual Coffee Hours on Sunday mornings via Zoom.

Beyond the Amber stage are the Yellow and Green stages, with restrictions being progressively lifted for each subsequent stage. ASW will follow the *In This Together* plan when moving to subsequent stages.

I know that this is a lot of information to digest, and that change can be hard. I ask for your patience and flexibility as we navigate this new reality together. Our plans will need adjusting as we gain experience

offering in-person worship while also sharing our worship online. Flexibility and grace will be needed as we continue to walk together through this unprecedented time. I encourage you to reach out to me either by email or phone, anytime.

Rev. Simone+
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A VERY VIRTUAL VILLAGE FAIR NOVEMBER 7, 2020

The pandemic has caused the cancellation of many events that we all look forward to each year. Faced with the impossibility of holding our annual bazaar this year, we have opted for a virtual event. While an online event will have to be smaller, we are hoping that it will provide the same opportunity for us to work together for a common purpose.

Thanks to the efforts of the parish webmaster, Debbie Holzman, we have found software which makes it possible to order and pay online for items which can be picked up later from the church. Thank you also to our treasurer, Barbara Fisher, for facilitating this. Some manual payment methods like cash, cheques, phone orders will be available. With this software bidding is not possible so there will be set prices for items.

A virtual event means that we have to forgo some parts of the bazaar like the sit-down lunch but others will convert easily to an online platform. We anticipate that listing and photographing the items will take longer than usual so we would appreciate early notice. Please put a value on your item. Ideas and names of specific items for sale need to be sent to the convenor responsible or to the office soon after Labour Day by September 9th and will need to be at the church by October 13th or 14th, just after the Thanksgiving weekend to facilitate photographing and organizing.

The following is a selection of what we have been discussing. More ideas are always welcome.

All Saints' Originals (Crafts) - Enthusiastic crafters have continued to produce "All Saints' Originals" for the virtual bazaar. These items are always a hit with shoppers. To add an item to the on-line bazaar please contact Kathy Leedom (kjleedom@gmail.com).

Baskets, Bags, Boxes and More - We are asking groups and individuals in the parish to consider putting together a themed gift basket, box or bag. You can be as creative as you like with the

packaging and contents. So far suggestions have included: A Taste of Italy, a Children's Backyard Birdwatching BasKit, Dinner and a Movie and a Family Game Night. You may wish to consider donating a spa basket, a pet basket, an artist in residence basket, or a winter garden basket. The ideas are limitless – see what you can add. Julie Newlands and Amy Castle have agreed to coordinate this event. You can contact them through the office.

Books, Books, Books - If you can't wait to turn the page, Peter Robertson and Ted Cherrett will be sorting through their collection of used books for your reading pleasure. Just five dollars or a little more, will buy you a bag of carefully-curated fiction or non-fiction books, which hopefully you won't already have read. Prepare to be surprised! Please contact Peter or Ted through the office if you have books to donate. We would also like donations of children's picture books and novels as well as puzzles for all ages.

China, Silver and Collectibles - Elizabeth Harris has gathered a small selection of Royal Doulton figurines and crystal for a virtual china table. If you have a special piece of silver, crystal or china to donate, please contact Elizabeth through the office.

Donated Treasures - Items that might have been part of the Silent Auction can still be sold on our online platform. If you have found a piece of art or vintage items in your lockdown decluttering or created a handmade masterpiece, please contact Sharon or Diane or the church office. You may suggest a price or leave the research to us.

Jewellery and Accessories - For the virtual jewellery table, Sandra Cherrett would like to request that only special pieces be donated. We will not be having a large selection so unique jewellery in excellent condition would be greatly appreciated. If you have something you would like to donate, please let Sandra know (613-722-0622).

Knitting - Some of our knitters have been whiling away the days of lockdown creating sweaters and baby clothes, which we will be selling.

Prepared Foods - The Open Kitchen will be preparing frozen soups, pies and other food items. Stay tuned for more information.

Preserves (All Saints' Kitchen) - Our well-stocked preserve table will be back with a selection of pickles, chutneys, marmalades, and jams. Donations of preserves are welcome provided they have been processed in a water bath. We are

looking for salsa, red pepper jelly, and chutneys as well pickles and jams. Advance ordering is possible. Please contact Diane. We are grateful for the many donations of empty jars and fruit that we have already received and hope to receive more.

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RESTORATION OF THE CHAPEL FLOOR

As anyone who has spent time in the Chapel can attest, the carpet was not a great addition. People complained about a musty smell and, in truth, the Chapel was not warm and cozy in winter.

As COVID was shutting everything down, Father Chris suggested to the Joint Property Committee (JPC) that this summer would be a great time to address the floor in the Chapel. JPC had already had a report last fall on the structural elements, which were actually amazingly good after 150 years. We discovered that the original floorboards were about 2 inches thick and there was no sign of water damage.

We contacted Roots Restorations and Design, which specializes in restoration of historic buildings. After much crawling around in the 30-inch space under the floor, it was decided that the best approach would be to completely remove the pine floor, take it away, sand off the paint and then bring it back, reinstall it and then do a final sanding and oiling. The oak boards in the raised altar area would be sanded in place and refinished.

Sounds simple right? Nope! A magnificent team of Howard Clark, Don Brodie, John Hurkmans, Oisin and Ciarn Smith, and Paul Dumais undertook the herculean task of removing all the pews, chairs and other furniture from the Chapel and lugging it upstairs to Steacy Hall. They then removed the carpet and plywood (with the help of Peter Newlands) that was on top of the original pine boards. It was quite an undertaking! Brendan from Roots Restoration then removed all of the floorboards.

While the floor has been off, James Reid's team from Keystone Masonry repaired a large hole that had been cut in the north foundation to accommodate outdated heating ducts and did some other minor repointing. We had all wiring and water pipes inspected. There was no evidence of water damage or moisture except along the Richmond Road wall and that has been repaired (new sills). Grading outside the church will be a near future

project! A considerable amount of debris was removed from the space, including some interesting items: an old dry cell battery, lots of square-head nails, an American 1926 penny, an old coffee tin, stumps, bits of the fashion section of The Evening Citizen, November 1933, and the skeleton of what we assume was a raccoon!



The dirt floor has now been covered with a vapour barrier and 2 inches of spray foam to help keep the space warmer and eliminate the musty smell from the dirt floor in summer. The wood floor should be back in place in the next 2 weeks and then the final sanding and refinishing will be completed. Hopefully, by mid to end of September, the work will be completed. Then we will be looking for some very strong bodies to move the furniture back in.....happy for volunteers! The end product should be amazing!

Lamar Mason
Chair, Joint Property Committee

WHAT'S NEW IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

When Father Chris asked me if I would consider taking over Barbara Robertson's role as Coordinator of Children and Youth, I responded, as I am sure you all would have, "impossible, she is irreplaceable." Barbara has devoted 20 years to welcoming, nurturing and encouraging families at All Saints', playing an essential role in creating a children's program that is the envy of the diocese. But on reflection, I realized that Barbara deserves to step back from so many years of responsibility and possibly even take a vacation in September (something she has been unable to do first as a high

school teacher, then in her role at All Saints'). So I happily agreed to take on the position, knowing that I have inherited a tremendous community, parishioners and clergy, who value the children in our parish and work tirelessly to ensure they are made to feel valued and supported.

This is a most unusual September and I look forward to the opportunity, as well as the challenge, of continuing to make church a place where children want to come. Unfortunately, we won't actually be having church school in the church for the foreseeable future, but I plan to continue to provide ways to connect with our children and youth. To this end, I will continue to post videos for the month of September and October, exploring the role of prophets, ancient and modern day and how our children can be prophetic voices. To make it easier for the children to participate in these presentations, I will be packing bags of art supplies to go with each lesson from September 13 to October 25. If you would like to have one of these bags delivered to your house, please email me (julienewlands55@gmail.com) or call the office. I want to confirm numbers and ages of children and your address (in case anyone moved but my records don't reflect the change).

I am also very happy to tell you that Steve Sibbald has agreed to join me to work with the Altar Servers. With his years of experience working with the ASW youth, we hope to continue the strong ministry of service that has been developed under Barbara's leadership.

Julie Newlands

