

# BREAD FOR THE SAINTS

All Saints' Westboro

November 24, 2021

## A JAZZ VESPERS TRADITION

On December 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. we invite you to join us in the Church for a traditional opening to the preparations for the Christmas season. The musicians will be Charles Gordon (trumpet), Yves Laroche (piano), and Tom Denison (bass); Dr. Patricia Bays will be offering the reflection. There is no need to preregister, but you will be asked to show your vaccination certificate or passport, provide contact information, wear a mask, and stay distanced from anyone outside your family group.



## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

On Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> we will hold our annual Blue Christmas service at 4:30 p.m. and those who are fully vaccinated are welcome to join us for that service for in-person worship. If you or your family will find the celebrations of Christmas to be difficult this year for any reason, join us in the Church at 4:30 for a quiet service with music and reflections appropriate to the season.



## CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY SERVICES

We will be holding Christmas Eve services at 4:00 p.m. and at 10:00 p.m. again this year, and on Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. Those 12 years and older attending services in person will be required to show proof of vaccination and ID, as well as wearing a mask at all times, and practicing social distancing.

The focus of the 4:00 service will still be on the Children and Youth, but it is a wonderful service for everyone. Because our numbers are often very large for this service, we will require **prior registration for the 4:00 p.m. service** by going to the Parish website at [www.allsaintswestboro.com](http://www.allsaintswestboro.com)

The 10:00 pm Christmas Eve service will include many of our late evening traditions. On Christmas Day we gather for in-person Worship at 10:00 a.m. We will also be sharing the Christmas Eve services on Zoom for those that wish to join us from home. The Christmas morning service will be recorded and put up on Facebook later in the day.

## CHURCH SCHOOL UPDATE

Church School reopened on September 13<sup>th</sup> after an 18-month pandemic hiatus. Eighteen children and youth have returned, and it is

terrific to see them. Amazing how quickly children grow!!

We spent the first month polishing off the Creation theme and made a Creation tree to display some of our efforts.

As we head into Advent, Barbara Robertson is heading up **A Trip to Bethlehem**. We invite All Saints' children and youth to join us on an Advent journey – destination Bethlehem! We are packing our bags and our masks, and getting ready to leave on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. All ages, 4 to high school, will gather in Room 7/8 right after the puppet conversation, and we will get on the road!

**Itinerary: Pack in your Bag:**

November 28	
The City of Hope	a hopeful attitude
December 5	
The Village of Peace	a desire for peace
December 12	
The City of Joy	a gift for the Food Bank
December 19	
The Town of Love	a loving heart

“**Passports**” will be issued on November 28<sup>th</sup>, and travelers will personalize their own document as we travel. Registration for this trip would help us to prepare. Please send names and children’s ages to Julie

## YOUTH

Steve Sibbald and Julie Newlands are looking forward to the Diocese easing rules for social gatherings, especially those that discourage eating together, as we are anxious to invite the Youth (grade 7 and up) to a monthly dinner and social planning session at the church. Our youth have indicated an interest in volunteering in the community and we want to help them explore opportunities. The Westboro Region Foodbank, right here in All Saints’ Westboro, has benefited from the efforts of seven of our young people, and there will be other activities participate in. We will keep you posted.

You can support our teens! They hand-crafted beautiful Christmas cards in 2019 and we still have some card sets left. They are blank inside, with envelopes and sell for \$10 per set. They will be available for sale at every Wednesday or Sunday services, or by contacting Julie and arranging a pickup time.



## ADVENT LEARNING RESOURCES

Advent is a time of waiting – waiting for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, waiting with hope and love for the coming of God’s rule of peace and justice in our world. Here are some resources to help you mark the passing days.

### **Advent Word**

Sign up at [www.adventword.org](http://www.adventword.org) and receive in Advent a word for each day – Promise, Justice, Expectation, Gladness - and a reflection to help explore the Advent message.

### **St. Nicholas**

Learn more about Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, and his feast day, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at [www.stnicholascenter.org](http://www.stnicholascenter.org) There are craft ideas, colouring sheets, recipes, games.

### **Personalities and Portraits on Zoom**

Linda Privitera and the Cathedral in Jacksonville FL have invited us to join in their Advent study, the second in a series of Personalities and Portraits. Zoom sessions will look in art and literature at how each gospel writer prepares for Christmas and how their focus on Incarnation rests in us. The series continues at 7:00 p.m. on December 2, 9, and 16.

### **Give a goat**

PWRDF has distributed its World of Gifts catalogue in the recent Anglican Journal. Give friends and family a gift that will plant tree seedlings in Uganda, help a rural community in Cuba acquire goats, provide infant starter kits in Lesotho or support Indigenous organizations in Canada. Check it out at [www.pwrdf.org/worldofgifts](http://www.pwrdf.org/worldofgifts)

### **Create your own Advent calendar**

Praying in Color ([www.prayingincolor.com](http://www.prayingincolor.com)) in its Resources section has templates to help you record prayers, thoughts, doodles, as we count down the Advent days.

## **OFFERINGS FOR 2022 CAMPAIGN**

Many thanks to all of those who have returned their Church Offering Response forms for 2022; if you have not completed your response form, we encourage you to do so. We hope that you are keeping your current donations up to date. The cut off is Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for donations credited to 2021.



## **SYNOD 2021**

*Debbie Holzman, Amy Castle, Jason MacDonald, Steve Sibbald, Barb Fisher*

The 141<sup>st</sup> session of the Diocesan Synod was held on October 28 and 30, 2021 and included themes of unity, change and renewal.

Synod began with a live stream and in-person Opening Synod Eucharist Service at Christ Church Cathedral on October 28. Bishop Shane Parker spoke about the ability to be resilient and determined as we go through this pandemic and beyond. We must be prepared to reshape the ways of doing our work, and the ways we engage with the broader

community. He identified four strategic priorities: 1) communications, 2) shape of parish ministry, 3) engagement with the world and 4) lifelong learning.

The diocesan Communications Panel has developed a strategic plan and worked with a professional agency to rebrand the Diocese. The new brand shows the character of the Diocesan church as being “vibrant, innovative, open, compassionate and faithful”.

The “Shape of Parish Ministry”, the second strategic priority, is a Diocesan-wide review and assessment of our ministry and buildings. Stage one has been completed after consulting with and developing parish profiles. Stage two focuses on analyzing the profiles and learning about how our Diocese should look and operate in future. Proposals about what buildings are needed and how to deliver ministry will be brought to next year’s Synod.

Work has begun on the next two priorities, engagement with the world and lifelong learning. We need to educate ourselves “and be better equipped to serve as a minority in a diverse world”. Project Anti-Racism is a mandatory awareness and capacity building program for clergy, managers in community ministries and senior staff.

The keynote speaker at Synod was Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut, the Diocese’s Canon Theologian. Dr Gibaut opened by talking about an icebreaker he used with teens. He asked, “What kind of phone do you have, Apple, Android or other? What are the best apps? Why don’t your favourite apps work across all phones?” He went on to compare this technological situation with the church. People tend to focus on the church’s activities, which are analogs of the apps. We take the underlying structure – the Diocese, for instance – for granted, just as we take the phone’s hardware and operating system for granted. And finally, getting all the apps to work together is the ecumenical movement.

Dr Gibaut gave an overview of early church organization, in which a number of house churches in a city were tightly connected as what we now know as a diocese. When early

Christians belonged to a diocese, they belonged to all of its house churches. The Diocese is our home. He concluded by quoting (and slightly expanding) something Bishop Shane said in his charge: "Our Diocese, not the Diocese. We, not they. Our Bishop, not the Bishop. Every parish is ours. Every community ministry is ours. We are in communion with one another, deeply and inextricably. And it all belongs to God in Christ Jesus."

Chancellor Henry Schultz introduced a series of motions changing details of some Diocesan Canons. All changes, including Bylaws to support the changes were passed as well.

Sanjay Grover, the Director of Financial Ministries presented the 2020 financials. It was a difficult year but had been made easier with the support of the Federal government's pandemic relief programs. We did quite well with an overall drop in Diocesan revenue of below 20 per cent. Subsidies have ended, with no further support expected.

Brian Cameron, the chair of the Diocesan Communications Panel spoke about plans for commemorating the 125th anniversary of our Diocese. In-person and virtual events will be forward looking and will include a lecture series and a special service on New Year's Day, with our Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls.

Diocesan elections were held before the Synod came to a close just after noon.

The Bishop's charge and Synod highlights can be found on the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa website <https://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/synod>.

## **VERY VIRTUAL VILLAGE FAIR**

*By Diane Bays and Sharon Chop*

All Saints' Westboro has just completed our second virtual bazaar. We had hoped that 2020's online bazaar would be a one-time event. However, with the persistence of Covid-19, we opted for a blended in-person and virtual sale. The in-person sale was unfortunately rained out leaving us to hold a solely virtual bazaar for the second time.



Virtual sales still allow us to connect with the local community, but they do require more planning. We owe a particular debt of gratitude to Debbie Holzman for the time she spent building a virtual store, and to Julie Newlands who organized and photographed the items offered for sale as well as managing the logistics of packing and pick-up. Thank you to Barb Fisher for handling the payments, Helen Norman for office support, Paul Dumas for custodial support and to Diane Bays and Sharon Chop who coordinated this event. The knitters, crafters, bakers, and cooks, those who made jams and preserves, those who donated treasures, and everyone else who participated as a donor, helper or shopper made the second Very Virtual Village Fair another success. Thank you.

We have not yet made a final tally, but we estimate this year's sale made about \$3,740 by the end of the pickups done on November 21<sup>st</sup>.



*Five Baptisms were celebrated on October 31st*

## **THE GOSPEL OF LUKE**

*Dr. Patricia Bays*

Each year, in following the lectionary, we read from a different gospel. During the past year we have been reading from the gospel of Mark. Starting on November 28<sup>th</sup>, we begin to read from the gospel of Luke. The gospel is the first half of a two-volume work, which includes the Acts of the Apostles. The opening verses of each book make the same dedication, to someone named Theophilus, a name that means “lover of God.” The books were written late in the first century, a generation after the earliest gospel of Mark. The author uses Mark as a source and shares other material with Matthew. The author is a Gentile, writing for other Gentiles at a time when Christianity had already spread from Galilee to Jerusalem and, from there, to the very heart of the Roman empire. Tradition has linked the name of Luke the physician and colleague of Paul with this gospel, though we do not in fact know who the author was.

Only Luke and Matthew include stories of Jesus’ birth. It is Luke’s version of the Christmas story that is most familiar to us, telling of angels and shepherds, and the birth in a stable in Bethlehem. Luke’s gospel emphasizes the Spirit of God that rests upon Jesus and then on his followers, culminating in the book of Acts with the sending of the Spirit at Pentecost. Luke is particularly interested in the marginalized – the poor and the outcast. Women receive special mention and inclusion in Luke’s gospel. Both Luke and Acts proclaim that God’s message is one of inclusion for everyone – all nations and peoples, men and women, people of every class and circumstance. The hope of Israel now realized in Jesus is good news for the whole world.

## **ST. MATTHIAS COMMUNITY MEALS**

*Georgeanne Baker, Susan Gates, Linda Phillips*

It is with a heavy heart that St. Matthias Community Meals ministry will have to discontinue the family style monthly meals at the Parkdale Food Centre. Due to Covid the

Parkdale kitchen had to pivot to “take away” meals only, and no volunteer cooks.

Many changes have occurred at the Centre. One positive change is the opening of Mino’weesini located at 5 Hamilton which is part of their Good Food Grocery Program. The Centre has many opportunities for volunteer work for those wishing to help.

It has been a pleasure to work in partnership with the staff, Board, and volunteers of the Parkdale Food Centre as they work for food security and nutritionally sound foods for all our neighbours and in doing so, fostered a wonderful sense of community and empowerment in the Hintonburg section of our parish boundaries.

The team would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our clergy support from Chris, Simone, Adam, Linda and John, and the congregation of All Saints’ Westboro for their wonderful support of this ministry. A hearty thanks to all our dinner-day volunteers who showed up willing to do whatever was needed and were prepared to roll with any unanticipated changes in plans. It was wonderful to count among that group some faithful parish youth and folks from outside our parish. Without your support we wouldn’t have been able to continue for as long as we did.

We are delighted to say that financial support will continue to be given by the Parish to the Parkdale Food Centre.

## **GRANAID**

Due to the pandemic, there will be no GranAid Christmas cookie sale this year. However, the financial needs of the Fikelela Aids Project in the Diocese of Cape Town, South Africa are greater than ever. Instead of baking, or purchasing GranAid cookies, please consider making a monetary donation to this worthy cause. Cheques can be made out to All Saints’ Westboro, with “GranAid” on the memo line. You can also do an e-transfer and indicate that it is for GranAid. We sincerely hope the cookie sale will be back next year. Thank you!

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2021 at All Saints' Westboro

### First Sunday in Advent, November 28<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist



### Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist

### Second Sunday in Advent, December 5<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist  
4:30 pm Jazz Vespers



### Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist

### Third Sunday in Advent, December 12<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist



### Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist

### Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 19<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist  
4:30 pm Blue Christmas Service



### Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00 pm Family Eucharist with Children's Participation  
*(Prior registration will be required for this service at 4:00)*  
10:00 pm Sung Eucharist with Candles and Carols

### Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

10:00 am Eucharist with Carols



### First Sunday after Christmas, December 26<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist and Church School

### Wednesday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist

### Epiphany Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:30 am Sung Eucharist and Church School  
4:30 pm Jazz Vespers



*We wish everyone a blessed season of Advent as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's Birth.  
Please take time to reflect and give thanks for the beauty and true gift of this joyous season.*