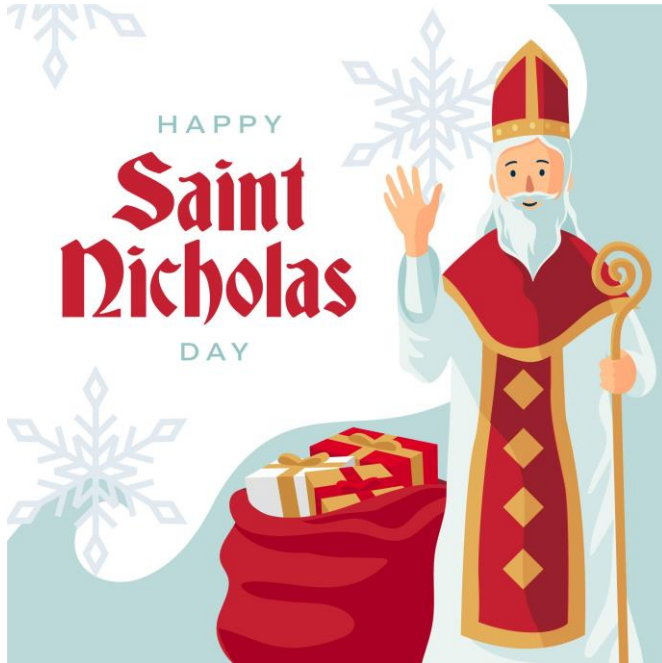


BREAD FOR THE SAINTS

All Saints' Westboro

November 15, 2022



THE FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS

This year, on Sunday, December 4th, the Children and Youth Ministry Team is organizing a special parish family event to celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas and the Spirit of Giving as we launch into the Season of Advent. Invite friends and families to join us for worship that morning and the festivities to follow to celebrate the Saint who inspired generosity and gift-giving.

After Sunday worship at 9:30 am, we will gather in Steacy Hall to explore the stories of Saint Nicholas who is the patron saint of children and all who are in need. The refreshments will have treats to highlight this feast and celebrations from various cultures. Cookies that look like bishops? Chocolates in the shape of letters? Yes and YES! Don't forget holiday favourites of shortbread and gingerbread cookies. Would there be hot chocolate with mini-marshmallows? You will have to come to find out!

Stations will be set up in Steacy Hall where displays of photos and icons, history and interesting facts will walk you through the influence of this Gift-Giver Saint in the world. Hands-on activities will engage children (and adults!) of all ages. Saint Nicholas will be ready to meet you at storytime. Colouring and other craft stations will be available for our participants. Ever wanted to have a mitre just like a bishop would? Here's your chance at this Feast of Saint Nicholas event.



Do you like history and the exploration of the potential connection between Saint Nicholas and the contemporary Santa Claus? A slideshow called *And Now We Call Him Santa*

Claus, along with displays of photos and graphics on how the stories of Saint Nicholas have influenced faith traditions and customs around the world. Many of the resources come from the Saint Nicholas Centre in the United States.

Activities will include a storytime station with Saint Nicholas himself, packing of sacks for children who are serviced by the Westboro Region Food Bank, colouring stations and other hands-on activities. Have you ever dreamed of having a mitre like the Bishop of Myra who later became Saint Nicholas? This may be just the occasion for you to acquire one from this parish event!

Refreshments will be served as is our usual practice with a spotlight on the Feast of Saint Nicholas around the world. Admission is free and we invite you to join in on the spirit of giving by supporting the Westboro Region Food Bank by making a monetary donation or bringing treats for the children who are clients: candy, chocolate, cookies, children's socks.

For more information, please contact our Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator, Julie Newlands

A JAZZ VESPERS TRADITION

On December 4th 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).

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

On Sunday, December 18th we will hold our annual Blue Christmas service at 4:30 p.m. 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.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Autumn has provided opportunities for our young people to be involved helping people in our parish and our broader community.



Eric and Patricia Bays, Sarah Brown, and Julie Buyver are leading Church School from November 6th to December 18th. Please join us as we journey through Advent and prepare for Christmas.

We have 17 responsible and dedicated Altar Servers. They have all assisted at the Eucharist from September through November.



Our Youth dinners continue on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. We see on average 14 youth between the ages of 10 and 17 at each dinner. We get to know each other, have an activity, eat a lot and participate in a short reflection and prayer. Steve, Rev. Chung Yan and Julie are there to host. We have a movie night planned for the December dinner and laser tag after our January dinner.

On October 22nd, 5 of our youth joined Barbara Robertson and Julie in the kitchen to prepare apple crisps to sell after Sunday

worship. All Saints' parishioners showed tremendous support for our young people by purchasing all our crisps. Their donations of over \$350 were given to the Westboro Region Food Bank which is the Youth group's recipient of our fundraising efforts this year.

On November 4th, nine of our young people came out to assist at the Fall Bazaar. They served at the Cafe, worked the Toy table and provided technical support for the payment Square at the Open Kitchen table.

In November and December the youth will be selling Peace By Chocolate bars after the 9:30 Sunday service to support the Peace On Earth Society and funds raised will be for the Westboro Region Food Bank.

Finally, the Westboro BIA will be holding a food drive to assist the Westboro Region Food Bank on Saturday December 17th. The drop off for goods will be in the All Saints' courtyard, and our youth will be there to help sort and shelve the donations.

ROOM AT THE CHRISTMAS TABLE

As life circumstances change, Christmas dinners could mean a house buzzing with activities and food disappearing off plates to a quiet meal in solitude. The story of Mary and Joseph being turned away by the Innkeeper to settle in the manger reminds us of the need for hospitality as we plan for Christmas festivities. How can we extend a welcome to the most vulnerable in our Parish community?

Many families have opened their homes to invite guests to Christmas gatherings, especially those who may otherwise be alone for Christmas. In sharing their abundance and love, a visible witness of God's welcome is lived out in the simplest of gestures – the sharing of a meal.

Keeping to your comfort level, if you would be happy to have an extra guest or two from the Parish at your Christmas dinner, we invite you to contact the church office or Reverend Lam (613-725-9487).

We will gather a list of available seats who are offering hospitality, then invite those within the

Parish who would enjoy sharing a meal with you to get in touch through the office. Let's see where it goes from there!

ONE PERSON'S TREASURE...

By Peter Robertson

Are you downsizing these days? Aren't we all? You may be making a donation to All Saints' Westboro's Village Fair or to the New-to-You Shop. Jennifer Campbell's article "One Person's Treasure..." contains helpful information for downsizers. The article's full title says it all: "One Person's Treasure...What Your Kids Might Want...What Your Kids Definitely Don't Want, And What To Do With It". Here's the link to Jennifer's article:

<https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/news-views/news-listing/may/one-persons-treasure>



VILLAGE FAIR

By Sharon Chop

This year's Village Fair, held on a beautiful November day, was another success. It was a scaled down version of previous bazaars without lunch and the Silent Auction, but we still earned approximately \$6,400. Not only was the parish able to come together, but many community members who attended our bazaars in the past were present. They came to get their jam, to purchase a book or craft, to select a piece of crystal or a new table cloth or find a piece of jewellery as well as to chat with friends and neighbours.



Thank you to the many people who greeted visitors, did the dishes, served coffee and muffins and volunteered on the tables. We also thank those who set-up and took down, baked, knitted, made crafts, made jams and pickles, donated silver, china, linens, books and other items, and, of course, a big thank you to those who shopped. An on-line store of special items is planned for November 30th to December 3rd. Stay tuned!



THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Dr. Patricia Bays

Each year in Advent, we read from a different gospel and so get a slightly different slant on the life and teachings of Jesus. Beginning Nov. 27, we will have Matthew as our guide. Although appearing first in the New Testament, Matthew was not the first gospel written. The gospel of Mark was written about the year 70. The gospel of Matthew was written about 10 years later, after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple by the Romans. Matthew's gospel draws heavily on Mark, incorporating about 90% of Mark, and

shares with Luke another collection of sayings, known as Q. The author is unlikely to be Matthew the tax collector but is a Jewish Christian, perhaps part of the church in Antioch.

Matthew's gospel is written particularly for a Jewish and an urban audience. The author is anxious to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of Judaism. Notice how often Matthew says something like, "It is written. . ." or "This was to fulfill what was said by the prophet." Matthew is very critical of the scribes and the Pharisees, the Jewish leaders, for their rejection of Jesus.

The gospel is divided into 5 blocks of teaching, to reflect the 5 "books of Moses" or the Torah. Matthew suggests that the story of Jesus is like the story of Moses and the exodus. Jesus leads God's people into a new way of life. Much of Jesus' teaching in this gospel is to show us how to live. This gospel includes the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord's Prayer, and the Golden Rule.

This gospel places special emphasis on Jesus as the Son of God. God is present in Jesus – Emmanuel (God with us.) Jesus is present in the church and sends his followers out to bring good news to the world.

GRANAID

There will not be a GranAid Christmas Cookie Sale this year. In lieu of buying a box of cookies, please consider making a monetary donation to GranAid.

Another great way to help is to purchase Loblaws gift cards from Janet Holgate. A percentage of each sale goes towards GranAid.

Despite setbacks resulting from the pandemic, GranAid continues to send regular financial support to Fikelela, the HIV/AIDS outreach branch of the Anglican Diocese in Cape Town, South Africa.

More information about Fikelela can be found at www.fikelela.org.za



GETTING TO KNOW CRAIG THOMAS

By Barbara Robertson

A relative newcomer at All Saints' Westboro, Craig is a communion administrator and is also a member of Parish Council. His daughter, Sera is a member of the Servers' Guild, and his son, Remy attends a junior Church School class. His wife, Teisha is an attorney-at-law, now employed at the Competition Bureau of the Federal Government, while Craig works in Human Resources. I posed a few questions as we enjoyed a coffee at a nearby restaurant.

Q: Do you have strong memories from your childhood faith?

A: I grew up in an Anglican church called St. Mary The Virgin Anglican Church, in St. Andrew, Jamaica.

In Sunday School, I enjoyed the parables, then when older, became an altar server at age ten as well as sang in the junior choir. My mother was the parish administrator and secretary, and one of my jobs was to help her prepare and print the weekly bulletin. I have two other siblings and we all were known

as the team that produced the weekly newsletter. As a young adult, I was elected to the "Church Committee" (Parish Council) where I served for about five years.

I fondly remember playing football for our church team and recruiting other boys to the team, thus bringing more souls to our church for Christ. I was able to respond to their queries and provide comfort when there was doubt. I felt a personal connection to God and called on His name when I had fears and doubts in my own personal life. They say Jesus never fails, and I can attest, he always answers.

Q: What brought you to Canada?

A: I believe my life in Jamaica was near perfect. I had a life event and coupled with a brief period of doubt and anxiety about what the future holds, I felt hopelessness and anxiety about what quality of life I would live as I got older. Prayer and introspection led me to discuss the future with my wife, and we both decided it was time to experience life beyond the shores of Jamaica and Brighton, England, where we stayed briefly.



Another added motivation was that I wanted to give myself the best opportunity to raise a family in a more secure and less volatile environment. Although I had 19 years professional experience at a senior level in banking, my first real break in Montreal occurred when I began working in a call centre while studying at McGill University. We were relative strangers but found a lovely church close to our home where we attended regularly and networked. The Anglican parish called "All Saints by the Lake" took us in like one of their own and provided almost all our needs when we were first getting started. I prayed for the opportunity to be present in my kids' lives whilst earning an income, and Canada was where Jesus led me.

Q: What brought you to All Saints' Westboro?

A: I was looking online for an Anglican Church which included children services; I wanted to make sure the foundation I had as a child was set by a similar understanding of the Gospel. All Saints' came the closest to providing that level of reassurance that I would be in a happy, healthy environment with a strong emphasis on Christianity and spiritual values I was used to in Jamaica. I visited lots of websites, and a short note about family, puppets, and community was what led me to visit. Here, I saw similarities with what we had at home. The visit of Mary and Joseph in Las Posadas was pivotal because the two families before and after us were strong spiritually, and that made us feel like we were in the right environment.

Q: How could All Saints' provide a better welcome?

A: I like what I see and where we are going. I have never felt unwelcomed. If there is one thing which would resonate well with my soul, then that would be that there could be a modification or wider selection of Anglican church music. In our church back home, we changed the tunes to some of our best-loved hymns, and introduced Caribbean rhythms mostly because we wanted to have sounds which we could identify closer with. That music once in a while would make some of us feel

more at home and not distant. A multicultural society infers that the more diverse our musical ministry is, the more it will likely resonate with a wider cross section of worshippers.

Q: Is there any way in which your faith influences your work life today?

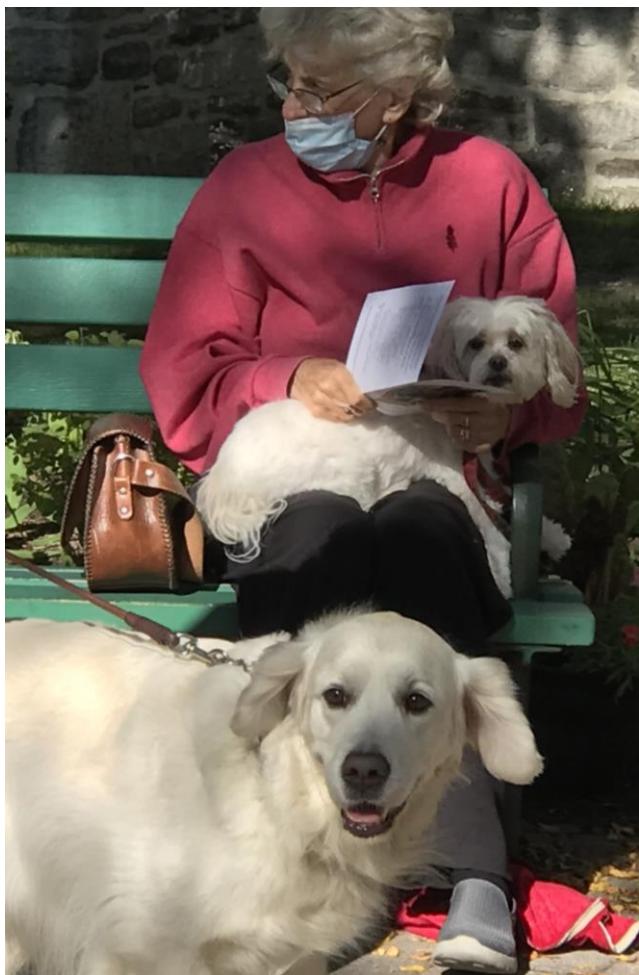
A: I would say not just my work life, but all my life. Faith gives me strength because I sometimes question myself as to whether I'm serving my purpose, and on occasion battle with self-doubt even though I've achieved a lot professionally. Being self-critical it is important to me that I am fulfilling my purpose as a steward of Christ. Faith carries me. It is my desire to be the best version of myself, and it is prayer that provides comfort.



The Baptism of Adalynn on September 18th



The Blessing of the Animals Celebration on October 2nd in the Courtyard



The Dogs and Cats take over in October!



Baptisms on October 30th



*All Saints' Day and Remembrance Sunday
November 6th*



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2022 at All Saints' Westboro

First Sunday in Advent, November 27th

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:30 am Sung Eucharist
4:30 pm Singing Justice



Wednesday, November 30th

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist on St. Andrew's Day

Second Sunday in Advent, December 4th

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:30 am Sung Eucharist
10:45 am St. Nicholas Celebration
4:30 pm Jazz Vespers



Wednesday, December 7th

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist
7:00 pm Bible-on-Tap on Zoom



Third Sunday in Advent, December 11th

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

Wednesday, December 14th

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist



Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 18th

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:30 am Lessons and Carols with the Eucharist
4:30 pm Blue Christmas Service

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th

4:00 pm Family Eucharist with Children's Participation
10:00 pm Sung Eucharist with Candles and Carols



Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th

10:00 am Eucharist with Carols

Wednesday, December 28th

10:30 am Mid-week Eucharist of the Holy Innocents

Epiphany Sunday, January 1st

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



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.