

BREAD FOR THE SAINTS

All Saints' Westboro

March 28, 2023



the message of the gospel, putting the emphasis on resurrection and new life. Participants are encouraged to bring with them a photograph of an ancestor or loved one who has passed away. When we pause to acknowledge the death of Jesus, we will light candles to remember and honour them. At the end of our journey, each family will be given a small gift as a memento of the hope and joy we all share when we celebrate the season of Easter. This event is suitable for children up to about age 12. It will be followed by a light lunch at 11:30 am in Steacy Hall.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Palm and Passion Sunday is April 2nd and at the 9:30 service we begin with the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and gather outside in the courtyard (or in Steacy Hall if the weather is bad) and then sing as we process together in to the Church. The story quickly shifts to the events of Christ's arrest and trial.

GOOD FRIDAY FOR FAMILIES

On Good Friday, April 7th, we will be offering a family-friendly, experiential event starting at 10:30 am in the Church, just inside the main doors of the Richmond Street entrance. Father Chris and other All Saints' members will lead participants through the Church and into the Chapel on a journey with Jesus, from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem and onwards to the promise of Easter. Along the way we will see and taste food that might have been served at the Last Supper, hear what it is like to be caught up in a noisy crowd, touch and smell spices used in times past, and experience the joy of entering into the daylight of Easter morning.

Instead of a more traditional Stations of the Cross narrative, this year's event will focus on

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WALK

Following our 12:00 noon service in Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday we move outside and invite those who would like to join us for a walk through the streets of Westboro as we hear the story in a modern context. We pray for our world and put our faith response in to visible action.

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

On Saturday, April 8th, we gather at 7:00 p.m. in the darkness of the tomb – all the lights are off. Candles are lit, light increases, the story is told, bells ring out, and we move into a celebration of Christ's resurrection. We will renew our Baptismal covenant and share the joy of our faith. Bring bells to ring during the service!



CHURCH SCHOOL

All Saints' Westboro Church School offers children of all ages an opportunity to enrich their faith, make new friends and share their gifts with others.

Barbara Robertson, Sarah Brown and Linda Lord have been leading Church School activities during the Lenten season. All children, and their parents if they wish, are welcome to join us in room 7/8 each Sunday after the Children's Talk as we explore faith-based themes through art, story, and song.



YOUTH

The All Saints' Westboro youth have been busy these past months. As we continue to meet for our monthly dinner, we are also participating in activities with the assistance of parish friends.

In February, after our supper, and under the direction of Peter Newlands, 12 enthusiastic youth went to room 5/6 and transported, sorted and shelved the remaining Christmas donations in the Westboro Food Bank.

In March, Barb Gillie joined us for dinner and then led us in a noncontact indoor rugby game. Later in March we sold hearty homemade vegetable soup, to raise money for our weekend camp at Lutherlyn, June 2-4.

Our April dinner activity will be making wooden crosses for the youth to wear while they altar serve, or to have as a keepsake. Again, we will be joined by a skilled woodworking parishioner to oversee our activities.

We have lots of ideas of ways to connect our youth with parishioners involved in various

forms of outreach. In the coming year we hope to learn about how we can help Truth and Reconciliation, visit our veterans at the Legion and participate in a Friday evening prayer service at a synagogue.

Our group is open to young people, grade 5 and above. Any questions? Contact Julie

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS' APPRECIATION & TRAINING EVENT

The reason each worship service runs smoothly is because of the support of volunteers. Diaconal ministers, servers, and Eucharistic assistants are the visible liturgical assistants, while the work of the Altar Guild, choir, technological support, sidespersons, and greeters are all essential to our worship life. While someone may wonder how do the volunteers know what to do and when to do it, they can tell you that it is because they have learned and practiced their tasks and duties. As we have had many new volunteers who have joined us recently, and it is time to both show our appreciation for their commitment and also to provide a refresher training session.

On Saturday, May 6th at 11:30 am, we are inviting all worship assistants to gather in Steacy Hall for an appreciation lunch. Then we will work as small groups in the various roles to practice, to answer questions, and to demonstrate any tasks that may be unfamiliar. It is often impossible for us to do so during a Sunday gathering and so this is a special dedication to increase the confidence and comfort levels of our volunteers in their leadership roles.

For our young servers, this is a strongly recommended event because we will practice the procession and recession during our time together. Also, for youth who are old enough to join us as servers we will start their training at this event. Parents will be receiving a special email with more details.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Rev. Chung Yan for more information.

GUESS WHO!

(by Marcie Taylor)

Ready? Pop quiz. This person:

- Learned to skateboard after the age of 50
- Taught at Harvard and Notre Dame universities
- Had a front-row seat for *Miss Saigon*
- Almost died of a ruptured spleen following a car-pedestrian incident
- Studied with and about an aerial acrobatic team
- Was hopelessly poor at housekeeping
- Travelled the world
- Authored, co-authored or was the subject of 2,242 books
- Performed a country line dance on stage at the Winter Garden Theatre
- Had a substantial art collection

If you've guessed correctly, then you are probably already familiar with Henri Nouwen, one of the most prolific and well-loved spiritual writers of the 20th century. Does he sound like an interesting person to you? He was! Although by any usual measure, he was an "intellectual," with multiple degrees and accomplishments, his demeanor was anything but intellectual. In fact, his own humility, self-questioning and feelings of inadequacy, are some of the ingredients which made him so real, so approachable, so often-read, and ultimately, so effective as a spiritual guide and pastoral presence to thousands worldwide. Although primarily known for his words, whether spoken or written, it was Henri's quiet and accepting presence that helped him to connect with others, especially those in L'Arche communities, where words were often much less important than actions.

Next question: Did you know that our own All Saints' Westboro library has a collection of works by Henri Nouwen, available for you to sign out? Whether you wish to be spiritually nourished, healed, challenged or guided, there is something for you in Henri's writing. It's simple, just check out the bookshelves in the hallway down from The Chapel, or ask Peter Robertson, our resident librarian, for assistance. Then check out a book and delve

into the fascinating person and world of Henri Nouwen. You won't regret it!

BELONG OTTAWA: LAWYER PLAY



Since 1999, Ottawa lawyers have given back to the community with the annual Lawyer Play. Working together with the Great Canadian Theatre Company, the play stars members of the legal community (along with special guests), to raise funds benefiting a local charity and to support the operations of the GCTC. Each year a number of organizations apply to be the designated charity - for 2023 Belong Ottawa has been selected. Belong Ottawa includes Centre 454, St. Luke's Table, and The Well. The play will run for four evenings from May 31 through June 3 (Wednesday-Saturday) at 7:30pm. This year's play is *The Visit*, by Friedrich Durrenmatt. Please come! Bring friends! For more information:

www.belongottawa.ca

ECUMENISM

(by Fr. Nnaemeka Ali, OMI)

On February 19th I was privileged to worship at All Saints' Westboro. It was a special Eucharist in honour of Black History Month. So the Associate incumbent, the Reverend Chung Yan Lam, invited me to preach.



And being from a community of storytellers, I'm kin to hearing what stories people or communities tell. How do they narrate their "Who I am Story" through welcoming rituals?

How is a church's "Vision Story" expressed in their worship?

For instance, on my arrival at All Saints Westboro Anglican Church, it was clear that their community is also a storytelling community. It was such a comforting experience to feel at home right upon my arrival in their community. For example, while I was still driving in, one lady showed me where to park behind her car. Fortunately, the associate incumbent had already informed me to park behind her car. But that was just the beginning, as the other welcoming rituals that followed confirmed my initial apprehension.

For one thing, it was such a beautiful experience, but what inspired me most was not just their story as All Saints' Westboro but the conviction that there is a strong grace in sharing the Lord's Supper. But, unfortunately, I must recognize that, on the doctrinal level, there are still so many hurdles to overcome to consummate this friendship one experience each moment we participate in each other's celebration. Evidently, after the beautiful celebration, I wondered why Christians, especially in North America, are not encouraged enough to share in each other's worship. I might be wrong today, but I believe no Christian denomination can survive alone, especially in the West.

Unfortunately, we have ironically made Christianity a proud religion. Its force as the only religion where the embodiment of God was consummated in the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ has weakened its theology, making it pride itself as the only way to God. Moreover, its relationship with the Eurocentric hegemony, which translates into the famous kingdom of God theology, has made Christianity too arrogant to recognize its need for others.

Besides, her arrogance goes beyond her relationship with other religions. Among Christian communities, few are those who share in the table of the Lord. Some go as far as berating or denying each other the possibility of making heaven. Ironically, Christ pointed out that there are many mansions in

his father's house. And the author of the Apocalypse says: "I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." (Rev. 7:9).

However, as I think of this, I remember Paul's encounter at the Areopagus (Acts 17: 16-34). Then, Christianity was still a small group. As a minority, Christians were thus neither arrogant nor pretentious. So, when Paul was persecuted, he ran from one city to the other (Thessalonica, Berea, Athens), accepting the help and communion of different communities. Communities welcomed and sheltered him from dangerous elements in each city he entered. The only thing that mattered to them was his profession of Christ's death and resurrection.

Today, even with the recent murder of Bishop O'Connell, I still believe Christianity is not yet persecuted in North America. However, it's now no news that we are today a visible minority and that our voices are among those on the margins of society. It is hard to swallow this fact, but we all know that our voices no longer make laws in North American society. So, like Paul and his brothers and sisters, our survival is no longer a private matter. Communities must learn to welcome one another. We ought to open our doors to each other if we hope both to survive and to show the world the unifying message of Christ. We need to unite to reinvent ourselves.

Furthermore, while Paul was in Athens, he went about discovering the city. And among the beautiful and sacred encounters he had was that of an unknown God. He never pretended like the Athenians were a godless people; instead, he saw them, with all their sacred religions, as a blessed nation. "People of Athens! I see that, in every way, you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god." (Acts 17:22-23). Paul never condemned their gods as idols; instead, he talked to them about his newfound faith, which he immediately embodied in the unknown

God. And despite the diversity of his teachings, they only found his theory on the resurrection strange.

Today, as I look at our Churches struggling to keep faith in this Northern Hemisphere, I imagine it's time to explore Paul's openness to other religions. We must learn from his ability to understand that there are many ways to understand the Christian faith. And to accomplish that, the Church should be humble enough to realize that pride will be its end. None! Neither the Roman Catholic Church nor the entire Protestant Churches can survive if left alone.

It's, therefore, necessary that we increase our ecumenical relationship. We must let go of our pride and allow Christ to take flesh in us. We must create space for a new embodiment of Christ in this new age of our continent. The word of God has always been contextualized according to the Kairos. Today and forever, God will keep incarnating in our history, society, and people. So, let the Church say, Maranatha - Come, O Lord Jesus Christ.

THE REV. CATHY DAVIS



Following Father Chris' retirement the Bishop has appointed the Rev. Cathy Davis as the Interim Priest-in-Charge of All Saints' Westboro. Cathy will start on Monday, April 10th and will be working three days a week along with Chung Yan who continues as the full-time Associate Incumbent.

In the next while the Bishop's Office will be meeting with the Official Committee of All Saints' (the four Lay Members of Synod) in the discernment process for the next Incumbent of All Saints'. Please pray for those involved in the discernment and for our Bishop as he prepares to make the new appointment.



HOLY WEEK AT ALL SAINTS'

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2nd

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9:30 a.m. Eucharist with Palm Procession
- 4:30 p.m. Jazz Vespers

Monday, April 3rd

- 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, April 4th

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 5th

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 6th

- 7:00 p.m. Celebration of the Last Supper

Good Friday, April 7th

- 10:30 a.m. Family Event
- 12 Noon Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 1:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross Walk

Holy Saturday, April 8th

- 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter with Candle lighting (**bring bells**)

Easter, April 9th

- 6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service in Courtyard
- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9:30 a.m. Eucharist, Church School, and Decorating of the Floral Cross



With your help we have built upon the foundation of so many faithful Anglicans that have gone before us.

The Partnership with First United, the renewal of the Worship Space in 2013, numerous building projects, the amalgamation of All Saints' and St. Matthias, and the support of so many outreach ministries. The work of the Westboro Food Bank is so important, and you have been there along the way supporting the increasing number of individuals and families who find themselves in difficult situations.

We have journeyed through the challenges and joyful moments. We have worked together to build and sustain this wonderful community.

My hope and prayer, as you move into the next phase of the life of this Parish, is that you will continue to support and uphold the new Incumbent and each other in the journey. As you have blessed me, I know that you will continue to bless others.

Thank you for journeying with me in Christ's name,

Chris

SO HARD TO SAY GOODBYE

As Easter approaches, and as my thoughts turn to what to do in retirement, I realize that my 14 and a half years at All Saints' Westboro are full of wonderful memories.

When Bishop John Chapman asked me in 2008 to consider moving to All Saints' I did not realize the impact that it would have on my life. I have met and journeyed with so many wonderful people. You have shared your hopes and dreams, your griefs and your sorrows, and you have provided many a happy moment along the way.

There have been so many liturgical celebrations, children's stories, and homilies prepared, and you have supported me through all of that.

I have been truly blessed by the work and ministry that we have shared in together. All Saints' is alive and well, providing a very vibrant presence in our Ottawa community.

