

RECTOR'S REFLECTION

This is the first time in the ten years that I have been here that the Mohawk Landing has not been held at Christ Church. [Our intention is to worship there when special events that are connected to the Chapel Royal are commemorated, but this year we are unable to use Christ Church because it's being renovated.] On the birthday of our parish, which is 231 years old, we have been accustomed to worshipping in the place which stands as a monument to the connection between this community and the Crown which granted the land here as compensation for the loss of land after the Revolutionary War. There is something disconcerting (to me, at least) about being at All Saints'—not because there is anything the matter with All Saints', but because it's so different from what we're used to.

Perhaps it is appropriate that we are celebrating two special occasions today. Not only is it the Mohawk Landing, but it is also the Feast of Pentecost. Pentecost is one of the three principal holidays in the Christian calendar, following Easter and Christmas. It's the fiftieth day after Easter and it brings to a close the great season of Resurrection. We have celebrated the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Day, witnessed the various encounters the apostles had with the risen Christ, and, more recently, been reminded that, having witnessed these things, we are now called to proclaim the good news of the risen and ascended Christ and to meet the needs of the world through our loving service. Now, fifty days after Easter, and ten days after the Ascension of the Lord, we find ourselves celebrating the day that the promise of Jesus to send the Holy Spirit among the apostles was fulfilled.

I have said before that the disciples would have felt lost, confused, and afraid in the days immediately following the crucifixion of the Lord. I also think they likely felt the same way after his ascension. Even though he had gone to great lengths to explain to them that he would be raised up (after dying) and that he would not leave them alone (after his ascension), the disciples were unable to truly hear what he was saying because their fear and uncertainty overwhelmed them.

It's not an exact parallel, but I think the situation of Jesus' followers then is remarkably similar to the situation in which we find ourselves now. An important part of our parish life has been lost—not completely, but in a significant way nonetheless. We have encountered fear, grief, even anger. There has been a great deal of uncertainty over the past few years as we have experimented with worship schedules and I have heard more than once people express their discomfort with the uncertainty and change.

On this day, however, we are being given a new lens through which to see our situation. In the midst of the uncertainty, we remind ourselves once again of Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit is among us, our advocate and comforter, inflaming our hearts with passion for the Gospel and renewing our strength for loving and faithful service. This year, as we celebrate both the birthday of the Church and the birthday of our parish, we are doing so in a way that we have not done for many years. Our parish is being born anew in the Spirit, and as we move forward in this new way, I pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to strengthen and renew us.

As we read in the Book of Ezekiel, when the prophet encountered the Valley of the Dry Bones, the Lord called him to prophesy and, as he did so, the Spirit came upon the bones and re clothed them with flesh and gave them breath. Let us pray on this special day of celebration that God will act again and say, "I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live." Come, Holy Spirit, come.



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF TYENDINAGA

To be a Spirit-filled and life-giving place where strangers become friends and friends become disciples.

SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Sunday 24 May 2015

The Feast of Pentecost / Landing of the Mohawk

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, 1295 Ridge Rd

PARISH PRIEST

The Venerable Brad Smith
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Mission Statement

Our mission, for the glory of God in Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, is to:

- Celebrate all that God has done for us through worship and witness with others.
- Respond to our call to be disciples of Christ by sharing our faith, rooted in the Word of God, with others and encouraging others to become followers of Christ through word and action.
- Practice good stewardship of our human, financial and environmental resources, working to ensure that all of God's Creation is viable for future generations.
- Grow ourselves and others by reaching out to our communities, following Jesus' example of generous caring, giving, and welcoming.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendly Manor Service—The next ministry team visit for the Friendly Manor is Thu 28 May at 10:30 a.m. In winter weather, please bring indoor footwear.

Walk-a-Thon—Sat 30 May. Sponsor sheets will be available this week or next. Students from Quinte Mohawk School will be joining us this year as they raise money for a school trip.

Archdeaconry 2016 Diocesan Budget Consultations—Tue 2 Jun, 7 p.m. at the QAPC. Parish leadership are invited to attend an evening session facilitated by the diocesan Finance Committee to hold discussions and invite input from parishes on diocesan priorities for the 2016 Budget.

22 Days—An initiative by the Anglican Church of Canada to mark the 22 days between the final national event of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission (31 May) and National Aboriginal Day (21 Jun). We are called by the Primate to listen to the stories of survivors, to pray, to work for justice for indigenous people, and to toll our bells in solidarity. For more info, visit www.22days.ca.

Food Bank Donations—We gather non-perishable food items on the first Sunday of each month and donate them to the Food Bank. The Food Bank is experiencing a significant increase in the number of families it serves so this is a material way we can help our neighbours. The next Food Bank Sunday is 7 Jun.

Bishop's Dinner—Mon 8 Jun, 6:30 for 7 p.m., at the Four Points Sheraton, Kingston. Guest speaker journalist and author Lawrence Scanlan wrote *A Year of Living Generously* – a book about compassion that chronicles his 12 months of volunteering with 12 different charities, among them Habitat for Humanity, the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Canadian Crossroads. Tickets: \$100 ea or \$170/pr. See the poster for more info.

Strawberry Social—Sun 5 Jul. Save the date, more info to follow.

Summer Fruits for Souls—21-24 Jul. Sponsored by the Lay Reader's Association and the Diocese, this conference is open to all interested lay people who wish to attend. This conference will focus on training, learning and development in Christian ministry within an Anglican context. Please see Brad, Cathie or Doug for more info.

Amsterdam Trip—Our visit to St Ann's will take place 18-20 Sep. More to follow.

Rectory Rental—The rectory is available for rental on a weekly basis as a cottage for tourists, fishermen, etc (and may be rented for shorter periods in the off season). Check out the website at cottagesincanada.com/bayofquinterectorycottage and please tell your friends who might need a place to stay!

Camp Hyanto—Registrations are now open. Visit <http://ontario.anglican.ca/wp/camp-hyanto/> to register online or to financially support Camp Hyanto in order to assist with the provision of Christian camp ministry to youth.

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Anglican Communion

The Most Rev'd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
The Diocese of Northern Luzon (Philippines)

Diocese of Ontario

The Rt Rev'd Michael Oulton
Parish of Tyendinaga
The Ven. Brad Smith

Companions

St Ann's Episcopal Church, Amsterdam, the Very Rev'd Neal Longe
HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, the Rev'd Canon Denis Mulliner

Parish of Tyendinaga

Envelope Secretaries

Pray for the families of: Gary, Brandi, Colsen, Jadyn & Makenna Maracle; Glen & Donna Maracle; Harold Maracle & Mary Johnston; Kim Maracle; Norma Maracle

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 31 MAY

Isaiah 6:1-8
Romans 8:12-17

Psalm 29
John 3:1-17

Stewardship Reflection

The Rt Rev'd Michael Pollesel

"The spirit of truth will guide you," Jesus tells his followers. As faithful stewards, do we ask for and follow the Spirit's guidance in our day-to-day interactions?

Financial Report

Weekly Need:	\$2,459
Last week's Offering:	<u>\$1,400</u>
Shortage	\$1,059

Based on the 2015 budget and the number of identifiable givers, the following is what is required of each giver in order to meet our needs:

Weekly: \$40 Monthly: \$173