

RECTOR'S REFLECTION

I attended seminary with a woman in her early sixties who was tiny—maybe five feet tall. More noticeable about her than her height, though, was the fact that she had a withered hand. One day, she and I were talking about prayer and she told me that, when she was younger, she had developed extreme arthritis that eventually rendered her hand virtually useless. She told me that she had prayed and prayed to be cured, hoping that God would restore her hand to its full functionality. The prayer was not answered in the particular way she wanted. But, she told me that God did answer the prayer. She said that she was obviously not *cured* but that she felt she had been *healed*. While she struggled with the withered hand, she had learned to live with it, and as a result of her praying, she had learned to live with a greater sense of joy in life, even more than before the arthritis. She said: God does answer prayer, although not always (not often?) in the way we want; and, God doesn't always cure us, but God does seek to give us healing.

The second story is more recent and local. I visit a shut-in community member on a fairly regular basis who has advanced dementia. We share stories, some of which are utterly fantastical, and I pray and listen and just sit there in comfortable silence sometimes. One of the family members told me once that when the dementia started to set in, all of their friends started to drift away. People would come to visit and not know how to deal with someone who was clearly losing touch with reality so they eventually stopped visiting. Now, life is lonely and it wears on the family. Our society—even with all of its medical advances, or perhaps because of them—does not know how to cope with illness and disease and so, because it makes us uncomfortable, we tend to shy away from it. But what does this do to the sick? It makes them feel lonely, abandoned, and of less worth.

These two stories speak to the Gospel this week. Jesus, after having calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee (about which we heard last week), has arrived back on solid ground and is confronted first by Jairus, whose daughter is sick, and then by the woman who had been bleeding for twelve years. The bleeding woman has had a menstrual difficulty for some time which would exclude her from worship because she was ritually unclean and it would mean that she would have few friends and people willing to associate with her. Her illness left her lonely and likely feeling worthless. Jairus' daughter has an unspecified disease but it is serious enough that she has been brought to the edge of death. In the woman's case, her faith heals her. In the little girl's case, her father's faith heals her.

In both of these stories, Jesus demonstrates—as he did last week by commanding the wind and waves—his authority over all things. We are meant to know that Jesus wields God's power to heal, and in both of these cases, he does. There are two lessons for us in this week's Gospel. First, God has the power to heal and clearly desires, as we saw in Jesus' actions, to do so in order to restore the sick to wholeness and health—and that this was a response to the faithfulness of the main characters. The second lesson is this: the healing of both the woman and the girl restored them to their rightful place in society. Being healed is as much about being in right relationship with God and with our neighbours as much as it is about bodily health. Jesus' immediate awareness that power had flowed out of him shows us that our connectedness to one another is vitally important to our spiritual and physical health. As we strive to minister to each other in the name of Christ, I pray that the healing power of God's love may flow out from us into those around us, and that together we restore each other to wholeness and health.



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 28 June 2015
Fifth Sunday of Pentecost

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, 1295 Ridge Rd

PARISH PRIEST

The Venerable Brad Smith
rector@parishoftyendinaga.org

QUEEN ANNE PARISH CENTRE

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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

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 5 Jul.

Strawberry Social—Sun 5 Jul, 1-4 p.m. at the Mohawk Community Centre. Freewill offering. Entertainment and a children's craft corner will be provided.

Parish Council Meeting—Parish Council will meet on Wed 8 Jul at 7 p.m. at the QAPC. Material will be provided next Sun 5 Jul. All parishioners are welcome to attend meetings in order to be familiar with or provide input to matters of parish governance.

Special Meeting of Vestry—As discussed at the annual meeting in February, a special meeting to review the budget position halfway through the year will be held after worship on Sun 12 Jul.

'Bible Blast to the Past' Vacation Bible School—20-24 Jul, St Mary Magdalene's, 137 Robinson St, Napanee. 9 a.m. to noon, ages 4 to 11. Cost \$25/child or \$50 per family. For more info, call Kristal at 613-354-3141 or see the poster on the bulletin board in the hall.

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

Diocesan Budget Input—If you are interested in the development of the diocesan budget and/or would like some input into it, please visit the diocesan website for more information: <http://ontario.anglican.ca/wp/diocese-of-ontario-2016-budget-development/>. We all have a vested interest in the budget because it is funded for the most part by our assessment through Common Ministry and Mission.

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.

The Mohawk Guild— The Mohawk Guild is a longstanding organization that is committed to the service of our community. The Guild meets at the Parish Hall (1295 Ridge Road) on the last Wed of the month at 7 p.m. Please join us in our efforts. For more information, please call Bev Hill (613-962-5183) or Shirley Maracle (613-962-6137).

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Anglican Communion

The Most Rev'd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
The Diocese of Osaka
The Rt. Revd Andrew Haruhisa Iso

Diocese of Ontario

The Rt Rev'd Michael Oulton
Parish of Bath & Amherst Island
The Revd Don Bailey
The Revd Bram Pearce

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

Flower Co-ordinators / Arrangers
Pray for the families of: Ven. Brad Smith; Donna Spencer; Marylyn St. Amand;
Corey, Lacey & Emikah Taylor; Richard, Merinda & Rivor Taylor

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 5 JULY

1 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Psalm 48
Mark 6:1-13

Stewardship Reflection

"Have faith," says Jesus to Jairus. To the bleeding woman he says, "you've been healed because of your faith." How do you, as a steward, live a life that shows your faith?

Financial Report

Weekly Need:	\$2,459
Last week's Offering:	<u>\$1,641</u>
Shortage	\$ 818

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: