



By the Way

The Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Tyendinaga

CHRISTMAS EDITION

DECEMBER 2010

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Signs for the Times

New signs for each church provide a dignified statement of who we are and when we meet



The old and new signs at All Saints' Church; in the worthy company of the Kanyenkeh Memorial and the flags at Christ Church. The text reads "All Saints' Anglican Church, Est. 1858, Sunday Celebration—8:30 a.m." and "Christ Church, Her Majesty's Chapel Royal of the Mohawk, Anglican Church of Canada, Sunday Celebration—10:30 a.m."

Almost a year ago, as Paul Robertson was about to change the message in the old sign at Christ Church, the brackets and screws that attached it to its posts disintegrated and the sign crashed to the ground. Now, after many months of searching for a replacement sign, the Parish actually has two beautiful new signs—one at All Saints' and one at Christ Church.

Thanks to the dedication of Doug Green, who researched, solicited quotations, and coordinated the design and

delivery of the signs, we have a very visible roadside presence in front of each church.

The signs were crafted and installed by Keith Heine of Heritage Signs in Athens, Ontario. They are made of an exterior-grade substrate called Extira® which is a favourite of sign-makers. Heritage Signs used computer design software to create the design and then routed the signs to specification. They are painted with a high-quality exterior sign paint which should last for many years

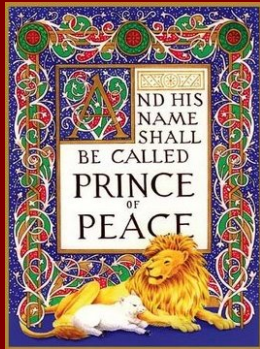
without need of touch-up.

Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, we were able to buy signs for each church, thus providing a common appearance. Once some other priorities are taken care of, we hope to be able to buy letterboards or LCD message boards for one or both signs which would enable us to publish custom messages (e.g. special service times etc). In the near future, the signs will be lighted using ground-level floodlights.

ABOUT THE TITLE

In the early days of Christianity, followers of Jesus called their faith "the Way". It wasn't until some years after that the growing body of followers of the Way became known as the Church.

As modern followers of Jesus, we remind ourselves that we, too, follow the Way, which becomes a part of every facet of our lives.



“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

—Isaiah 9:6

Way Words from the Rector

In my reflection in the Harvest edition, I finished by saying, “may we all have faith in the God who raised Christ Jesus from the dead!” A few months later, we are drawing to the close of the season of Advent and preparing ourselves for the joy of Christmas. Our thoughts are turned not to the death of our Lord, but to the birth of our Saviour.

This is my sixth Christmas in the parish, and at the close of this year, I will have spent five years as your priest. Perhaps it is the length of time that I have been here that turns my mind to visioning for the future—if we do not have a vision then we will simply fall into a rut and really end up going nowhere!

The Scripture lessons from the Sundays in Advent have been pointing us towards visioning, as well. We have explored the folly of making our desires into our vision for the Church, the basic structure of God’s vision for the Church (and indeed, the whole Creation), and a more down-to-earth framework in which we can live out our ministries through service to the poor and needy. We will continue to see as

Advent and Christmas unfold that God’s plan for the universe is nothing short of redemption and salvation for all. And so, it seems, we are back where we began, with the God who raised Jesus from the dead.

We cannot extricate Christmas and Easter from each other—each is bound up in the other. Without being born, there would have been no Messiah to crucify, and without a death and resurrection, there would have been little point for God to become the Word incarnate.

When Jesus was born—even though he was an innocent, vulnerable infant—God had a vision for him. Jesus wandered around in the Galilee, Samaria, Judea, and elsewhere so that he could tell people about the vision. Jesus lived the vision when he suffered a cruel and humiliating death in the name of Love.

This Christmas, as we gather with our loved ones to celebrate the birth of our Lord and to be thankful for the blessings we have in family, friends, homes, and everything else from which we benefit, let

us pause to think about the vision that God has for us. When we are making our New Year’s resolutions to diet, exercise, budget etc., let us also resolve to listen to God and pray that we might be more faithful followers of God’s will.

God has given us the greatest gift: Life. Like so many of the gifts we receive, will it be placed on a shelf and forgotten, or will we accept it with grateful hearts and even share it with others? Will we find in the Babe in the manger a present of Love that has the strength to break down even our highest walls? Will the Star of Bethlehem lead us, as it did the Magi, to the Light that shines in the darkness and in the hearts of men and women everywhere?

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, I am grateful for the love we share as a parish family and I pray that this Christmas God will bless you with hearts to receive our King and eyes to see and hands to build the Kingdom. Happy Christmas!

Bob +

“Do this in memory of me.”
—Jesus



Sunday Celebrations

Christians are called to live out their faith 24/7 in their daily lives, but we also gather together on Sundays to remember the great gift of life God gave us through Jesus.

Every Sunday there is a celebration in one or both of our churches. Every celebration is followed by food and fellowship.

Services are held:

8:30 a.m.—All Saints’ Church
10:30 a.m.—Christ Church

On the 3rd Sunday of the month, both churches worship together at one celebration.

October to March
All Saints’, 8:30 a.m.
April to September
Christ Church, 10:30 a.m.

Our worship is formal but fun and we welcome people of all ages and backgrounds. Whether you’re a seasoned worshipper or someone who’s trying church for the first time, you’ll find a place here.

If you need a ride to church please call 396-3797 the week before.

See you in church!

Christmas Celebrations

Blue Christmas Service
Sunday 19 December
5:00 p.m.

All Saints' Church

For those who find that a celebration of Christmas is hard to manage, whether because your family has lost a loved one this year and this is the first Christmas without them, or because you have some other pain in your life that makes 'celebrating' Christmas in the usual way hard to do, you are warmly invited to this alternative celebration of the birth of Jesus that is sensitive to the feeling of loss and sorrow many feel during the holiday season. A low-key and meaningful celebration of the Eucharist with people in a similar situation, this service is unlike the typical Christmas Eve celebration. Those who attend the service on Sun 19 Dec are invited to stay afterwards for a time of fellowship and a potluck supper. Please bring a dish for the meal.

Christmas Eve
Friday 24 December
7:00 p.m.—Christ Church
9:00 p.m.—All Saints'

The traditional celebration of Christmas Eve begins in the darkened church as we await the birth of our Saviour. During the singing of the first hymn, the



congregation's candles are lit and we hear the story of Christmas proclaimed in the gentle glow of candlelight. The celebration continues as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist in remembrance of the One who was born so that we might have life. Come join us as we sing everyone's favourite Christmas

carols proclaiming that Jesus Christ is born today!

Christmas Day
Saturday 25 December
9:00 a.m.

All Saints' Church

A quiet and reflective morning celebration of the mystery of Christmas with Holy Eucharist. This is a relaxed and contemplative service with fewer people and no hymns.

First Sunday of Christmas
Sunday 26 December
9:00 a.m.—Christ Church

Since the First Sunday of Christmas is the day after Christmas, there is only one celebration, although it will be more or less the usual Sunday service.



Origins of the Crèche

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You may have noticed at Christ Church that during the Christmas season there is a Nativity scene inside the altar. Our Nativity is rather unique: it portrays a First Nations Holy Family and uses Mohawk clan symbols instead of the traditional livestock. But where did the original idea to have a Nativity scene come from?

St Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223 at Greccio, Italy, in an attempt to place the emphasis of Christmas upon the worship of Christ rather than upon secular materialism and gift giving. Staged in a cave near Greccio, St Francis' nativity scene was a living one with humans and animals cast in the Biblical roles. Such displays became hugely popular and spread throughout Christendom. Within 100 years every church in Italy was expected to have a nativity scene at Christmastime. Eventually, statues replaced human and animal participants, and static scenes grew to elaborate affairs with richly robed figurines placed in intricate landscape settings.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless
 sleep / the silent stars go by;
 yet in thy dark streets shineth
 the everlasting Light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;
 and gathered all above,
 while mortals sleep the angels keep
 their watch of wondering love.
 O morning stars, together
 proclaim the holy birth,
 and praises sing to God the King,
 and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently
 the wondrous gift is given
 as love imparts to human hearts

the blessings of God's heaven!
 No ear may hear his coming;
 but in this world of sin,
 where meek souls will receive him,
 still / the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
 descend to us we pray;
 cast out our sin and enter in;
 be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels
 the great glad tidings tell;
 O, come to us, abide with us,
 our Lord Emmanuel!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
 Music: ST LOUIS, Lewis Henry Redner
 (1831-1908) or FOREST GREEN,
 English traditional melody

Phillips Brooks, an Episcopal priest,

Rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia, was inspired when he was visiting the little town of Bethlehem in 1865. Three years later, he wrote the poem for his church and his organist, Lewis Redner, added the music.

*O little town of Bethlehem
 How still we see thee lie
 Above thy deep & dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The Everlasting Light
 The hopes & fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight*

Author's manuscript of the 1st verse.
 From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O_Little_Town_of_Bethlehem

Holy Humour

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After the service a young couple talked to a church member about joining the church. He hadn't met the husband before, and he asked what church he was transferring from.

After a short hesitation, he replied, "I am transferring from the Municipal Golf Course."

+ + +

A preacher got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

+ + +

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour thy father and thy mother," she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

+ + +

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?"

The other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your dad."

Love in Action

2010 Bazaar a resounding success!

By Paul Robertson
Chair, *Love in Action*

The sights and sounds of Bazaar 2010: a bake table brimming with delectable goodies, silent auction treasures attracting bids in rapid succession, tea tables filled to capacity, creative craft goods and "surprise" bags, joyful sounds of Christmas choral favourites and much chatter and laughter

filling the air. Love in Action hosted its annual community event at the Canadian Legion in Deseronto in November.

The good turnout and enthusiastic din of shoppers and tea-takers was success enough, but our sales proceeds were clearly the cream on top. Returns of \$2380 were a new record for the bazaar – nearly \$150 more than 2009! These funds will help us with our



ongoing Outreach in Tyendinaga outreach to the local community and beyond, and in particular, to causes helping aboriginal women and children.

Love in Action extends its thanks to the many parish members and friends who set up, baked, priced, sold, served, shopped, and sang (thank you Quinte Singers and Tyendinaga Food Bank).



Shoppers found plenty of things to catch their attention at the 2010 Love in Action Tea & bazaar.

What is Mission?

By The Rev'd Benny Hazlehurst
of The Church of England

Mission is what happens whenever our faith causes us to cross a boundary.

Crossing a boundary can be:

- a physical boundary like a national border, as missionaries have done for hundreds of years
- an economic boundary like taking the time to talk with the homeless man in the street who you normally walk straight past
- a social boundary like the one we cross when we talk about God to our family or friends
- a personal boundary like the one we cross when we spend time alongside a person we don't understand

- even perhaps a faith boundary when we choose to act beyond our comfort zones, trusting that God will give us what we need to be there.

I believe that when we do such things because of our Christian Faith, we are engaged in mission: God's Mission.

- It might be giving money to a charity to help others beyond our reach; it might be that simple act of kindness to someone very different to us.
- It may involve words; it may not; it may involve more listening that speaking; it may mean setting aside our ideas to allow others to give us theirs.
- It may involve us 'giving a reason for the hope we have within us' (1 Peter 3:15); it

may be talking about the love of Jesus; it may mean us allowing someone else to show us God's love.

But if our faith draws us into that place, that action, or that situation where we have crossed a boundary, we have engaged in mission, and mission changes the world. It breaks down the barriers which separate us from our fellow human beings. When done in humility, it builds our humanity, our capacity to include others and to be included by them.

Most of all, of course, it is what Jesus did for us, and with us - and as a Christian, it is his example which I want to follow more than any other.

Road Trip: Ordination of Lisa BrantFrancis



Lisa vested as a deacon before the liturgy.



The new priests with the Bishop.



A proud Brant family: Bill, Lisa, Marilyn, and Dave.



Bishop Marsh, Lisa, Deborah Lonergan-Freake, Bishop Corston.

On Wednesday 3 November, a number of parishioners from Tyendinaga drove to Timmins for Lisa's ordination to the priesthood. The Bishop of Moosonee, the Right Reverend Tom Corston, presided over the liturgy, which was held in the Cathedral Church of St Matthew. An old friend of both Rod and Lisa, the Right Reverend Eddie Marsh, was the preacher. He reminded us all that the first mission of every Christian is to reflect God's light and love. At the vesting of the new priests, Lisa was vested in a beautiful chasuble and stole of Dupioni silk. There was also a number of parishioners from Rod and Lisa's parish in Wemindji who made the 14-hour drive to Timmins for the ordination. Obviously, Lisa is well-loved in the community! Like her parents, Bill and Marilyn Brant, we are all very proud of Lisa and we pray for the work and ministry that Rod and Lisa carry out.

A Job Description for Priests

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Everyone in the Church has a different expectation of clergy—it's hard to meet everyone's expectations. What do priests do? We turn to the Ordinal to find out.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to preside at the administration of holy baptism and at the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's body and blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

The Examination of the Priest, Book of Alternative Services, 1985, p. 646.



A Note on Lay Delegates to Synod

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Every two years, the Synod of the Diocese of Ontario meets to transact the business of the Diocese. Some 350 delegates from our 40 parishes attend to the financial, missional, and legislative details of our ministry.

In 2010-11, the lay delegates to Synod from the Parish of Tyendinaga are Paul Robertson, Cathie Vick, Marlene Brant Castellano and Brian Branchaud. At the right, you will find reflections from Paul and Marlene on their experience of the Synod last October.

Your lay delegates to Synod are members of the Parish Council, so they have an ongoing commitment to leadership in the Parish. In addition to their attendance at Synod, lay delegates also become part of the Parish Advisory Committee for the selection of a new incumbent, and in 2011, they will be responsible for the election of a successor to Bishop Bruce.

Being a lay delegate is more than just attending a big meeting every two years—it's a very real responsibility to help guide the life of the Parish and the Diocese.

As the Diocese prepares for the episcopal election, please pray for your lay delegates, particularly that they may be given a spirit of discernment for the selection of our new bishop.

Diocese of Ontario Synod 2010



Reflections from our Lay Delegates to Synod

From 14 to 16 October, the Rector and Lay Delegates attended the 138th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Ontario.

By Paul Robertson
Lay Delegate, Christ Church

As we moved through the agenda of Diocesan Synod 2010, more than once I thought to myself, "No gripping issues this year." Other delegates I spoke with had the same impression. The general mood was calm, almost neutral. Perhaps the air in the hotel where we were meeting had anaesthetised everyone.

But by synod's conclusion my previous feeling of malaise had been replaced with a quiet yet persistent sense of urgency. As delegates and as a diocese we had been presented with a challenge, or perhaps more accurately, a series of challenges.

In doing God's work we are always faced with new challenges, some daunting, some new and exciting, and many joyful. Yet, this year I came away with the feeling that we had just been shown the elephant in the room. The Church, globally and locally, is at a crossroads. Where do we go from here?

We are all acutely aware that many of our parishes are shrinking and that generations of children are growing up ignorant of Christianity, let alone any faith. These are changing times and our established ways of 'doing church' do not necessarily resonate with people who have lost or never had a church home. In his address on vital church planting, this synod's episcopal visitor, Archbishop

Colin Johnson, presented us with a strategy for moving beyond the safety of our familiar limestone walls with new and creative ways of 'doing church'. He explained that 'Fresh Expressions' are a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who have no church community.

What could have been a mundane discussion about balanced budgets and fiscal responsibility emerged as an impassioned debate about how to remain a missional church at a time of fiscal restraint. On the surface that balanced budget hid the fears and uncertainties of parishes facing difficult times financially, and our general concern with survival as an institution. Sustainability, growth, and mission must be found in new ways – a reinvented church that combines the best of existing structures and ones yet to be created.

Challenges and new beginnings threaded through other Synod discussions: the Anglican Church in Canada's North, visions of our own future as the diocese writes its strategic plan for 2012, the implications of adopting a worldwide Anglican Covenant, the formulation of a diocesan pastoral response to our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters, and the impending election of a new Bishop of Ontario.

Mission and hope were oft-heard themes at Synod 2010. These will guide and strengthen us as we prepare to take the next steps along the path.

By Marlene Brant Castellano
Lay Delegate, All Saints'

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:8

In Scripture readings and homilies we are often urged to be witnesses – that is, to share and declare the love that God has shown to us in Christ, which we celebrate in our worship. In the Parish of Tyendinaga we have been working at sharing our blessings with others in our community, such as families who have lost their homes to fire and the special needs class at Quinte Mohawk School. That is home territory, as Jerusalem was to Jesus' disciples. We have willingly contributed to the Council of the North to which we feel connected through the ministry of Lisa and Rod. That is like Judea – our own people some distance away.

It is more difficult to see how we can or should witness in Samaria – places where strangers live – and "to the ends of the earth" where wars and famine and floods create overwhelming needs and where different cultures have to be respected.

Participating in diocesan synod this fall opened my eyes to seeing how membership in the diocesan community strengthens our parish life and opens a window on the wider world. Of course we know that the bishop appoints the parish priest and that can be a huge blessing when the bishop's judgement fits with the *(continued on next page)*

(continued from previous page) character and needs of our community. Listening to lay and clergy delegates from other parishes in the diocese underlined my sense that we are linked together in faith and in facing the challenges that we share. Maybe we in the Parish of Tyendinaga can do more to support and learn from our neighbours. Presentations on fresh expressions of church, the impact of outreach in the North and the vision formulated at General Synod turned our attention to

possibilities for witness in a complex and changing world.

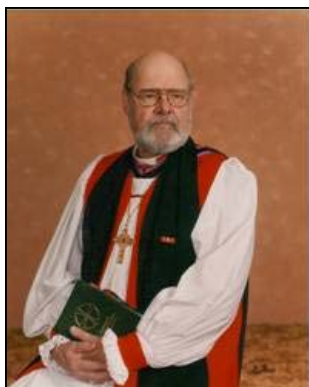
Efforts to trim expenditures and balance the diocesan budget led to a proposal to shift a portion of expense from the diocese to the parish level and there we saw delegates asserting their right to challenge administrative decisions. Members of Synod Council who were chosen at synod will have the responsibility to find a way to reconcile budgetary needs with the expressed will of the

people. Are you aware that the diocese is governed democratically? I think it would be useful to have updates on the issues that Synod Council is dealing with in the two-year intervals between Synod meetings.

Your delegates to Synod will also keep parishioners up to date on the process for choosing a successor to Bishop Bruce who announced his retirement effective August 31, 2011.

Search for a new Bishop

At the 138th Session of the Synod of the diocese of Ontario, held on the weekend of 14-16 October, Bishop Bruce announced his retirement, effective 31 August 2011.



Bishop George Bruce

Elected in 2002, Bishop Bruce is one of the senior bishops of the Canadian House of Bishops. He has held various appointments in the Anglican Communion, including recent work on the proposed Anglican Covenant.

At the conclusion of Synod, the Bishop made his announcement with what were obviously heartfelt words and with no

small amount of emotion.

“Episcopal ministry, like parish ministry, carries with it much stress and occasional anxiety. It is not a task for the faint-hearted. Furthermore, as many of you know, Theo and I have for the last three years been looking after our two oldest grandchildren. That task, pleasant and necessary though it is, is likely to continue for several more years. To fulfill this family obligation, I need to remain stress-free and in good health, and therefore, for all of these reasons, I am announcing to you that I have indicated to the Primate and to the Metropolitan my desire to retire as Bishop of Ontario.

I want you all to know that it has been and will be until my last day a tremendous privilege to have served you these past eight-plus years. I have been truly blessed to have met you in your parish homes and to have been able to worship with you; to have shared with you in your struggles and your joys. There has been no greater joy in my ordained ministry than to have presided at ordinations

and confirmations as God’s people have acknowledged their call to assume the ministry of God’s disciples.

There have been many blessings as we have ministered together and few disappointments....Thank you all for your support.”

And, while the Bishop is still on duty until the end of August, the process to elect his successor is already underway. The Nominating Committee has already solicited candidates for election and an Electoral Synod will be gathered in the Cathedral on Saturday 12 February. The new bishop will be consecrated (if necessary) on 11 June and will take over the episcopacy on 1 September.

We will be blessed once more with a visit from our Bishop on Sunday 17 April, Palm Sunday, when he will be with us at our combined Sunday Celebration to mark the beginning of Holy Week and to preside over the Sacrament of Confirmation for a number of catechumens who will prepare over the winter months.

God's Grace

+ + +

The gospels are like a tapestry, woven together with two incredible points: the immeasurable value of each person and the unimaginable depth of God's grace.

—Max Lucado



I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me.

—Psalm 13:5-6



Christmas Gifts

By the Rector

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This Advent, we have been studying a little book called *Christmas Gifts That Won't Break*. It has four chapters that are based on the four themes of Advent: hope, love, joy, and peace.

The book begins with the author's reflection on his experience as a child of receiving a toy for Christmas which was broken by the afternoon of Christmas Day. As we journey together through each of the chapters, we are discovering gifts from God and each other that will not break.

As you prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth on 25 December, take a moment to think about the gifts that you will give and receive this Christmas. Have you bought into the materialistic side of Christmas, with lavish presents for those on your list and tables laden with an excess of food? Or have you been able to keep your eyes on the real (but often uncomfortable) reason for our celebration?

As 2010 draws to a close, I invite you to take time to consider the gifts you are given. Are you living in hope, love, joy, and peace? Are you taking time to know and worship God? Are you focussed on the frantic busyness of life and the never-ending struggle to acquire more or can you take time to simply unwind and enjoy the blessings you already have in the company of people you love?

From Amsterdam with Love

On the weekend of 17-19 September, seven visitors from St Ann's, Amsterdam, came to spend the weekend and to keep alive the 26-year-old tradition of annual visits between the two parishes. We had the usual activities planned,

including a wine and cheese reception on Friday night, a trip to the National Air Force Museum of Canada and supper with entertainment on Saturday and worship on Sunday, with Fr Christopher Smith preaching. It was a great

weekend, with wonderful weather, and we are looking forward to making our pilgrimage to Amsterdam next year. Thanks to the planning committee and everyone who participated for ensuring we had so much fun!



Top: A capacity crowd feasted on Cubby's delicious ham and scalloped potatoes (and lots of pie!).

Middle: Saturday afternoon was spent touring the newly expanded Air Force Museum in Trenton.

Bottom: We were well-entertained after supper, with a round of trivia and lively music from Doug Green and Marg Anderson on guitar and Laurie Perry on fiddle.

We're online! In addition to our website, check out our other sites.

You Tube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ParishofTyendinaga>

facebook

Search for any of the following:
The Anglican Parish of Tyendinaga
Christ Church, Her Majesty's Chapel Royal of the Mohawks, Tyendinaga
All Saints' Anglican Church, Tyendinaga



"Our growth consultant thinks the term church sounds outdated."

Lending a Helping Hand

By the Rector

From time to time someone mentions a difficulty they have that I think I can help them resolve. Sometimes it's a computer issue. Once I went to drop something off at a person's house and ended up spending an hour digging a trench and edging a garden for her! These small favours are not specifically part of my role as parish priest (at least they're not in any job description I've ever seen). Rather, I see them as everyday kindnesses that are the bare minimum expression of my faith. If I have the ability to help, why wouldn't I? Isn't one of the vows we make at baptism to seek and serve Christ in all others, loving my neighbour as myself?

It often amazes me, however, how people respond to these little acts of kindness: usually with surprise and the words "Oh, you didn't have to do that." Sometimes people are embarrassed to receive help. Maybe it's because people don't expect a priest wearing his collar to get down on his knees to cajole that ornery black plastic edging into a

rapidly crumbling trench. I don't know—but it saddens me to think that these small favours surprise people. For goodness' sake, if we are members of a family (and I don't just mean the parish, but beyond that—are we not all part of the human family, of God's family?) then is it not natural that we should want to help?

Recently, I was contacted by a probation officer from Belleville who is struggling to find 60 hours of community service for two offenders. The judge stipulated in the sentence that the hours must be completed in Tyendinaga. So, as I pondered if I could do anything to help, I was made mindful of the thoughts I had been having with regard to doing small favours.

The idea that I have come up with, something that I think will achieve two purposes with one initiative (or, killing two birds with one stone) would be to create a parish clearinghouse where people could post things they need help with and other people in the parish family could offer to help. We could

also ask people to post what skills and gifts they have to offer, either in exchange for assistance with an odd job, or as a gift to a fellow parishioner.

To go back to the needs of the probation officer: maybe the two offenders could provide general labour. In this manner, we can help people get problems solved and tasks completed and simultaneously help two members of our community complete their sentences.

I like the idea that we have the opportunity to provide a rehabilitative option for these two people. Working for members of their own community is a sure way to help them feel more a part of the community and to hopefully show them a better path.

I hope very soon to create the clearinghouse for favours and tasks. It may just be a bulletin board in each church for now, but I hope that you will join with me in creating a more powerful sense of family helping family and neighbours in our parish and in the wider community.

Holy Email
Circulated by email
+ + +

One day God was looking down at earth and saw all of the rascally behaviour that was going on.

So he called one of his angels and sent the angel to earth for a time. When he returned, he told God, 'Yes, it is bad on earth; 95% are misbehaving and only 5% are not. God thought for a moment and said, 'Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another opinion.'

So God called another angel and sent him to earth for a time. When the angel returned he went to God and said, 'Yes, it's true. The earth is in decline; 95% are misbehaving, but 5% are being good.'

God was not pleased. So he decided to e-mail the 5% who were good, because he wanted to encourage them, and give them a little something to help them keep going

Do you know what the e-mail said?

Okay, I was just wondering, because I didn't get one either.



Financial Update



“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
—Jesus



Did You Know?

Parishes where a significant portion of their members donate through Pre-Authorised Giving (PAG) are proven to be financially healthier. Statistics vary, but some churches report that their revenue from offerings has increased by up to 40% after a PAG recruitment drive.

These remarkable numbers, along with the other advantages of PAG, are a great reason to make the switch today!

REVENUE

We continue towards the end of the year with one month left to go.

As with the last report in this newsletter, we are still a little behind in congregational givings—as represented by the Operating lines. Although we are aware that Christmas is a demanding time for financial resources, we invite our

supporters to reflect on their commitment to the ongoing vitality of our ministry together.

Once again, we encourage you to participate in the Pre-Authorised Giving (PAG) program. PAG is helpful for the parish because it costs less than depositing cheques and buying envelopes and it gives us a clear picture of how much income we can reliably expect

in the next fiscal year. Perhaps most importantly, PAG requires you to think hard about how much to give and requires a commitment to sustain your giving. Much more than any other way, PAG is a spiritual exercise in prayer and reflection on how much God’s activity in your life means and how much you are willing to give back to do God’s work through the Church.

	Budget 2009	Actual 2009	Budget 2010	Actual 2010
BALANCE FORWARD	26,529.86	26,529.86	57,314.25	57,314.25
REVENUE				
Christ Church Operating	41,000.00	40,280.01	41,000.00	27,561.73
All Saints' Operating	51,000.00	48,716.10	50,000.00	39,056.23
Christ Church Capital	3,000.00	6,052.58	3,000.00	10,095.00
All Saints' Capital	0.00	195.00	16,000.00	18,967.83
Mohawk Guild	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	900.00
Diocese	3,860.00	4,204.01	4,000.00	4,228.31
New England Co	12,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	9,375.00
Rectory	14,400.00	14,400.00	14,400.00	12,600.00
QAPC Rental	3,000.00	3,690.00	3,000.00	3,800.00
Fundraising	7,000.00	10,356.88	5,000.00	4,121.82
Flowthrough to other charities	0.00		0.00	1,126.10
Capital Transfer	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,000.00
Other	0.00	3,682.08	0.00	298.62
TOTAL REVENUE	136,960.00	143,276.66	148,100.00	149,130.64

EXPENDITURES

Referring to the table on the next page, please do not be alarmed at the negative balance at the bottom of the expenditure sheet. We bought an investment earlier this year with \$40K and brought back \$17K to cover the cost of the roof at All Saints'. What we have done is lowered the amount of cash on hand to just less than \$10K,

leaving \$23K in the investment, where it will earn more interest than it would if we left it in the bank account. So, while our bank balance is much lower, our total assets (including cash and investments) are quite healthy.

To ensure we can cover the expenses of the winter, which increase with the higher demand on utilities, we encourage parishioners to

consider carefully your support of our operations.

We are very proud that once again this year, we have been able to spend most of our outreach budget—thanks to your commitment to ministry, we are making a difference in people’s lives!

Any questions on the financial position of the parish may be directed to the Churchwardens.

	Budget 2009	Actual 2009	Budget 2010	Actual 2010
EXPENDITURES				
Stipend and Benefits	34,094.00	32,713.82	36,196.48	32,480.80
Other Ministry (Organist, Sunday Supply)	4,460.00	3,223.20	11,000.00	10,507.98
Rectory Utilities & Maintenance	11,870.00	10,142.97	6,000.00	7,983.68
Common Mission and Ministry	23,352.00	22,051.87	25,000.00	24,882.00
Travel	7,000.00	4,700.80	5,500.00	4,783.48
All Saints' Operating	10,166.00	10,122.85	2,000.00	4,181.82
All Saints' Oil			6,000.00	5,155.58
All Saints' Hydro			3,000.00	2,533.28
Christ Church Operating	6,000.00	7,556.85	2,000.00	3,536.74
Christ Church Oil			4,500.00	4,018.42
Christ Church Hydro			1,500.00	1,329.77
Outreach	8,000.00	6,700.00	8,000.00	7,076.50
All Saints' Capital	0.00	1,633.56	20,000.00	37,301.00
Christ Church Capital	7,000.00	275.00	2,000.00	3,969.81
Office Supplies	0.00	1,275.40	1,200.00	844.03
Church Supplies	650.00	1,010.15	1,000.00	367.86
QAPC Telephone	900.00	952.18	1,000.00	917.95
Christian Education	400.00	1,875.03	1,000.00	350.16
Bank Charges	0.00	57.00	0.00	29.10
Insurance	2,000.00	1,914.16	2,000.00	1,857.64
Discretionary	300.00	270.00	300.00	150.00
Music (Including CCLI)	312.00	112.00	1,000.00	463.35
Communications	300.00	1,509.66	2,000.00	1,561.47
Synod/Conference Registration Fees			0.00	685.00
Capital Transfer			0.00	40,000.00
Other	100.00	4,395.77	0.00	310.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	116,904.00	112,492.27	142,196.48	197,277.42
BALANCE	20,056.00	30,784.39	5,903.52	-48,146.78
NET BALANCE	46,585.86	57,314.25	63,217.77	9,167.47

Confirmation Preparation

Many of you may remember celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation when you were a teenager. Until the mid-1980s, Confirmation was a requirement for the reception of Holy Communion.

Over the years, the Anglican Church has done much work in deepening our understanding of

baptism. In some ways, we have gone back to the ancient teachings!

Although Confirmation is no longer required for reception of Holy Communion (or for the celebration of other sacraments such as Matrimony), it is still available as a means for people to affirm their faith. This is especially important for those whose parents

and sponsors made their baptismal promises on their behalf when they were infants.

On Sunday 17 April 2011, the Bishop will preside over the Sacrament of Confirmation here. All those who wish to be confirmed are invited to speak to Brad before the end of January. Classes will begin in February.





**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF TYENDINAGA
IN THE DIOCESE OF ONTARIO**

Christ Church, HM Chapel Royal of the Mohawk
All Saints' Church, Tyendinaga

Mohawk Rectory

321 Bayshore Rd

Deseronto ON K0K 1X0

Phone: 613-396-3797

E-mail: parish@parishoftyendinaga.org

Christ Church, HM Chapel Royal of the
Mohawk, 52 South Church Lane

All Saints' Church (and Queen Anne Parish
Centre), 1295 Ridge Rd

Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory

Rector of Tyendinaga
Chaplain of HM Chapel Royal of the Mohawk
The Reverend Bradley D Smith

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

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.



Check us out on the internet!
[HTTP://WWW.PARISHOFTYENDINAGA.ORG](http://www.parishoftyendinaga.org)

Coming Events

Fun, Food and Fellowship Nights

Third Wednesday of the month
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Queen Anne Parish Centre

Every month, we bring games and snacks and enjoy each other's company. Everyone is welcome—feel free to bring your favourite game or simply come along to see what everyone else is playing! Upcoming dates are: 19 January, 16 February, 16 March (none in April as the date falls in Holy Week).



Parish Council

First Tuesday of odd months

7:00 p.m.—Queen Anne Parish Centre
If you have an item to bring before the parish leadership team, please let the Rector know a week in advance. Upcoming dates are: 4 January, 1 March, 3 May.

Men's Breakfast

Last Saturday of each month
8:00 a.m.—Tota Maz, 1794 York Rd

We gather once a month for breakfast, conversation, prayer, and learning. Please join us as we seek to deepen our relationships with each other and with Jesus. Please contact Fr Brad, Doug Green or Bill Brant for more information. We will next meet on 29 January.

Annual Meeting of Vestry

Sunday 20 February
10:00 a.m.—All Saints' Church

The annual meeting is our opportunity to review our financial situation, elect/appoint new leadership, and work on our vision for our future ministry. All parishioners are invited to attend worship at 8:30 and the meeting and potluck lunch to follow. Here's your chance to influence the work and mission of the Parish!

(see pages 2 and 3 for worship
times and locations)

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday 8 March
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Queen Anne Parish Centre

An old tradition in the Church, symbolising the last "luxury" meal of fatty and sugary foods before the beginning of the Lenten fast. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for kids 6-12 and free for kids 5 and under.



Church Dates to Remember

- Wed 8 Mar—Ash Wednesday
- Sun 17 Apr—Palm Sunday (Bishop's visit and Confirmation)
- Thu 21 Apr—Maundy Thursday
- Fri 22 Apr—Good Friday
- Sat 23 Apr—Great Vigil of Easter
- Sun 24 Apr—Easter Sunday

**WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM
YOU!**

If you have any comments or suggestions about this newsletter or would like to contribute a short article, news item, upcoming event, or anything else you think people would like to see (cartoons, humour, poetry), please call, write to, or email us through the ways listed on the back page.

**Thanks for
reading this
edition!**



GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING!

