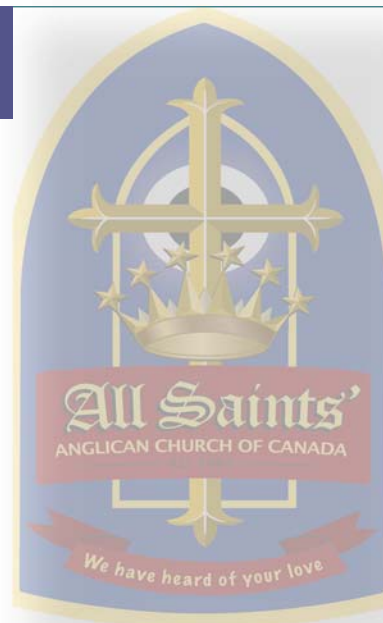


Saints Alive!

Editor:
A. Ralph

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A “Both-And” Congregation

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

The prophet was on to something—when Isaiah spoke these words he was predicting the exodus of the Israelites and that there was going to be a new way of living and being for God’s people. Our new 9:30 service is a way that we can live into these prophetic words. We can allow God to “do a new thing” in our midst.

There’s no doubt about it, our traditional Anglican liturgy is beautiful and rich—words that remind so many of us of who we are in God’s family and his faithfulness to us over many years in some cases. But sometimes doing *a new thing* can help folks encounter Jesus either for the first time, or all over again!

continued on p. 4

EDITOR’S VIEW: Simple Math

I have a few friends who follow a “one in, one out” policy when it comes to shopping— if they buy a new pair of shoes, they get rid of an old pair through goodwill donation. Likewise, with a new jacket or skirt. I also know a lot of friends who calculate their restaurant orders via an “either-or” equation: ‘either I have an appetizer or dessert, but not both’; ‘if I have the calorie-rich pasta, then I’ll pass on garlic bread.’ I applaud people who are so moderate in their consumption. And I am mindful of how immensely blessed many of us are to live in a time and place where the choices we must make are a version of “plenty” or “slightly less than plenty.”

continued on p. 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Power of Prayer.....	2
Making Change	3
Discerning a Deacon....	5
ROAD Report.....	6
Notes/Reminders.....	8

DON’T MISS ...

- September 16: Church Picnic, Sunday School Opening & 9:30 Service Launch
- October 16: Funeral Pre-Planning Workshop
- November 10: Annual Church Bazaar

Note: The parish office is closed on Fridays in July and August.

All Saints’ Anglican Church
www.allsaintswhitby.org





INCUMBENT'S MESSAGE

The Questions We Ask

At some point in our lives, most of us ask ourselves this question, "Why am I here?" Sometimes it is accompanied by questions like "Who am I?" and "How did I get here?" They are part of the search for deeper meaning and the desire to understand the purpose of life.

These questions are not just important ones for individuals to ask but also for us as a Christian community. Why did God plant this church all those years ago? Who am I as a member of Christ's body, the Church? What is our purpose in the wider community and the world?

When I think of these questions personally, here is the best answer I can come up with—the purpose of life is to love and be loved. As a

Christian individual, the purpose of my life is twofold—to allow God to love me and transform me, by that love, more and more into the image of Jesus Christ; and to love others in the same unselfish way in which God loves me.

How does that inform purpose as a Church? The purpose is very similar, really, to grow together as a community in the love of Jesus Christ, to reflect that love, and to reach out to others with that love.

In this beautiful season of warmth and growth, let us all ponder ways in which we might share the warmth of God's love and grow in faithfulness and service as a community God planted to do just that. Then we will be living the command that Jesus used to sum up God's purpose for humanity: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and love your neighbour as yourself.

~ Stephen+

"let us all ponder ways in which we might share the warmth of God's love and grow in faithfulness and service"

A Prayer for the Co-Adjutor Bishop

Almighty and All-Present God, who delights in those who earnestly seek your will, grant to your Church the riches of wisdom and discernment. We give thanks that a servant-leader has been chosen who reflects the character and wisdom of Jesus Christ. May Andrew, our Coadjutor Bishop, be strengthened through the encouragement and power of the Holy Spirit, as he labours for renewal, strives for unity, and seeks those isolated and far from God; we pray all these things through the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

POWER of PRAYER: Long-Term Healing

We have within our parish a small group that prays regularly for those who have chronic or long-term illness. This group prays intentionally on a daily basis for the needs of specific parishioners or their loved ones. The focus is on comfort and healing for those who are enduring long medical treatments or difficult recoveries, or who are living with persistent pain or discouragement due to sickness.

Praying daily requires effort. Praying daily for healing for the ill and broken requires it even more so. It's sometimes difficult to call to mind every day the suffering of others. But it is also so very right and life-giving. And with daily

application, it becomes easy. After all, prayer is just a matter of talking to God and telling God the concern. And because it's a conversation with Someone we love and Someone who love us, it is never a lonely task.

Praying for healing is a unique way we can live our faith in action. Through prayer, we glorify God, acknowledging God as trustworthy and powerful. And we put the care of others at the forefront of our mind as Christ himself called us to do.

If you are interested in being part of the long-term prayer team for healing and comfort, contact Fr. Stephen Vail or Julie Peter.

Making a Change with your Change

Thank you to everyone who has been so faithful in donating loose change to our Parish Scholarship Program. The program began as a creative way to deal with pennies that were being phased out by the federal government. For various reasons and because there were no applicants this year, the committee is taking this opportunity to re-focus its mandate and allocate the donations to date in a new way.

Your contributions will continue to support the amazing work of the Canada-Mathare Education Trust, an organization that provides scholarships for children living in the Mathare slums of Kenya who otherwise would receive no education. It has helped many children change their lives and communities for the better. The other wing, as it were, of our newly directed program will be to give a monetary gift to the teens of our own parish to celebrate their graduation from high school. What a great way to continue to serve the youth of our world and celebrate the accomplishments of our own members.

~ Stephen+



The Biblio-File

This season the Parish Book Club is looking at Victoria, B.C. writer, Esi Edugyan's *Half Blood Blues*. Here's a excerpt to pique your interest:

"See, we lay exhausted in the flat, sheets nailed over the windows. The sunrise so fierce it seeped through the gaps, dropped like cloth on our skin. Couple hours before, we was playing in some back-alley studio, trying to cut a record. A grim little room, more like a closet of ghosts than any joint for music, the cracked heaters lipping steam, empty bottles rolling all over the warped floor. Our cigarettes glowed like small holes in the dark, and that's how I know we wasn't buzzing, Hiero's smoke not moving or nothing. The cig just sitting there in his mouth like he couldn't hear his way clear. Everyone pacing about, listening between takes to the scrabble of rats in the wall. Restless as hell."

Feather Bed

During the original meetings of All Saints' Truth and Reconciliation Group, one of the recommendations was to procure an eagle feather for service. The eagle holds a sacred place in many indigenous beliefs. The eagle was made to be the leader (king) of the birds. He can fly higher and faster. He flies so high that he speaks directly to the creator, and thus he is able to carry the wishes of the people.

During times of conference it was common for the speaker to hold an eagle feather to denote that he was the one expressing his thoughts. It was considered extremely bad manners to interrupt the speaker (something we might all learn) and was almost never done.

An Anishinabe elder told my son that, with his people, the quill of the feather is wrapped in a leather thong that hangs down to represent the umbilical cord tying us to Mother Earth. An alternative to the feather sometimes was a "talking stick." The Anishinabe one that I own has a wrapping of rabbit fur to represent all of the animals of the earth, a hawk feather to represent the birds of the sky, and a carved turtle to represent the creatures of the water.

continued on p. 4



A “Both-And” Congregation *continued from p. 1*

Part of this means simplifying our liturgy at 9:30—streamlining the eucharistic prayer and allowing our prayers of the people to reflect what it sounds like to talk to God in a conversational way.

The language of the confession in this new liturgy helps our people understand anew how we separate ourselves from God and others. Adriaan plays contemporary music and favourite hymns so beautifully at our grand piano. We have one reading that is the centre of our preaching which we try to make as relatable as possible—no churchy jargon here! These are just some of the ways we are doing *a new thing* at 9:30.

We are blessed at All Saints’ Whitby that we can offer our community both traditional and contemporary worship. We can be a “both-and” congregation. We are so grateful for our wonderful choir led by Adriaan. It’s a joy to hear them sing—and we can still do this every Sunday at 11.

We feel so grateful to see our children and youth taking leadership roles at 9:30. They tell us that they enjoy the service and the way they feel a part of it. Many of us are encountering the living God in a whole new way as we gather around the Lord’s table for communion. It is a powerful experience for Stephen and I to celebrate in this way too, and we are reminded of the early church as they would have gathered like this.

Already we are welcoming new members to our All Saints’ family at 9:30. We look forward to working towards our official launch this fall and will be spreading the word about this relaxed service to our neighbours in Whitby. Why not consider inviting a friend to join us at any of our 3 Sunday services? All of us can be part of joining God in doing the *new thing* he’s called us to!

~ Molly+



Feather Bed *continued from p. 3*



When I learned that an eagle feather had been procured for the parish, I decided to commission a suitable holder (referred to as a feather bed). I approached a Métis artisan named Kathy Morgan and after consultation with Father Stephen, we decided that a sunrise motif would be appropriate as the sunrise plays a central role in many indigenous belief systems. It is the time of renewal, both of the Earth and all of her inhabitants, and at this time it is important to thank the creator with song and prayer. Kathy also added stylized water as water is life for Mother Earth and all of her inhabitants.

To speak in the way of our brothers, these are the facts as I know them, others many know differently.

~ Keith Wagar

Clicking in the Cathedral

On June 9th, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Toronto elected a Coadjutor Bishop. The Very Rev. Andrew Asbil was elected to be the 12th Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto. As a Synodical fanatic, it was a cause of joy and wonder for yours truly to attend this marvelous event. (Through my many ecclesiastical contacts, I was able to gain access and, from a small, cramped perch high up in the bell tower, I was able to document the electoral proceeding.) Though the election was steeped in tradition and history, it was heartening to see such modern and thorough-

ly effective tools such as digital “voting clickers,” and large and extremely helpful projection screens integrated into the ancient rite. For the more than 700 voting members who gathered, it was an extraordinary opportunity to guide our church forward.

As is tradition, the clergy and laity vote separately. Each house must vote 50%+1 in favour of a candidate for them to be elected. It took 3 ballots to elect our Co-Adjutor and future

continued on p. 7

Discerning a Deacon

Introducing the Parish Diaconal Discernment Committee, made up of members Tim Ralph, Lee Carter, Karen Carter, Patty Clift and led by a Diocesan Facilitator, the Rev. Marilyn Metcalfe, Deacon at St. George, Ajax.

The committee has embarked on a prayerful process to discern “if it is God’s will that we should raise up a Deacon at this time in the life of All Saints.”

The Deacon is a separate, distinct and equal order of ordained ministry dedicated to serving the needy, the weak, the sick, the lonely; enabling others to serve in the same way; and holding before the church the needs of the world. To “raise up a Deacon” is to support an individual who wishes to enter into the discernment process to become a vocational deacon and to support them in their calling, should they ultimately be ordained deacon.

Some of the many questions that we are discussing are: “what are our present ministries, and what are our future ones? What role would a deacon play in those?” The entire process from the committee stage to ordination of a deacon in our midst will take time (upwards of 2 years).

In the fall, there may be other opportunities to share this vision with the parish. Part of our commitment to you, the parish of All Saints, at this stage is to be available to discuss and answer questions. Feel free to reach out to committee members for more information. And, for now, please include the committee in your prayers. You will here mention of it in the weekly intercessions.

~ Patty Clift



On the ROAD again

Our first Refugee Sponsorship has successfully concluded, and here's one final look at our year with the Aldibo family.

By choosing to accept the responsibility of sponsoring a refugee family, we have given 7 people a future and that is a good thing. And while the financial and formal arrangement has been concluded, the family has not been abandoned. Personal relationships have developed and ongoing support continues. And the best news of all is that Mohamad, the main bread winner, will start a full-time job in mid-June. This is a success story. Thanks be to God for the opportunity.

And now we look forward to our next sponsorship challenge—to bring the oldest Aldibo daughter Feryal, her husband Abdullah, their toddler Maryam and a new baby (due in September) to Canada.

In our first round of sponsorship, we did not know who the family would be until we were told they were coming. This time, it is a named sponsorship because we are asking to sponsor a specific family. Still, there's lots of paperwork involved!

Once again five churches in Durham Region have joined together to form ROAD 2. The lead church is St. Thomas, Brooklin and other participating churches are All Saints; St. George Memorial, Oshawa; St. Paul, Uxbridge and St. Martin, Pickering.

We hope to bring the family to Canada in 2019. In the meantime fundraising is underway (All Saints has fulfilled its commitment of \$5,000) and we will keep you up to date about other fundraising events you may want to support.

~ Lee Carter

Simple Math *continued from p. 1*

But it is interesting that we often dwell in a world of “either-or” negotiations, a system whereby in order to enjoy a new thing, we feel we must sacrifice something in return.

As people of faith, “mustard seed people” we know that God's love is not transactional. It's not an “either-or” proposition. It's not finite, and God doesn't measure out good to match bad. There's no balance sheet of pluses and minuses.

Like blood, faith is “in us to give.” It's an infinite, renewable, extendable resource without diminish, and the more ways we share it, the healthier the body of Christ can be.

I was thinking about this in the context of the change at All Saints. We've taken on a new form of worship, but we haven't abandoned

our other rites. We may welcome a new Diocesan Bishop (see page 5), but the impact of his predecessor is not diminished or undone or negated in any way. We may distribute bursary funds differently (see page 2), but we are still supporting students in their life journey.

Change is not necessarily loss. Adding does not require subtracting. As Molly says in her article (page 1), we can be a “Both-And” congregation, a people that have more than plenty and are prepared to share it joyfully and in confidence that God is prepared to do wonderful things here. All we have to do is open our minds and open our doors, and stop worrying about the timing or the math. God's got it.

~ Arleane Ralph

ALPHA Update

You may have noticed the bright red question-mark Alpha logo around town, on bus shelters, and of course, on All Saints' church itself. Perhaps you have wondered what it's all about, but aren't too sure what you might be letting yourself in for.

The Alpha program is a series of interactive sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith, and the meaning of life. Alpha started in the Church of England around thirty years ago, and since then has been continually revamped and refreshed, spreading all over the world in various denominations.

Each session looks at a different question, and is designed to create conversation in a relaxed setting. No two programs look the same – they run in coffee shops, churches, bars, prisons, universities and homes. The one common thread is that they all start off with food, which is a great way to bring people together. There is no pressure and no charge.

All Saints' has run two Alphas in the past eight months. A team of group leaders and (really important!) a team of people who provided supper each week, assisted Molly with the program. Although Alpha is designed as an introduction to Christianity, a large number of the participants in the first series were members of All Saints',

together with a few "seekers" who were not churchgoers. Those from All Saints' agreed it was a valuable learning opportunity, even though many had been coming to church for a long time.

The talks (on video) are designed to be engaging and inspire conversation. They explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity, addressing questions such as "Who is Jesus? How and why do I pray?" and "How does God guide us?" Probably the most important part of Alpha is the discussion in small groups. It provides an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas about the topic, without being corrected or judged. There is no obligation to say anything: it's an opportunity to hear from others and contribute your own perspective.

As Christians we are called upon to share the wonderful news of Jesus with others. Bringing a friend or a neighbour to an Alpha course is a great way to do this, without any pressure or awkwardness. The next programs are slated to run after Christmas and after Easter. In the meantime, why not invite a non-churchgoing friend to the new, relaxed 9:30 service?

~ Jacky Bramma

Clicking *continued from p. 5*

Diocesan Bishop. He will preside over the College of Bishops (His Grace and the four Suffragan Bishops) and provide episcopal oversight to the Diocese. As Coadjutor Bishop, he will work with our current Archbishop, Colin Johnson, for the next six months until Archbishop Johnson's retirement in December.

The Church throughout the ages has been called by God to select an overseer and pastor (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, Acts 20:28) to both lead and protect the Body of Christ. We congratulate our new Archbishop Andrew and look forward to his leadership in the years to come.

~ Bertie Weatherbottom

FOUR FACTS ABOUT CO-ADJUTOR BISHOP ANDREW ASBIL

He once described himself as “a Sunday School drop out.”

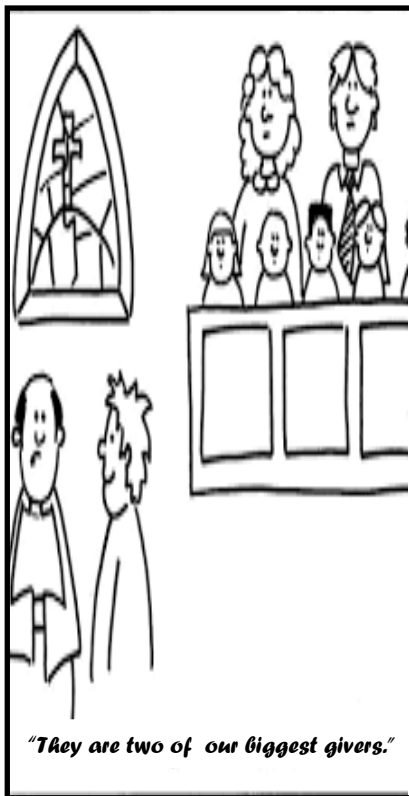
He has met annually with his friends from university residence on the Friday after Thanksgiving for more than 30 years now.

His Dad was Bishop of Niagara (1991-1997)

At his installation as Dean of the Cathedral in 2016, he spoke with gratitude and emotion about the mission of the church, and then ended his speech by saying “Now, that’s enough of that. We have work to do. Let’s get on with it.”



NOTICES & OTHER REMINDERS



Stewardship: All Saints’ is in the happy place of being sustainable and strategic and potentially missional. This is only possible through intentional and joyful stewardship. Stay tuned for the fall 2018 “Joyful Giving” campaign.

Walk the Talk: On Tuesday evenings (6:45-8:30) Jacky Bramma will be leading this summer’s edition of “Walking and the Word.” This summer evening Bible Study takes place on June 26, July 10 & 24, and August 7. It’s a 45-minute, medium-paced walk, followed by a 45-minute relaxed Bible Study. (*Editor’s note: I find this so totally amazing and restorative that a selfish part of me doesn’t want to share it. But*

my better angels prevail, so please consider coming. Truly the more, the merrier. It’s great.) If you want to attend, please contact jackybramma@rogers.com.

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How Bazaar: If you are not already contemplating the annual fall bazaar, well then, seriously, what *are* you thinking about? The bazaar is only 146 days away, and the coordinators already need canning jars and wool. You can leave jars in the kitchen; label wool to the attention of Brenda Heard. Keep an eye out for possible auction table donations over the summer. And clear your calendar for November 10.



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The next issue will be available mid-September. The deadline for comments or submissions is September 15, 2018.