



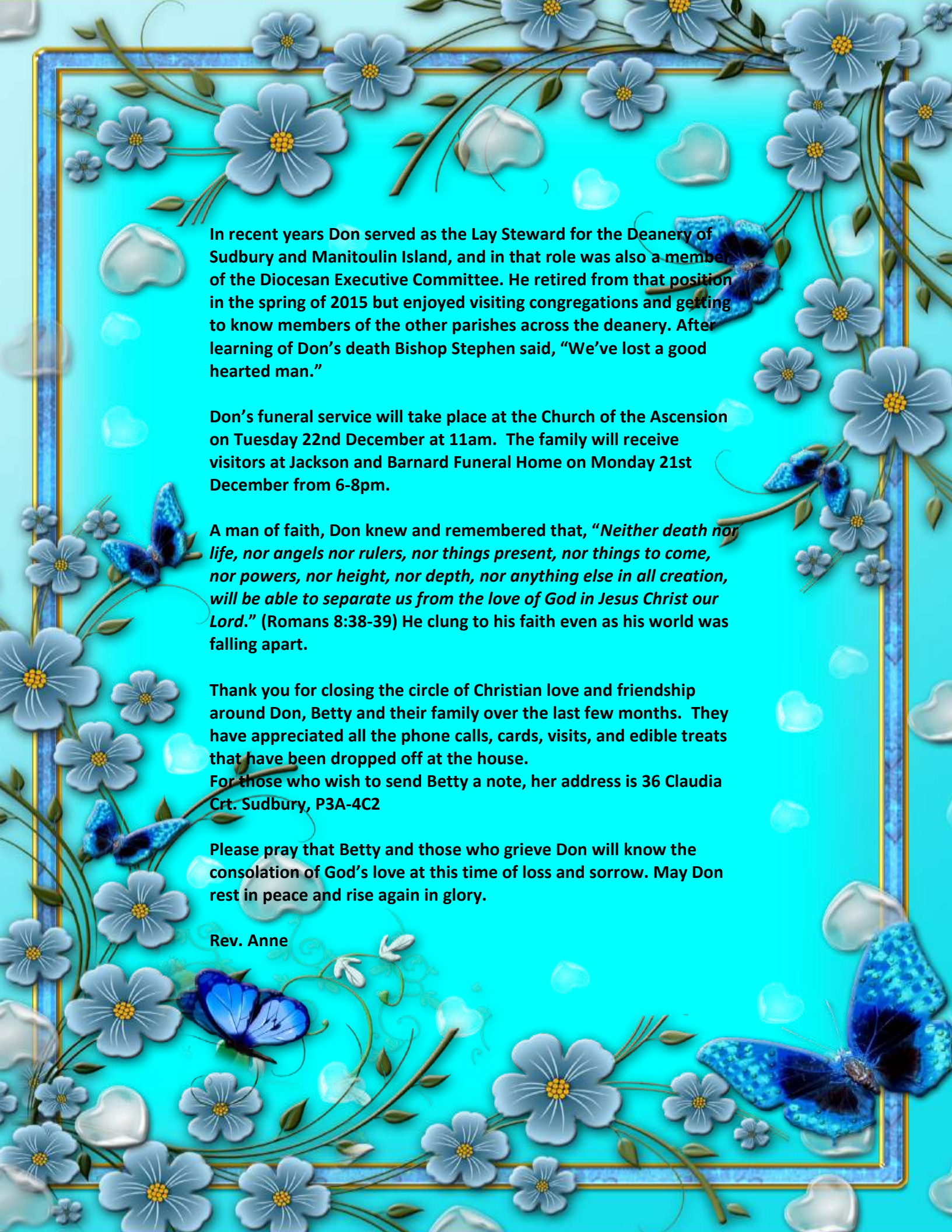
From: The Ven. Anne Germond on Thursday 17th December, 2015

Dear friends of the Ascension,

It is with sorrow that I share the news with you of the death last evening of Don McLeod, following a short illness. Don leaves behind his wife and 'sweetie' of 55 years, Betty; his children Jamie (Rosie), Tannys, and Sheridawn (Tim), and grandchildren Liam, Dakota, Erin and Olivia.

Don was a long-time member of the Church of the Ascension and over the last 55 years served as Deputy Warden, as Peoples' Warden (twice), and as Rector's Warden early in my tenure. He also sat on the Parish Finance Committee and kept a watchful eye on the 'bottom line'! He was involved in many of the building projects we've undertaken in the last fifteen years and was always quick to lend a hand and offer advice. A lover of nature and the beauty of God's creation, Don was often found on his knees in the church garden preparing the beds for annuals, cutting back the perennials, and doing the weeding. He popped by the church every Thursday morning after volunteering at Science North for a chat and to water the inside plants. We nicknamed him our "Lay Weeder".

In announcing his retirement from the Church Board Don wrote a note to the members which said, *"Thanks to the Church of the Ascension for allowing me to serve on the board for 50 years, and for being part of everything 'Ascension'. The board works well because we respect each other's ideas and listen to each other. I'm very proud of everything we've accomplished over the years. We've been through tough times, and good times, and down the road are even better times."*



In recent years Don served as the Lay Steward for the Deanery of Sudbury and Manitoulin Island, and in that role was also a member of the Diocesan Executive Committee. He retired from that position in the spring of 2015 but enjoyed visiting congregations and getting to know members of the other parishes across the deanery. After learning of Don's death Bishop Stephen said, "We've lost a good hearted man."

Don's funeral service will take place at the Church of the Ascension on Tuesday 22nd December at 11am. The family will receive visitors at Jackson and Barnard Funeral Home on Monday 21st December from 6-8pm.

A man of faith, Don knew and remembered that, *"Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord."* (Romans 8:38-39) He clung to his faith even as his world was falling apart.

Thank you for closing the circle of Christian love and friendship around Don, Betty and their family over the last few months. They have appreciated all the phone calls, cards, visits, and edible treats that have been dropped off at the house.

For those who wish to send Betty a note, her address is 36 Claudia Crt. Sudbury, P3A-4C2

Please pray that Betty and those who grieve Don will know the consolation of God's love at this time of loss and sorrow. May Don rest in peace and rise again in glory.

Rev. Anne



**Ascension Board BBQ: June 9th, 2015.
Don and Betty are second from the left.**