

Church of the Ascension

Sudbury Ontario

News and Announcements

January 3, 2016

In the parish this week...

Please join us after the 11am service today for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Tuesday 5th January: 11am Westmount Eucharist

Wednesday 6th January: 9:30am Holy Eucharist followed by Bible Study

4:30pm: Messy Church - Epiphany - all welcome! Come and join us for fun, fellowship, worship and a meal as we learn about Epiphany. For more information please speak to Cindy Caines.

Thursday 7th January: 1:30pm ACW Meeting

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Events

Monday 18th January - 7am the South Central Ministerial Association is holding a Prayer Breakfast at St. Patrick's Church on Walford Rd. The guest speaker will be Jim Gordon (former Mayor, and Chair of Sudbury Project Hope). Cost of this hot/cold breakfast is \$15.00 and proceeds will go towards Sudbury Project Hope. Space is limited to 150, you are strongly encouraged to reserve your ticket bay emailing m.k.marcotte333@gmail.com by January 11th.

Thursday 21st January: 7pm - Christian Unity Service at St. Stephen's on the Hill United Church.

Happy New Year!

The clergy and wardens wish you and those you love all the blessings of love, health and happiness in 2016. Why not begin the New Year by dedicating yourself to thankfulness. Begin fostering a grateful heart by praying often, thanking God for the people, the events, and the gifts of each experience in the coming year.

Christmas Eve Services

Hoping that you have all enjoyed the Christmas holidays and that you were able to have some 'down time' with family and loved ones. Thank you for being part of our Christmas Eve services this year, and for your Christmas envelope offering. Donations to the Outreach Fund are about \$3000. Many people liked the time change to 4pm and 8pm. We had 115 out at 4pm and 130 at 8pm. It was wonderful to see

many visitors at both services, and frail elderly at the 4pm service enjoying the little ones. The narrators were all children - some as young as 6 and they were just excellent.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Vestry meeting takes place on Sunday 24th January following the 11am service. All are welcome to attend and may vote if you are 16 years of age; are baptized; are regular attendees at divine

worship and have contributed to the expenses of the church in the year preceding. At this meeting reports from 2015 will be presented, as well as the budget for 2016. Elections for various positions will take place. All reports should be emailed to Rev. Anne by January 8th, 2016.

Bishop Damphousse Reception

An event of ecumenical interest is the January 20, 2016 Sudbury reception of the Most Rev. Marcel Damphousse, the newly appointed Roman Catholic Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie. He replaces Bishop Jean-Louis Plouffe who retires after almost 29 years of ministry.

Bishop Damphousse will be welcomed as

The Ascension is striving to be a nut free and scent free parish, due to the many nut and scent allergies.

the Catholic Bishop of Sault Ste. Marie to the Sudbury Community on Wednesday 20th January. There will be a service at St. Anne Des Pins church at 7pm. All welcome!

Refugee Fund Growing

The Steering Committee for ARK reports that donations are coming in for the Refugee Fund that has been set up in the church's name. Many of you have already made donations and those that were received before December 31st will receive tax receipts for the 2015 year. You are reminded that all cheques must be made

Thought for the Week

"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life."

- Corrie ten Boom

payable to "The Church of the Ascension Refugee Fund" so that they are distinguished from other donations.

We are still waiting for the profiles of refugee families from Immigration Canada.

Your 2016 Offering

If you usually give your offering by monthly cheques, this is a gentle reminder that they are now due in the office. If you wish to receive weekly envelopes for your donations, please speak to Gladys Abigail.

There are a number of people who now make their offering through the electronic program set up through the Diocese of Algoma. If you wish to make your donation this way, please speak to Rev. Anne and she will give you the necessary forms.

Thank you for your generosity in 2015. We had a number of new donors and every gift is appreciated. It is what makes ministry possible at the Ascension and God loves cheerful givers.



Epiphany

Epiphany gets its name in the three astrologers from the East. They were the first Gentile followers of Jesus. Without the benefit of Scripture or the stories of salvation, without religion and its rituals, they made their way into the presence of Christ. Many have since followed in their winding footsteps, through many places and years, searching for the light that they do not entirely understand but are willing to risk everything for.

Becoming the Story We Tell!
Attention all Lay leaders in the parish.

January 19th - 10am to 4pm

Greetings!

I invite you to join in an event being offered across the Diocese this January that will help your congregation renew its engagement with Christ crucified and risen during Lent and Easter.

In his column in the December edition of the Algoma Anglican, Bishop Stephen expressed his deep conviction that "our Church will discover untapped resources when we become what we believe we are." Therefore, rather than introduce a fund-raising campaign to follow up on the fall's successful "Lift Up Your Hearts" initiative, he encouraged us to go "deeper into our discipleship" by using a resource called "Becoming the Story We Tell."

"Becoming the Story We Tell" (BST) is a process developed at the Primate's request for the Anglican Church of Canada. It is being picked up, too, by dioceses and congregations in The Episcopal Church. Prepared for use during the seasons of Lent and Easter, it is a free resource rooted in the lectionary, the baptismal covenant, and our authorized liturgical rites. It is designed to be adapted easily in your congregation.

BST includes material for engaging in reflection and prayer centred on Scripture, enhancing worship, increasing capacity and confidence in sharing our faith, and learning how to better extend hospitality to inquirers and those new to the Christian way. It is designed so that you can simply use its core components – small group Bible study and reflection (section A), supported by preaching material and resources for the enrichment of our liturgy (sections C and D, and online resources that will be posted in January and throughout Lent and Easter) – or experience it in a more expansive way through holding a pre-Lent parish event, inviting members of the parish to make an intentional journey of baptismal renewal, or preparing candidates for baptism and confirmation.

Our gatherings in January will provide a one-day, deep-dive introduction to using this material effectively in your church. Through presentations, worship, trying out the resources, and conversation, you will get a taste of the BST process, learning from and with one another. You will leave with the scope and detail of a transformative 14-week Lent-Triduum-Easter experience of liturgy and small group gatherings. You will have a resource you can use during Lent and Easter over the next three years and beyond. You will save yourself hours of preparation later!

Congregations that have engaged in this process elsewhere in Canada and in the United States report that it has fueled their courage for living passionately as witnesses to Christ, and for inviting others to learn the way of Christ with them.

I hope clergy, lay readers, musicians, and any other leaders in liturgy or Christian education will join in one of the following events:

Friday, January 15

Deanery of Thunder Bay-North Shore
St Thomas' Church, Thunder Bay
10:00am – 3:30pm

Saturday, January 16

Deanery of Algoma,
St. Luke's Cathedral, Sault Ste. Marie
10:00am – 4:00pm

Tuesday, January 19

Deanery of Sudbury-Manitoulin
Church of the Ascension, Sudbury
10:00am – 4:00pm

Saturday, January 23

Deaneries of Muskoka and Temiskaming,
Christ Church, North Bay
10:00am – 4:00pm

A gathering time for coffee and conversation will take place a half hour prior to the start time in each location. Please call the site you will be attending three days prior to the event to let us know the number coming from your church so we can make appropriate lunch arrangements.

The Rev. Canon Dr. John Hill, the leader of the team of us who created this resource, will be present to co-lead some of these events.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 705.256.5061, ext.22, or congdevelopment@dioceseofalgoma.com. I will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 5.

BST is available here: <http://www.anglican.ca/primate/tfc/becoming/>

Discipleship formation was identified as a prominent need and aspiration in both our diocesan assessment process and feedback received at this year's Synod. BST is a resource ideally suited to respond to that need. I am convinced that as we engage more deeply in the journey of turning again to the way of Jesus, we will be better able to understand what it is like to turn to Christ for the first time. We will recover our confidence in inviting others to "Come and see!" We will be better equipped to walk with others as they learn the way of Jesus and become his disciples.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the events,

Jay Koyle,
Congregational Development Officer





TOY DISCLAIMERS

Warning: This fad will disappear in 6 weeks.

Caution: Care Bears do not actually care very much.

Warning: This toy produces substantially less childish glee in real life than it does in the TV commercial.

No beanies or babies harmed in the manufacture of this product.

Some dismemberment may occur.

In case of breakage, scream until Dad buys a replacement.

Not to be taken internally, literally or seriously.

Use as an actual terrorist device not recommended.

Do not attempt to combine your Ultra Mega Warrior with your cat to make Ultra Mega Cat Warrior.

Sunday Lectionary for January—February

10 Jan Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 36:5-10
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17,
21-22

17 Jan. 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Samuel 2:1-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

24 Jan. 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

31 Jan. 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

7 Feb Transfiguration Sunday

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36,

14 Feb 1st Sunday in Lent

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6 1-6, 16-21

21 Feb 2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17
Philippians 3:17-4:1

Psalm 27
Luke 13:31-35
or
Luke 9:28-36, (37-

28 Feb 3rd Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

Services of Worship at the Ascension

Sunday morning: Holy Eucharist at 9am and 11am. Sunday school takes place at the 11am service and there is also a nursery for babies and toddlers.

Wednesday morning: Holy Eucharist at 9:30am followed by Bible Study. All welcome!

We have a team of parishioners who are licensed by the Bishop to bring the Reserved Sacrament to individuals or couples who are unable to make it to church on Sunday mornings.

Please call the church office at 705-566-2790 and we will be happy to make arrangements..

Membership at the Ascension

We love it when people say that they are a member of our church, and we want to keep track of our parishioners so that we can send you mailouts, newsletters, and keep you posted on parish events. If you are a new member and wish to be on our parish list, please fill out the form at the bottom of this newsletter and return it to the office, or put it in the offering plate today. If your address, phone number or email address has changed, please fill out the form. Your email address is also important as we have an enews group. We do not give out parishioner's emails to any other group.

Agnus

Day



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

Your privacy

Every week the church bulletin and news and announcements is posted on the Church of the Ascension's website. Sometimes these items include names of individuals within the parish. If you prefer not to have your name on the website, or photos of yourself posted, please let Rev. Anne know so that she ensures your privacy.

The church website address is www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.ca

Family Name: _____

Person 1 _____

Person 2 _____

Address Family As _____

_____(John & Mary Smith, Mr. & Mrs J. Smith, The Smiths)

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ - _____ - _____ (Please include all 10 digits)

Email address: _____