

Church of the Ascension

Sudbury Ontario

News and Announcements

February 7, 2016

In the parish this week

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

Tuesday 9th February - Rev. Anne will be in Elliot Lake today.

Wardens meeting at 9am.

Preparations for the Pancake Supper begin early in the afternoon. Pancake Supper begins at 5pm. Freewill offering.

Please sign the sheet in the entrance if you are able to assist in any way. All proceeds will go to the Samaritan Centre.

There will be a Board meeting following the Potluck Supper.

Wednesday 10th February: 9:30am - Ash Wednesday Eucharist followed by Bible Study

Outreach meeting follows at 11:30am

7pm: Ash Wednesday service

Thursday 11th February: 11:30am - Barrydowne College Lunch at Barrydowne

Friday 12th February - 4pm - Saturday 13th February 4pm - Parish Retreat at Villa Loyola

The Sign up sheet for the Parish retreat is on the office door - come for 24 hours, or just for Friday evening or Saturday. This will be a time for getting to know each other, for prayer and worship, and reflection. If you have never attended a quiet day or retreat, why not make this Lent a new beginning and join us.

Parish Retreat

February 12th - 13th. There is plenty of room for anyone wishing to attend the Parish Retreat at Villa Loyola. Registration forms will be available for those who wish to sign up. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other parishioners, and also to get Lent 2016 off to a great start. If you wish to attend the whole retreat the cost is \$95 (three meals and accommodation). If you just wish to attend Saturday the cost is \$25 which includes lunch. Dinner on Friday evening is \$16.

Barrydowne College

We've been invited to lunch at Barrydowne College on February 11th at 11:30am. Please let Rev. Anne know if you can attend as soon as possible.

Pancake Supper

Join us on February 9th as we enjoy fellowship and pancakes. It begins at 5pm and the cost is a freewill offering. Proceeds will go to the Samaritan Centre for the Coldest Night of the Year walk.

**Please Pray for the 2016 Board Members
for the Church of the Ascension**

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rector's Warden | Erma Howe | Peoples' Warden | Jennifer Ames |
| Deputy Warden | Brent Leigh | | |
| Ex- Officio (Appointed) | | | |
| Treasurer | Cathy Dionne | Envelope Secretary | Ralph Mounter |
| Vestry Clerk | Cathy Jewell | | |
| Representatives of Church Groups | | | |
| ACW | Cathy Dionne | Mission and Outreach | Marie Vitone |
| Property | Wardens | | |
| Child and Youth Ministry | Cindy Caines | Worship and Pastoral Care | Brent Leigh and Rev. Anne |
| Parish Life | Kathryn Greenidge | Youth Rep | Megan Trimmer |
| ARK Rep - | Jane Cox, Gwen Bonas or Jennifer Cawley Caruso | | |
| Members at Large (Nominated) | | | |
| Gladys Abigail | Dave Fowler | Noella Fowler | Doug Frozel |
| Pippa Howard | Michael Sheppard | Chris Cawte | Gary Bate |
| Beaumont Nelson | Lori Cameron | Cora Felbel | Anne Trimmer |
| Rob Caines | Jim Gibson | | |

ELEVATE 2016

You're invited to lunch at KFM Radio on Lasalle Blvd. on Tuesday February 23rd to listen to Lee Beach, author of, "The Church in Exile: Living in Hope after Christendom". At this lunch information will be released about ELEVATE 2016 and each church will receive a media kit and material to help with publicity of this event. A free will offering will be taken to cover lunch costs.

Refugee Fund

We are so grateful for your support of the Refugee family we will be bringing to Sudbury. Thank you for the donations of money and your promise of assistance when they arrive. Please note that the ARK (Refugee group) finances are kept in a separate bank account to the church funds. If you are making a donation to ARK

please write a dedicated cheque to "Church of the Ascension refugee fund". We cannot separate funds on one cheque.

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

Coldest Night of the Year Walk

February 20th - The Coldest Night of the Year Walk. Once again Paul Murdock will be participating in this walk in downtown Sudbury. If you wish to support the Samaritan Centre through your financial gift, please speak to Paul. The proceeds, after expenses, from the Pancake Supper on February 9th will go to the Samaritan centre.

The Transfiguration of Jesus

How good it is for us to be here!

For the disciples, what starts out as another afternoon of napping while Jesus is praying turns into a terrifying visitation of the Divine. Just another reason not to close your eyes while Jesus is around. In this hour, Jesus is revealed as both the fulfilment of the law and prophecy (as represented by Moses and Elijah), not to mention the chosen Son of God.

Peter's response in the understatement of the millennium: "How good it is for us to be here." He is spared embarrassment by the fact that he does not have a clue as to what he is saying, much less what is happening. Our response to revelation is often the same. Sometimes it takes a lifetime to figure out what happened back there, what God is doing while we are all but asleep. (Alice Camille)

Questions for reflection as we approach Lent

- What events in your life have 'lifted the veil' and helped you to know God or to believe more deeply?
- Jesus is 'transfigured before our eyes' in every Eucharist. How is it 'good for us to be here' together?

Your weekly offering

Gladys Abigail has the 2015 Tax Receipts ready to be handed out. Thank you for your generosity to the Ascension last year in your weekly/monthly/ occasional offering. We give because God first gave to us. Your offering makes full time ministry possible. If you wish to sign on for, or alter your Electronic Offering through the Diocese, please take a copy of the form at the back of the church. Gladys Abigail has served as the Envelope Secretary for 35 years and is now giving up this role as we are going to electronic receipting. Thank you Gladys for your faithfulness in this regard for so many years.

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

Thought for the Week

"Life makes many an attempt to take away our faith. Things happen to us and to others which baffle our understanding; life has its problems to which there seems no solution and its questions to which there seems no answer; life has its dark places where there seems to be nothing to do but hold on. Faith is always a victory, the victory of the soul which tenaciously maintains its clutch on God." - William Barclay

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.

Happy New Year from Zawadi la Tumaini Children's Home!

February 20th 2016

The 4th Annual A Night In Africa Gala is the largest fundraiser of the year for Zawadi la Tumaini – Gift of Hope Children's Home, and will feature the flavors, rhythms and culture of Africa. By purchasing a ticket for February 20th's dinner you are helping to raise funds to cover operating expenses throughout 2016 as well as ensuring the children of Zawadi la Tumaini continue to have a home, and a family, to call their own.

Your support is a gift of hope. A gift that means a child who has only known fear, abandonment, severe abuse, hunger and

hardship in their young life, can now believe in the possibility of a bright future – one that includes proper nutrition, an education, healthcare and unconditional love. This gala event includes live African entertainment. This year we will be joined by Caramel Latte Dance Crew from Ottawa, ON. To enjoy a sneak peak of their incredible routines you can visit, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBcs8bRdHvU&list=PLMOIQUckbWWvBIGJBIXVh3rv3bL3DQ_kv. In addition to live entertainment A Night In Africa will feature a silent auction with authentic African items, a message from the founder of Zawadi la Tumaini, and a menu inspired by food from across the African continent.

Recipe For Bird Feeder Feed

Outgoing People's warden, Anne Trimmer, shared this great 'make it at home' recipe for bird feeders.

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 cups rolled oats | 2 cups corn meal |
| 1 cup flour | 1/2 cup sugar |
| 1 cup lard (they love bacon fat) | 1 cup crunchy peanut butter. |

Melt lard and peanut butter. Mix in other ingredients. Put into tinfoil lasagna pan and freeze. Cut into blocks and tie with rope on branch.

ARK~ Church of the Ascension Refugee Steering Committee Invites You to a: Pot Luck ~ Volunteer Fair

Please join us to learn about direct and indirect ways that you can VOLUNTEER to assist with our sponsored family.

Presentation and information provided.

RSVP by email to:

Darlene.lennox@sympatico.ca Or by telephone to: 705-524-2970

Thursday February 25th at 5:30 p.m.

Church of the Ascension Fellowship Room

A Reflection on Ash Wednesday by Mark Roberts (High Calling)

Ash Wednesday begins with bad news. It invites us into a time of extended contemplation and contrition, as we consider during Lent just how much we need One to save us from our sin.

But Ash Wednesday also signifies hope. The ashes that are imposed on our heads form the shape of a cross. Sometimes these crosses are obvious; sometimes more subtle. But the very stuff that symbolizes our mortality and sin also alludes to that which will set us free. It reminds us that God has entered into our human condition in order to break the power of sin and welcome us into the fullness of his life.

Yet Ash Wednesday is not Good Friday. It is not a day to focus on the cross so much as a time to begin to realize just how much we need the cross. On Ash Wednesday I am reminded of my mortality. I have come from dust, and to dust I shall return. Thanks be to God, this is not the end of the story, but just the beginning, because God himself entered into my dustiness in Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION: How have you experienced Ash Wednesday in your life, if at all? How have you been reminded of your mortality, your “dustiness”? Do you think it’s a good thing for Christians to focus on our mortality? Why or why not?

PRAYER: Gracious God, you created this world as a thing of beauty and perfection. Indeed, you made human beings in your own image. Yet we have tarnished that image through our sin. We have corrupted both ourselves and our world. We are mortals who will die. We are sinners in need of a savior.

O Lord, I experience my “dustiness” in so many different ways. Usually I try to ignore it, or I complain about it. But, today, I am letting the fact of my mortality sink in. I am reminded of how much I need to be saved and set free. I am reminded of how much I need you!

As we begin the season of Lent, may this be, indeed, a time for me to grow in my relationship with you. May I be unafraid to look at myself honestly, especially those parts of my life that are all too “dusty.” May I turn to you in this season in a special way, so that I might be prepared to celebrate the amazing news of Good Friday and Easter.

All praise be to you, O God, because you have not abandoned me in my mortality. All praise be to you for the hope that you give. Amen.

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!

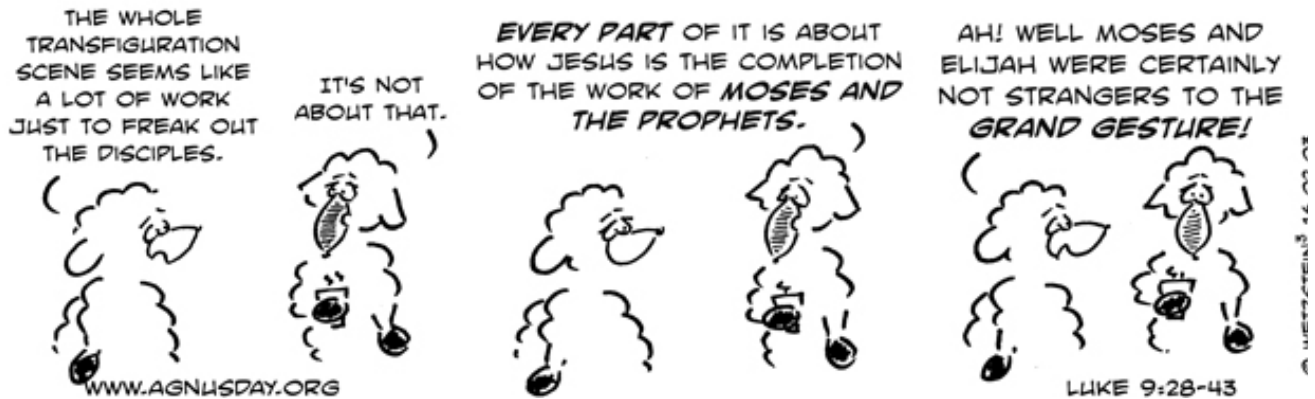
We have a team of parishioners who are licensed by the Bishop to bring the Reserved Sacrament to individuals or couples who are unable to make it to church on Sunday mornings.

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: _____