



Church of the Ascension 1476 Sparks St. Sudbury ON

**Email.:** [ascension@vianet.ca](mailto:ascension@vianet.ca)

**Web Site** [www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.com](http://www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.com)

Volume 2 Number 2

May 2017

## *From Bishop Anne...*

Dear Ascension friends,

Greetings from Niagara Falls where I am attending my first National House of Bishops meeting with colleagues from across the Anglican Church of Canada. There is so much to learn about the role and office of Bishop and so far everyone has been very helpful. This evening we went out for dinner with the bishops from our Provincial houses and I must say that the Ontario bishops are fun to be with. There are seven dioceses in Ontario - Algoma, Ontario, Huron, Toronto, Niagara, Moosonee and Ottawa. Toronto has a Diocesan bishop and four suffragan bishops so when we are together there are 11 of us in this house.



As you can imagine the first few months in 'office' have been a very steep learning curve for me. I feel very supported by the Synod office staff but I haven't got used to NOT preparing a bulletin or for the weekly Bible study. Each day is very different for me as I meet with clergy or wardens or make plans for upcoming gatherings such as next week's Synod. I've already visited eight parishes on Sunday mornings and had my very first Confirmation service and Baptism as a Bishop. That was in Capreol and it was very special indeed as Fr. Doug was at the Ascension for many years before being ordained.

You are often in my thoughts and prayers in this interim time. I am so grateful for the



leadership of those who are working hard to maintain stability in the parish and for Fr. Bob and Rev. Rhonda for leading worship on Sundays. How fortunate we were to have Patti Brace as an intern for four months as well. I followed her ministry carefully and you should know that she received an excellent evaluation.

I understand that you are having a Special Vestry meeting on May 7th to elect a Concurrence Committee. I hope that there is a wide range of Ascensionites willing to let their name stand for election for this com-

mittee. It's a tremendous experience and opportunity to be part of a concurrence committee and to have a role to play in selecting a new incumbent for a parish. The Ascension is a very vibrant and diverse congregation and so there should be a good representation of your faith community on the committee.

Finally, continue to be an Easter people, sharing in the joy of the resurrection in your worship and your service in the community and beyond. Abide in Christ and know that you are part of the greatest love story ever told. It's a story that's worth sharing!

Love and blessings

+Anne



Confirmation in Capreol

## *From the Wardens...*

Spring is here and time seems to have flown by. I hope that everyone had a wonderful Easter and enjoyed time with family, friends and with God. Personally, during the period leading up to Easter Sunday, I most looked forward to the Thursday Evening Vigil. In preparing for Easter, there is such an immense flurry of activity going on in our homes and in the church. The Evening Vigil has been my opportunity for silence and reflection. In my experience, there is nothing more beautiful and peaceful than being seated in the dimly lit church, quiet, and alone with God. My thoughts can often be distracting and hectic, but the night of the Vigil was much different, as even the night seemed to know that was the time to be silent. I prayed, reflected, and listened. Listened to the sounds of the church, the noises outside, until they faded away to silence. I continued to reflect upon the sacrifice that was made and the joy that Jesus has risen and is able to be with us now. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, what were your most meaningful and gratifying moments? When we gather for Pentecost, we can let our tongues be on fire and share the good news of Christ. Let His words and His love be shared with everyone we encounter.

I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the many Easter services taking place in the church, from the set up to the clean up.

A thank you goes to Father Bob who showed the movie "Silent" with a discussion afterwards. It was a very thought provoking movie and one I would definitely want to see again.

Thank you to Cathy Jewell as she steps down from her ministry of leading the Pastoral Care Team. The position will now be held by Lori Cameron.

And finally, a thank you to all who volunteered for the Yard Sale, donated items or purchased "new to you" treasures. It was a huge success and a ton of fun!

We give thanks to each and everyone of you for all you do.

*Jennifer Ames*

People's Warden

## *In the parish...*

### **A Letter from Patti Brace**

Dear Ascensionites—

It was with great astonishment that I realized that my time with you was coming to an end. It really has flown by. I am tremendously grateful for the way you instantly enfolded me into the life of the parish and into your individual lives. Your generosity has been a great gift, especially since this happened at a time of transition and anxiety. If this is the way the Ascension functions when it is stressed, the new incumbent is in for an extraordinary experience when things settle down again. And I think that the result of the concurrence process will be that someone wonderful reads your parish profile and thinks, "WOW! What a place! I want to be there." You are faithful, resilient, energetic, imaginative, and loving—there's not much more anyone could ask of a church



community. I leave aware that I have experienced great grace here and feeling that I won the internship sweepstakes. Our paths will certainly cross again, since I live in Sudbury and worship at the Epiphany, and I look forward to it. In the next couple of weeks I would ask your prayers as I proceed to another stage of vocational discernment. I will hold you in my prayers and hope that you will hold each other lovingly and gently as you move into the next exciting stage of your life as a community.

With love and blessings,

*Patti*

### **Seniors Lunch Wednesday April 26/17**

With as many singing 'cooks in the kitchen' as invited guests, the ACW and PL enjoyed lasagna, salad, buns AND, fabulous pies! This is the 20th (?) consecutive Seniors Luncheon. The Venerable Glenn Miller and his wife Mary Beth entertained us all with old time church camp songs.

Thank you to all who chipped in volunteering and thank you to our visitors for coming out to eat, sing and have fun at the Ascension.

*Jane*



## From the ACW

### Strawberry Tea

The ACW will be holding their Annual Strawberry Tea on Thursday May 18th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. All are welcome. Tickets are available for \$6.00 from any member of the ACW or at the door on the evening of the Tea. We would appreciate any donations of baking or crafts and they can be dropped off at the Church between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday May 17th. For more information or if you would like to help, please call Cathy Dionne at 705-524-6106.

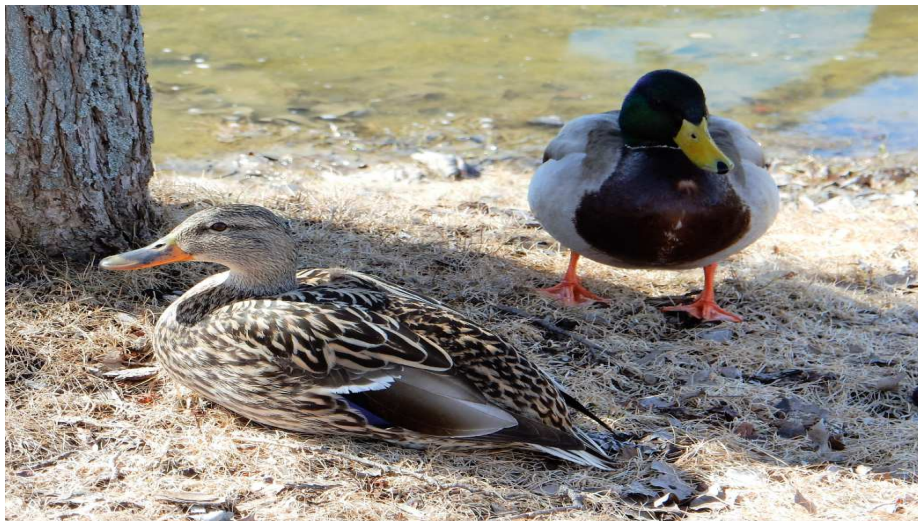
### ACW Annual

The ACW Annual will be held in North Bay from May 31-June 1st. The Diocesan Mission this year is the Pimattisiwin Nipi Living Water Project. Their aim is to provide safe drinking water for Northern Indigenous communities. If you would like to contribute to this project a jar has been set up in the entrance way for donations. There will be 6 ladies representing the Church of the Ascension attending.

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday May 4th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

*Cathy Dionne*



Our Ascension friends, Bill and Daisy Canard

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## Outreach

Donations for the Barrydowne College are just great. We thank you for your donations of food, clothes, soaps, shampoos, toothpaste.. The students really appreciate our donations. They are touched by your generosity!

The OOTC supper on March 10th was a great success. We wish to thank Vrab's Your In-

dependent Grocer for the special pricing of stewing beef for the meal. We also thank our cooks Jane Cox and Gary Botu. Their stew was awesome! And we always remember all the volunteers that make the OOTC suppers possible!

The last supper was April 21st.



Parishioners Judith McDowell, Del Gates, Betty Bonas, and Jane Cox during our Lenten Luther Study led by intern Patti Brace. Yes, they are building with Lego!

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We are having BC students over for a Taco lunch on May 17th. It's a pleasant experience!

June 21st is the last shared lunch we bring to BC for the school year!

Dear friends, you are a generous people! Thank you!

*Marie Vitone*



### **An Update from ARK Committee**

As it is April and spring has arrived, this seemed the appropriate time to write our many donors and volunteers with news of our Syrian mother (Manar) and her family. Since our last correspondence In late January, we at ARK imagine you may be wondering when the family is arriving, how are they doing and is there any work that needs to be done.

ARK members would like to share with you that while 'our family' is 'still not here', we continue to work to support Manar and her



children. We have been doing so in a number of ways. For example, thanks to technology and the generosity of our translator, we have been able to 'skype' with them in Lebanon every two to three weeks. Through these phone calls we have learned a great deal and are gradually developing a friendship with Manar and her four beautiful children. The phone calls have helped the family feel connected to Sudbury. They are learning about winter in Sudbury and we are learning about their day to day life, and about some of Manar's hopes for her family's future. The phone calls represent the beginning of a new life for Manar and we do our best to offer her some hope and support. We have been able to communicate with her that we continue to monitor her file from our end through conversations and emails with our Member of Parliament, and with the CIC office in Winnipeg.

Through our phone calls with Manar, we have been assured that she and her children are fine; they are safe and they aren't hungry. The United Nations sends them a food voucher each month. Manar tells us she receives the voucher 'by text'. There is no room for extras but their basic needs are being taken care of. Manar believes and hopes, she will continue to receive this support from the UN but it is never 100% certain. There are always a few days of worry before the text comes.

In December it was indicated that our family might arrive in February. As you may recall, the Loughheed's have generously donated a home to our Syrian family. Despite the delays, they have agreed to continue to make the home available for one more year. We have been fortunate as the Loughheed's are not asking for any financial remuneration until the family arrives. As a result, our donated funds remain intact in the bank account awaiting our family's arrival.

In addition to the above news, ARK members thought you would want to know that amidst these challenging and often confusing times that 'our family' is living through, Manar is making every attempt to provide her children with a normal life. They attend school in the afternoons and if she can find some transportation, she will bring her children to a playground which is a fifteen minute drive away. They have extended family close by and the family makes every effort to share in simple but heartwarming celebrations.

Finally, the ARK committee would like to leave you with your own 'To Do' list:

Please send your prayers to our Syrian family who are waiting in Lebanon for news that their file is complete; prayers for a safe time until they make it to Sudbury, prayers that we will all be able to help them settle in as comfortably as possible, and that we can help them feel like this will be a good place to call home.

From all of us on the ARK committee, thank you for your support and your continued patience, in this very long, and challenging wait.

Yours respectfully,

ARK members,

*Jane Cox* co-chair, *Gwen Bonas* co-chair, *Carolyn Thain*, *Jen Cawley Caruso*, *Heather Jeramaz*, *Erma Howe*, *Rev. Anne Germond* and *Rev. Patti Bryce*.

Come  
Get Messy  
With Us!



**Place:** Church of the Ascension

1476 Sparks Street, Sudbury

**When:** First Wednesday of every month

**Next one:** May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

**Time:** 4:30pm – 6:45pm



**What is it?** – It is a family friendly time full of fun, games, stories, crafts & food for everyone. A time to explore values together!

**Who is it for?** – It is for everyone in the community..  
(especially for those who do not normally go to church)

**Church Telephone:** 705-566-2790

**Email:** [ascension@vianet.ca](mailto:ascension@vianet.ca)

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## **Pastoral Care**

There has been a change in the Pastoral Care Committee - Cathy Jewell has stepped down as chair and handed the gavel over to the capable hands of Lori Cameron.

The committee continues to do hospital visits and communion, home visits and home communion. If anyone knows of any parishioner who would like or need a visit please contact Lori at 705 675-1495. If there is a pastoral emergency Lori can also be contacted on her cell 705 688 7246 or Fr. Bob at 705 988 0254.

If there is anyone in the parish who would like to join our group - we would be glad to have more members. All that you need is a caring and loving heart. Most of the visits are between one half hour to one hour, depending on the need. Again, please contact Lori Cameron at the above number.

*Cathy Jewell*

## **Summer Worship**

We are pleased to announce a summer exchange planned with the Church of the Epiphany. As is our tradition, starting on Sunday July 2nd, we move to one 10 a.m. Eucharist service. For the month of July, we are excited to host our Epiphany neighbours, as Epiphany gives their clergy leadership a summer break. In exchange, in August, the Epiphany will host the Ascension at their 9:30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist services so that our clergy can also have time off. The Ascension will offer Sunday Morning Prayer in August.

Both Anglican parishes are without an incumbent at this time. Bishop Tom Corston is serving as part-time interim clergy at the Epiphany. Our honorary clergy, Rev Bob, Rev Rhonda, and Rev Jeff have been providing us with Sunday Eucharist services since Bishop Anne's departure. Our clergy are also often filling in for other parishes in the region when the need arises. This being the case, we would like to support our clergy by giving them time off in the summer. In particular, it gives both parishes an opportunity to get to know each other as we share summer worship, and develop relationships as both parishes experience this time of transition without an incumbent. The Board agreed at our April meeting to endorse this plan.

If you have any questions about this arrangement, please do not hesitate to talk to one of the wardens or clergy. We'll be happy to answer any questions.

Your friend in Christ,

*Erma*

## Children's Ministry

The VBS Boston Pizza Fundraiser was a success with over 100 people from the Deanery in attendance. Thank you to everyone who came out!

The Children's Ministry BBQ will be held on Sunday, May 28 following the 11am service. There will be plenty of food and games so please join in for the fun! Beginning June 4, we will not be offering Godly Play or nursery programming. Instead, a basketful of activities will be available at the back of the church for your use! Godly Play and nursery programming will resume in September.

Vacation Bible School will be held from August 14 to 18 at the Ascension, and July 5 to 9 at St. John the Divine. Pre-registration will be held at the BBQ May 28 for \$10 per child, which includes a t-shirt. After July 1, the cost is \$15. We will have different sized t-shirts on hand at the BBQ to try on. The curriculum is based on the theme "Created by God, Built for a Purpose" and it is well-suited for children aged 12 and under. If any youth or adults are interested in volunteering, please contact Jennifer Ames at 705 618 2319. If you have any questions about VBS, please contact Cindy Caines at 705 524 5394.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child to attend VBS in the Deanery of Sudbury/Manitoulin, you can through the "Sponsor a Child Program". A suggested donation of \$20 helps to cover the cost of the following daily items: a craft, an imagination gadget, a take-home sheet as a reminder of the Bible story, and a daily scripture verse reminder. Any cheques should be made payable to "St John the Divine Anglican Church", with the memo line stating "VBS Sponsor a Child". Receipts for donation of \$10 or more will be given. Envelopes with more information are available at the back of church. All donations must be submitted before July 1.

Thank you to all who attended and helped with the Messy Churches this past year! The final Messy Church before the summer will be held on June 7, 2017. If you have yet to experience this worship please join us. We will resume our monthly Messy Church on October 4, 2017.

*Cindy Caines*

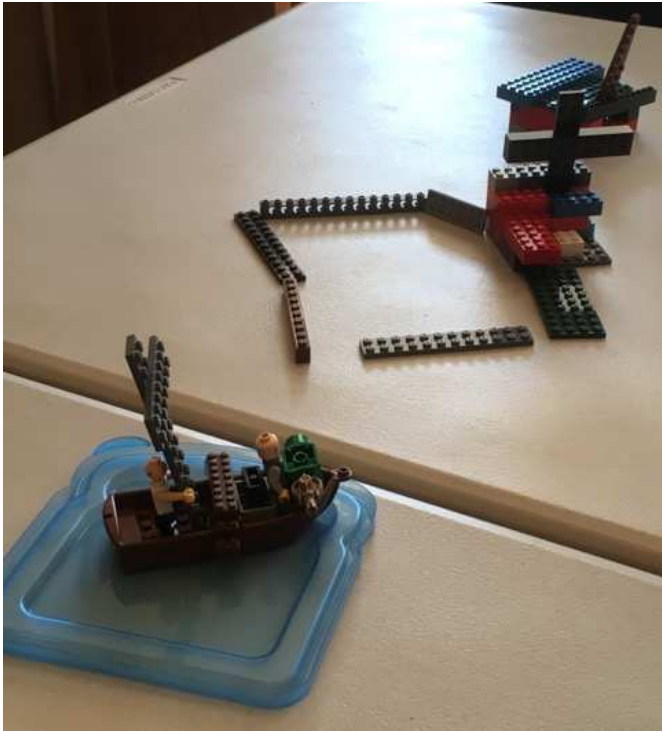
## St. Lydia's Dinner Church

St. Lydia's is a Lutheran congregation in Brooklyn, New York, that takes its name from the the purple seller in the Book of Acts who begs Paul and his companions to come and stay in her house. They celebrate the Eucharist at dinner, using a liturgy based on one from the Didache, a late first century collection of Christian writings. We did the same here, using the St. Lydia's liturgy, twice during Lent. Fr. Bob presided and Patti acted as deacon. We prepared the meal, sang, lit candles, blessed and broke the bread, ate together, heard and responded to Scripture, and blessed and shared the wine. Then we explored silence in our lives and in our prayer. For about twenty people between the two evenings it was both fun and a holy experience.



## In the Footsteps of Martin Luther

For ten weeks through the winter, a hardy group met after the Wednesday morning service to honour the five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation by wrestling with passages from Scripture that were important to Martin Luther and the development of his doctrine of



justification by faith. These bold souls learned to chant psalms as if they were monks, respond to what they saw or felt about righteousness and judgment in the psalms by drawing, use lectio divina to meditate on passages from Romans and Galatians and think about justification, and make mind-maps to figure out grace. It was hard work using ways of doing Bible study that they hadn't tried before. They persevered, though, and capped it off by making models of their understanding of justification by faith out of Lego!

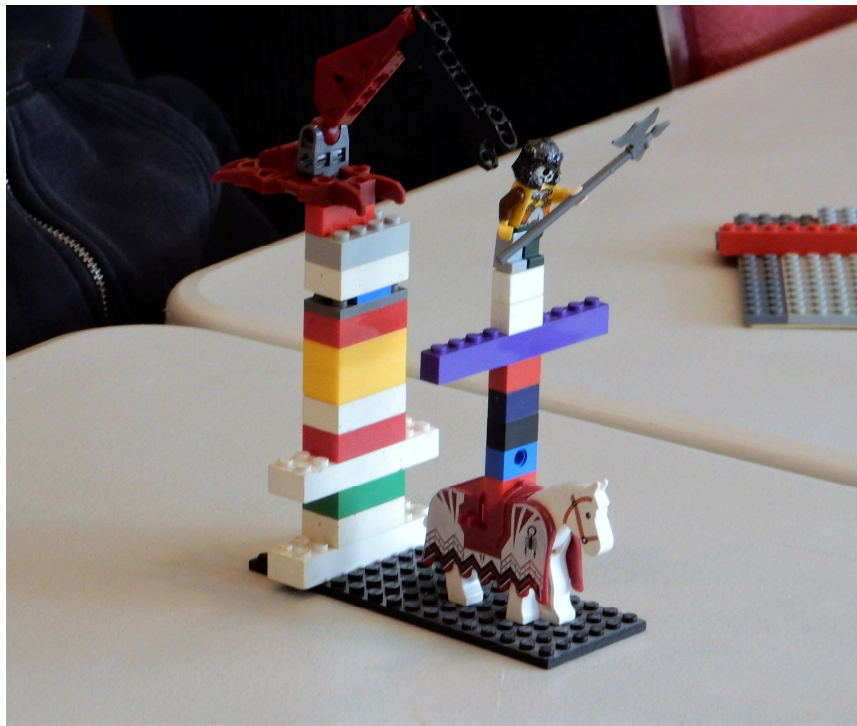
## Good Friday Stations of the Cross

On Good Friday, a group of children and adults followed Jesus from his trial before Pilate to his tomb through seven interactive stations of the cross. At each station, they heard a passage from the Gospels, tried an activity that used one of their senses, did a prayer response, and made or collected an object to put in a box so that they could retell the story later. At the first station, Pilate washed his hands of having a role in Jesus' death, so the children used water to make a cross on their own hands, put a shiny blue stone in a bowl of water and said a prayer about a time when they did something they shouldn't have, and collected a piece of rope to remember





that Jesus was handed over to the guards. At the fifth station, they hammered nails into wood to hear the sound of the crucifixion, then hung wooden hearts on the big cross and prayed to have hearts of love, and put a nail into their boxes. At the last station, the tomb, the children drew symbols of Christ on strips of linen to put into the tomb and filled little bags with spices to put in their boxes and remind them of the grave spices used for Jesus' burial. It was interesting and engaging and made Good Friday just a bit more real for everyone. Many thanks go to the volunteers who helped out on the day and extra thanks and kudos be-



long to Betty Cunningham, who worked with Patti to figure out what we might do and provided and organized the many craft materials we needed.

### **Ascension Youth**

Hi all! The beginning of spring has been delightful to say the least within the youth of the church.

Our group wrapped up our work and finished the Youth Emmaus program in which we took part. So much was shared, discussed and learnt over those few months we had together. Afterwards we continued to meet regularly on Sunday evenings during Lent approaching Easter to discover new information through bible studies. These classes were especially unique.

It has come to that busy time of year for our students going into exams in high school



# Church of the Ascension

1476 Sparks Street, Sudbury, ON

Anglican Church Women

## Annual Strawberry Tea

Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Door Prize

Tickets - \$6.00

Call: Cathy Dionne – 705-524-6106

Email: [cathdenn@personainternet.com](mailto:cathdenn@personainternet.com)



Bake Table



Craft Table



or finishing a year of university. As a group we came to an agreement to take a break during the busy exam season and summer months, however social events will keep us in the loop these coming months. More information regarding these will be sent out via e-mail! On behalf of myself and each and every one of the youth, I would like to send the utmost sincere thank you to Erma Howe for being with us at each event and youth group. Erma's work, knowledge and presence is extremely appreciated and loved.

Upcoming this week, May 3rd through 6th 2017, is Diocesan Synod in Sault St Marie. I have the honour of being a youth delegate as a representative from the Sudbury-Manitoulin Deanery at Synod. Being able to speak on behalf of our youth is beyond doubt a privilege, thank you so much for allowing me to do so.

In terms of synod, some of you may be familiar with Youth Synod which takes place each year at Camp Manitou in the Bay of Islands just out of Whitefish Falls, Ontario. This year's Youth Synod will be taking place July 2nd through 5th and is open to any of our youth over the age 13! If you are interested in attending Youth Synod or would like more information please speak to Rev. Jeff, Cora Felbel or myself.

*Megan Trimmer*

### **Notes from the Office Mice**

So who are we? A few contributors in our parish community submit thoughts, notices, and inspirations to include in weekly email updates. Joanie is the lead office mouse on this, gathering the bits, pieces, crumbs, morsels and gems to share with the parish.

If you know of any upcoming parish, deanery or community event that could be shared in the weekly email news, please call the church at 705-566-2790 or email Joan Servent at joanservent@gmail.com. As well, a gratitude section has now been added. Please call or email to include a thank you for some of the little things the lovely people around the parish are doing.

This excerpt from Bishop Anne's Easter message captures the rich relationship we experience with Christ and with each other at the Church of the Ascension:

"We now gather to celebrate the Eucharist with Him who is risen from the dead. This is not a last supper but a feast of joy and thankfulness.

Look around your congregation and breathe in that atmosphere.

See the joy in the faces of God's people joined in prayer, song and worship.

Drink deeply of that joy. Pass it on during the sign of peace.

May you know the new life of Christ which is risen from the dead, and is ours for the taking. Receive it as a gift from God and live it day by day."

ALLELUIA!!!

*Blessings from the 'Office Mice' at the Ascension*



*In the deanery...*



The Collation of our new Archdeacon, Venerable Glen Miller (left of Bishop Anne) on March 11, 2017

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The next issue of The Ascension Witness will be in July 2017. Items for the July Edition of The Ascension Witness are due in by the 30th June. Please forward them to Glenn Lloyd at [argeedblu@gmail.com](mailto:argeedblu@gmail.com)

### *Agnus Day*



### **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](http://www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.ca)

### **Address changes**

If you have moved recently, if there are any changes to your address or phone number, or if you have changed your email address, please let the Parish Assistant Joan Servent know so that we can keep our database up to date. Joan can be reached at [ascension@vianet.ca](mailto:ascension@vianet.ca) and is in the office on Wednesdays.

 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: \_\_\_\_\_