



ST. GEORGE'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH
The Oldest Church with the Youngest Ideas

SAINTS' CONNECTION

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17TH 2019

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

GENESIS 45:3-11, 15; PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42; 1
CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50;
LUKE 6:27-38

NO MEMORIAL FLOWERS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Evangeline Horton, Kayleigh Hughes,
Terry Shergold

GRATITUDE

Pikangikum Water Project

A friend of one of our parishioners, Shirley Densham, had a connection with a woman -- Colleen Estes -- who has been teaching in Pikangikum Ontario for over 20 years. When she heard that we had been involved in supporting the Pikangikum Water Project, she wanted to express thanks to us from the community.

Colleen sent these words in a letter to us: *I got a call expressing that your church had helped a great deal with putting the water systems into homes in Pikangikum, particularly those homes where there were shut-ins or people on home dialysis.....I purchased a painting from a local artist, Mario Peters, to express our thanks. It is very difficult for people to not have running water, especially in the winter at -40 degrees, and it helps their quality of life a great deal! Mario explained that the colourful dots represent the fruit of the Holy Spirit growing in our lives, and that the lines represent the spirit within us, and the the grass he is sitting on represents life.*

May God bless you and your church for your generous hearts in helping the people of Pikangikum."



We will find a spot in our church where all of us can enjoy it and appreciate this special connection with Pikangikum.

Soup Sunday & Vestry

Thank you to Paul and Sue Chapman and all of their many helpers for yet another incredible SOUPER Sunday! Thank you to the Wardens, Parish Council, and our incredible Treasurer, Jim Jenter, for facilitating a very smoothy Vestry (Annual General Meeting). Please call the office if you would like a copy of the reports.

Thank you to Marilyn Pettit for taking the minutes for us.

Are you prepared to make a soup or bread or rolls for our next Soup Sunday on March 4th? If so, please call Lydia Gallaway at (905) 934-4816 or contact her by email at dgallaway@cogeco.ca
Thank You

SOUPER SUNDAY THANK YOU -What an amazing sense of community breaking bread together and a tremendous example of teamwork on February 10th.

Your amazing soup and chili makers were Sandra Legarde (chili); Pat Cicci (Chili); Kelly Belford; Paul Chapman; Dianne Chisholm; Lydia Gallaway; Maureen Hempel; Myrna Holman; Sylvia Powell; Kim Reep; and Sharon Stitt. Our creative bread contributors were Evelyn Thompson; Sheila Ridge; Kim Reep; Sharon Stitt; and Pauline Smith. Our setup and clean-up crew were John and Kelly Belford; Cecelia and Gordon Tatarnic; Lindsey Wilton; Ruth Skrypiuk; Dave Bingham; Kim Reep and Vic and Pat Cicci.

Our kitchen crew included Sandra Legarde, Dawn and Chris Ferrier and Maureen Hempel.

My warmest thanks and gratitude to each contributor and person who attended that helped make Souper Sunday SUPER. **Sue Chapman**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT SUNDAY EVENSONG - February 24th, 4pm with Krehbiel Chorale & Friends

A simple and tuneful cap to the weekend, and a time of refreshment for the week ahead. Discover, or re-discover, this beautiful tradition.

Pancake Supper March 5th – 4:30pm to 6:30pm

Mark your calendars and invite family and friends to our 19th annual Pancake Supper! Includes pancakes, sausages, potatoes, fruit salad and drinks (and desserts by donation). Prices remain the same as last year: \$4 child, \$8 adult, \$20 family (1 or 2 adults and unlimited kids). Are you available to volunteer for this event? If so, call Lois Marsh-Duggan at 905-646-9703.

Parish Council for 2019:

Rector - The Reverend Martha Tatarnic
Rector's Warden – 1 year – Janice MacKenzie
People's Warden – 1 year – Sandra Legarde
Deputy Rector's Warden – 1 year – Rob Welch
**Deputy People's Warden – 1 year – Dave Bingham*
**Synod Delegates (3) – 2 year term – Corwin Cambray, Cheryl Bergie, John Bullivant*
**to be elected at Vestry*
Past Wardens (2) – 1 year – Neil Culp, George Novis
Chair of Stewardship – Nora Jenter
Chair of Communications – Tyler Deane
Chair of Finance- Paul Chapman
Property Manager – Jim Streadwick
Member at Large – Fred Hanam
Member at Large – 2/2 year term – Chuck Burke
Member at Large – 2/2 year term – Tayler Gray
Member at Large – 2/2 year term – Wes Gray
Member at Large – 2/2 year term – Lori Martin
Outreach Representative – Stephen Bedford
Breakfast Convener – Janet Veale
Staff Members Supporting Parish Council:
Treasurer - Jim Jenter
Office Manager - Linda Telega
Associate Priest – The Reverend Scott McLeod
Director of Social Justice & Outreach – The Reverend Michael Mondloch

REMINDERS

From Lindsey Wilton: Anglicans in Action

We walk through the cold and dark on February 23rd to declare our concern for people who have no home, and take shelter in nooks and crannies.

- We walk for those whose days are a battle to house and feed their families, and whose nights are filled with fear and frustration.
- We walk for those driven from home by violence and abuse. And we walk for people overwhelmed by isolation, guilt and despair.

- We walk for those who are struggling with addiction & mental illness.
- We walk humbly, realizing that anyone can lose their footing, and then lose everything else.

Each step we take brings someone closer to safety, health and home.

If you would like to join us in the walk or make a financial contribution please feel free to speak with myself or Rev. Michael – you can also go to the Coldest Night of the Year website and find our team Anglicans in Action or I have provided envelopes in the pews to make a cash or cheque donation. \$20 or more receives a tax receipt and remember every little bit helps. Thank you. Just click our team page or search for Anglicans In Action on the CNOY.org webpage to help us go even further to support people in need in Greater St. Catharines.

Parents' Group 5:45 - 8pm—Wednesday February 20th

Are you raising a family? Trying to make faithful decisions in a fast-paced, plugged-in world? Wanting to meet other people at a similar stage in life? Our Parents' Group meets once a month, on Wednesdays from 5:45-8pm. We will look at topics that are relevant to parents and caregivers today and supper and babysitting are provided. If you are able, we appreciate a \$5/person or \$20/family donation to cover the cost of food. Please contact Martha, mtatarnic@stgeorgesanglican.ca, if you want to participate in our February 20th meeting.

Greater St. Catharines Social Justice Network

Next meeting Monday March 4, 7pm at St. Columba's.

Join us for lively learning and engaging the "Hand of Justice" to engage a holistic response to issues of justice.

Lenten Learning Programs

You have a few opportunities for deepening faith during Lent this year: Tuesday nights, 6:50pm to 8pm, and March 12th to April 16th

Anglicanism 101 - If you are newer to our tradition, or just need a refresher on the whys and whats of what we do, this course is for you!

Book Study - Reconciliation: The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2019

Forty biblically-based meditations introduce topics such as Impediments to reconciliation, risking the self, humility and self-criticism, radical openness to the other and peace with justice. Global in scope, but homing in on the



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role ordinary people play in conflict and division, Reconciliation enables Christians to engage confidently in a ministry bequeathed to us by Christ himself. The book issues a vibrant call to the church to support and strengthen relationships amongst church members; to cross borders to build connections with different denominations, and to maintain open attitudes towards our neighbours from other religions and ideologies.

There are two opportunities to join in the study that we are co-leading and hosting with St. Thomas', Tuesday evenings at 6:50pm in the Asbil Lounge at St. George's, and Wednesday mornings at 10:30am at St. Thomas'

THE BIBLE THE SEQUEL

The stories of the Bible continue past the pages of Scripture and down through the centuries in the lives of ordinary men and women, through whom God does extraordinary things. Each week, our Advent Café sermon series looks at one of these people who has inspired faith, and we share our preacher's reflection each week with the rest of our congregation

St. Brigid – Robert Beren

Likely you have heard of Ireland's most famous patron saint, Saint Patrick. St. Brigid of Kildare is the lesser known, though equally as important patron of the Emerald Isle whose feast day just passed on February 1st. There are many stories and legends associated with St. Brigid. Brigid was born in the year 451 AD. Her father was a pagan chieftain of Leinster and her mother was his bondswoman, a Christian who was baptized by St. Patrick. When her father's wife found out about his affair, she forced him to sell Brigid's mother to a Druid while she was still pregnant. Thus, Brigid was born into slavery. As she grew older, Brigid performed miracles, including healing and feeding the poor. According to one tale, as a child, she once gave away her mother's entire store of butter. The butter was then replenished in answer to Brigid's prayers. Around the age of ten, she was returned as a household servant to her father, where her habit of charity led her to donate his belongings to anyone who asked.

According to tradition, around the year 480, Brigid founded a monastery at Kildare. This was founded on the site of a pagan shrine to the Celtic goddess Brigid and served by a group of young women who tended an eternal flame. Brigid, with an initial group of seven companions, is credited with organizing communal consecrated religious life for women in Ireland. She founded two monastic institutions, one for men, and the other for women. Brigid's oratory at Kildare became a centre of religion and learning, and Kildare developed into a cathedral city. For centuries, Kildare was ruled by a double line of abbot-bishops and of abbesses, with the Abbess of Kildare being regarded as superior general of all the monasteries in Ireland. Brigid is credited with founding a school of art in Kildare, which included metalwork and illumination. The Kildare scriptorium made the Book of Kildare, a beautiful illuminated manuscript that contained the four Gospels of the New Testament, but unfortunately this book disappeared during the Reformation.

Brigid was also very close friends with Saint Patrick. The majority of the stories and legends associated with Brigid centre on her generosity to the poor, though there are accounts of other miracles well, which relate to healing as well as household tasks. She had a reputation as an expert dairywoman and a brewer, she was even reputed to have turned water into beer. (She is Irish after all!)

Tradition says that she died at Kildare on 1 February 525. Saint Brigid's flame was kept burning in Kildare Cathedral and tended to by a long line of her sisters in Christ, until it was finally extinguished during the reformation. In 1993, it was rekindled by the Brigidine Sisters and is still kept burning and tended to by them in their religious centre, in Kildare.

So now that you know Saint Brigid a bit better, what is all this saying? What is the take home? Well, in true Irish fashion, I have put it into a triad, a traditional Celtic way of putting wisdom sayings into three-part verses. First, we can see that despite all the odds against her, Brigid possessed an unyielding Faith in God. She was born into slavery, yet still managed to become

a great faith leader and establish the great cathedral city that became the Kildare we know today. She kept the Faith through it all. Second, she was well grounded in the material world. Though she was a woman of great heavenly qualities, she also knew how to get things done in the earthly realm. She was steadfast in her prayer and monastic life, but she also could bring about material goods to provide for her community. Third, and perhaps the most important take away from Brigid's stories, is her habit of charity. Brigid never took anything for herself. From the earliest age she gave away anything she could to help those less fortunate than herself.

This is what we must remember about Brigid in this day, because we all have something to give. Whether it be our material wealth, our time or our talents, we can all do something to help those less fortunate than we are. So, to close this off, I will use a metaphor to help you remember this triad of Brigid's lessons for us. Kildare means Church of the Oak, and the Oak tree was a sacred tree to the Celtic people; it's not hard to see why. Oak possesses some of the strongest, unyielding wood, on branches that reach high into the heavens. This can be seen as a symbol of Brigid's unyielding faith in God, and His heavenly nature. The Oak also possesses a great taproot that reaches deep into the earth for water and stability, symbolizing Brigid's grounded nature and the earthly skills she possesses. Finally, the Oak tree produces an abundance of acorns that feed many creatures of the forest, symbolic of Brigid's charity and generosity. Is it a coincidence that Brigid founded her first Church under an Oak tree? I don't think so. So, let us remember Saint Brigid and her Church of the Oak with the triad of unyielding Faith, grounded earthliness and charitable generosity, as we go about our lives as Christian people of God.

Rector

The Reverend Canon Martha Tatarnic

Associate Priest:

The Reverend Scott McLeod

Director of Social Justice & Outreach:

The Reverend Canon Dr. Michael Mondloch

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THIS WEEK AT ST. GEORGES'S

Monday February 18 The Church will be closed for Family Day

Tuesday February 19—Super Tuesday/REVIVE/Pilgrim Series, 6:50-8pm in the Asbil Lounge.

Wednesday February 20

- 1) Parents Group 5:45pm in the Lounge
- 2) Advent Café in the Bear's Den 7pm. "The Bible the Sequel sermon series + Bible Study. This week's preacher: Paul Chapman - This week's music: Mari and Guest

Thursday February 21 — Prayer Shawl Meeting in the Bear's Den 1-3pm

Thursday February 21 — Visitors Group 1:30—3:00pm in the Lounge

Saturday February 23— Labyrinth 9am-12pm in the Gym

Saturday February 23— Youth Group Tobogganing & Hot Chocolate 10am-noon

Saturday February 23— Coldest Night of the Year 4pm—8:00 Market Square

Sunday February 24— Coffee hour after the 8:00am service

Sunday February 24— Evensong—4pm



February 25th - Parish Council, 6pm

March 5th - Pancake Tuesday!

March 6th—Ash Wednesday —(Including a day-long program for school-aged children — permitted to miss the day from school for the purpose of religious education.)

- Worship at 12:10pm, 6pm Said Service in the Sanctuary,

- Advent Café at 7pm in the Bear's Den

March 12th—Youth Group: Swimming at YMCA (more information to come)

March 12th - Lenten Book Study and Anglicanism 101 starts

March 24th to April 14th Communion Classes

March 30th—Labyrinth Walk 9:30am-Noon in the Gym

April 6th - Rummage Sale

April 26th - Book Launch, 6pm

April 28th—Communion & First Communion Celebration