



The Anglican Catholic Chronicle

*Newsletter of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada
A Province of the Traditional Anglican Communion*

LENT 2017



*A Message from
Archbishop Shane Janzen
Primate of the TAC
Metropolitan of the ACCC
and Bishop Ordinary of
The Diocese of Canada West*

AS we enter into the Season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, let us be mindful of our obligations as Christians. Lent is the ideal time to focus our mind, spirit, and body on the things of God. It is a Season in which we are called back to the things which matter most; it is a time of reckoning, repentance, and renewal. I urge you to participate in the prayers, worship, and devotions offered to us by the Church during the next forty days. Only by entering into the fullness of Christ's Passion may we hope to enter into the fullness of His Resurrection.

The Lenten Season provides each of us an opportunity to reflect on our lives and on God's place in it. We are exhorted to examine our thoughts, words, and deeds in light of His commandments; and to undergo a *metanoia* -- a change of heart -- that our old lives may be transformed into the likeness of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Lent also draws us back to a simpler life -- a life focused on God and His saving actions. Through fasting and self-denial we are provided opportunities to spend time with God in prayer and meditation. By forsaking some temporal nourishment and entertainment we are able to partake of eternal nourishment -- fortifying our spiritual lives by reading and meditating on God's holy Word, and feeding regularly on the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We are

reminded by our Lord, 'man does not live on bread alone but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God'.

Lent is also a time for quiet. It is difficult to find a time and a place in which to enjoy some solitude and quiet these days. Yet this is essential to the spiritual life. I would encourage you to make time and space in this Lent for quiet prayer and meditation. Like regular exercise and a healthy diet, regular time spent in prayer and meditation on God's holy Word will nourish and strengthen your spiritual life, and enable you to live a more balanced and peaceful life.

Through the richness of the Church, both in our local parishes and in our homes, we are offered a number of ways to enhance our spiritual lives during Lent and to progress along our journey to God. The Prayer Book provides us with an invaluable resource for public and personal prayer and meditation with the offices of Mattins and Evensong; and the Eucharist on Sundays and Holy Days. There are numerous resources available for the study of the Scriptures and the Christian Faith. Most importantly, we should avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Penance (*BCP*, p.581). We are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God; we need to seek His forgiveness and receive His pardon.

Finally, do not forget to practice acts of charity and self-discipline in memory of our Lord's great act of love and self-denial on the Cross. 'Give up' something in order to 'give of' yourself to God and others. Your Father in heaven sees what you do 'in secret' and will reward you, both in this life and in the life to come.

I pray you all a holy and devout Lent leading to a joyous Eastertide.



*A Message From
Bishop Craig Botterill,
Bishop Ordinary of the
Diocese of Canada East
& Provincial Chancellor*

WHEN most of us think of Lent, the idea of abstinence and deprivation comes to mind: “what are you giving up for Lent this year?”. Current fashion is to turn this notion on its head and invite the faithful to take on some new discipline or charitable activity instead of giving something up – reading to shut-ins rather than fasting for example – thus making Lent a positive rather than a negative experience. But I want to suggest to you that both the traditional and fashionable ideas of Lent miss the most important and practical purpose of these forty days and forty nights. Lent is first and foremost for the Christian a time of rest and renewal. It is a time to recharge your spiritual batteries - the soul’s version of the new Window’s 10 “reset” feature that restores your operating system to pristine condition.

We read in Mark’s Gospel: *And Jesus said unto them, ‘Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while’*. We know also that Jesus’ habit, recorded in dozens of Gospel accounts, of withdrawing himself from others to go into the wilderness to pray recharged and repurposed Him, giving him the strength to persevere in His difficult earthly ministry. The teaching example from all of these accounts suggest that, like Jesus, we too need to separate ourselves from others - from the noise and distraction of work, school, family, and social activities - in order to be alone with God in prayer.

The Russians have an interesting Lenten exercise that makes this point quite well. In rural Russia the faithful will build little wooden huts, not much bigger than an outhouse, in remote locations and then shut

themselves away in these “tabernacles” or “wooden tents” to be alone. This isolation symbolizes the time Jesus spent in the desert at the beginning of his three-year ministry and provides the quiet needed to think, reflect, and pray that is impossible in the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives.

There are many ways that you can find to “come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while”: a quiet study table at the local library, sitting before the Reserved Sacrament in an empty church, a scenic lookout over the ocean, or simply time spent at home alone with the television, computer, and mobile phone switched “off”. Perhaps you could suggest to your Rector that the planned “Quiet Day” at your local church be just that – as much as we all like to busy ourselves hearing or delivering grand meditations and other corporate devotions.

We can’t all go on Lenten Retreats to Monasteries where the Rule of Silence and the isolation of the cell serve to mirror Christ’s forty days and forty nights in the wilderness, but God has given us each a mind and body which can serve as our own cell in which we can withdraw to think, reflect, pray, refocus, and repurpose our lives. Don’t believe me? Then take this challenge: this Lent discipline yourself to spend some time apart and alone without distraction. You will find this is not wasted time. When you emerge from your desert place life will come rushing back in, rich, vibrant, and more full of energy than before. This will give you the strength necessary to persevere in your earthly pilgrimage. So this Lent slow down. It won’t be the French fries you give up or the good deeds you perform, but the time you take to go into the desert that will fulfill the purpose of this solemn and sober season.

With every blessing,
+Craig
Canada East

IN AND AROUND THE ACCC

Cathedral Church of Saint John the Evangelist, Victoria BC

40TH Anniversary

2017 marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the first continuing Anglican Parish in Canada in 1977 (St. Athanasius, renamed St. John the Evangelist in 1987). We will commemorate this milestone with a special Mass and celebration on Sunday, October 1st (in commemoration of the first Mass celebrated on the first Sunday in October 1977). Our Parish Archivist, Sonia Nicholson, will be preparing an updated history of the Cathedral Parish, together with displays of past events, people, and celebrations. We invite you to join us! *(Photo: CCSJE Archives 197787-018).*



*Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist
(CCSJE Archives 197787-018)*

Sidney All Care Residence Ministry

BEING a person who has, with my wife Sonja, been self employed for many years, it is not my nature to just sit and do nothing. So after receiving that special 'Call' in the spring of two thousand thirteen, at the young age of eighty I was made deacon. Once again being challenged by nature I visited a brand new seniors home which was about to open, and presented them with a plan of action for the church to be a fundamental part of their facility. After a few visits and discussions we were in business, and the Cathedral Church of St. John the Evangelist had a new outreach programme.

Sidney All Care is an eighty-nine bed private care residence in the seaside town of Sidney, B.C., a home which exudes the Christian principles spoken by Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we love God and our neighbour as we love ourselves. Unlike most care homes, this facility is a multi-complex health care facility, providing care regardless of the type of medical condition of the resident. All Care is a place where reason brings to mind the words of an old hymn "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling to you and to me;" certainly not because the home lacks physical comforts or the staff are not painstaking about the position(s) which they hold, but because each individual resident has lost his or her private home of many years, often lost a husband or wife, as well as their lifelong personal independence; such a major transformation in life effects everyone in divergent ways.



One of the most challenging attributes for me, as priest, are the diverse religious denominations with whom God has placed into my spiritual care, which for me means walking a fine line in order to offend no one, yet to remember that I am a priest of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. My little 'flock', as I am wont to think of it, is comprised of Anglicans, Baptists, Evangelical, Jewish, Lutheran, Mennonite, Mormon, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Ukrainian and Greek Orthodox, Unitarian, United Church, and others as they arrive from time to time. As in similar venues

the numbers in attendance at the Saturday morning service vary but usually there are about forty souls; but I should point out that residents come to service because it is their desire to sing hymns, hear scripture, a short sermon, and join in prayers. I have the assistance at these services of Daisy Essery, a most competent composer and musician to help with the music, and Fred Essery, a Licensed Lay Reader from our Cathedral Church who officiates if I am unable to attend. During the week I endeavour to visit residents providing Holy Communion, say prayers with various people, hear confessions, offer Last Rites; and the staff are aware that I am available day or night for any resident who requires spiritual solace.



The staff is kept busy because all is not sleeping, eating, and swallowing medication, after these events the fun commences with, depending on the day and timetable, bowling, chair fit exercises, crosswords, sing a longs; as well as other residents being taken by bus for lunch at local restaurants. Christmas, Easter, and birthdays are always a time for special meals, extra treats, and frivolity. The Sidney and Victoria community members at large are generous with their time, by providing entertainment, music, clowns, even a complete model electric train was set up and running for the residents (I won't say where I was when that occurred).

"Never the day nor night unhallow'd pass,
but still remember what the Lord hath done."

(Henry VI – part 2) The vocation of a priest not only includes offering prayers, providing the Sacraments, sitting with the dying, and listening to the happiness which people communicate to you; but also hearing the complaints, especially of new residents who do not comprehend why they are in such a home. It is not uncommon for someone new to ask me to help them get out, to simply say 'take me home.' As priest I must remember the words written in Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." The priest must have a sense of humour and be prepared for anything, like a lady who beckoned me with a rolled up magazine in her hand and shocked the staff when she hit me gently on the head and laughed; or the lady in her nineties who I asked if she enjoyed her birthday party, and snapped back, 'Of course I did, if I didn't I'd be dead.'

The Word was made flesh, dwelt among us, suffered, died and rose again for each one of us; we all are of infinite value, therefore I ask your prayers for the staff, that they may be attentive to the needs of whom they care for; and pray for the residents, that Christ may grant them peace in their latter years, and that He will in the end take them gently by the hand unto life eternal.

Fr. Jack Archbold

Church of the Resurrection, Edmonton, Alberta

A Day in the Life of the Church of the Resurrection, Edmonton

February 12th was a milestone day for us at the Church of the Resurrection. Oh sure, we finished off the second half of our annual meeting with good discussion, fun and laughter but that is not unusual.

The high point of the day was that Father Davis celebrated his first full Anglican

Catholic Mass in our congregation. Father Davis was licensed by Archbishop Janzen as a priest in the ACCC – Diocese of the West and Assistant Curate for the Church of the Resurrection on October 30, 2016. Since then he has been learning the ropes, becoming familiar with our Anglican Catholic liturgy, assisting our Rector, Canon Trevor Elliott, and officiating at Evensong. Canon Elliott has appreciated the support.



As welcome as his presence is in the Sanctuary, Father Davis' enthusiasm, energy and sense of humour are equally appreciated in the conversations at fellowship. He also responds promptly to e-mails! His familiarity with new technology has struck a chord with our younger members, and we hope will open many doors. His secular profession as a psychologist also complements his dedication to the priesthood.



Sitting in the AGM for the first time this year was our newest member, Debbie, and her mother Betty, both from the Philippines. Debbie is now a Canadian citizen and would like her mother to stay and become one too! Debbie is the live wire of the two with an infectious laugh and a ready willingness to do whatever needs doing. Betty is the quieter one, ever willing to mother us all, quick with hugs, and equally quick to pitch in and help.

Another piece of welcome news is that John Niruban, another one of our newer members, has taken on the task of Parish Webmaster, and will be reactivating our parish webpage after a serious drought. We all realize how crucial this is. And so we look forward to a renewed vitality in both the spiritual growth and the technical outreach of our parish.

Kay Hilton

Parish of St. Barnabas, Moose Jaw SK

Are you planning on pursuing the ministry in the traditional Anglican faith? The Parish of St. Barnabas would like to help.

The Parish of St. Barnabas, Moose Jaw, administers the "Father Dennis Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund". Fr. Dennis served as Rector at the Church of Epiphany in Regina before relocating to St. Barnabas in Moose Jaw. Sadly, he passed away in February of 2012. To honour his legacy, the parishioners of St. Barnabas established the "Father Dennis Dickson Memorial Scholarship Fund". A disbursement of \$250.00 is made each year to the successful applicant as approved by the Vestry.

You may apply if you are studying to become a minister in the Traditional Anglican way, or are currently a minister and would like some assistance with continuing education. The scholarship is open to both men (clergy, and those reading for holy Orders) and women (in the order of Deaconess or laity).

Please visit our website for the application form at: www.saintbarnabasmoosejaw.ca or for further inquiries about the scholarship, please email Larry Hellings at: hellings@sasktel.net

Individuals or Parishes who would like to contribute to the Memorial Scholarship may do so by contacting Larry Hellings via the email address listed above.

SAINT BEDE'S ANGLICAN CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Saint Bede's Anglican Catholic Theological College is a 'virtual college', established in 2002 to serve the needs of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada and Traditional Anglican Communion, in the academic and pastoral training of men for the ordained ministry; post-ordination programs for those already ordained; and theological studies degree programs for lay people.

Saint Bede's College is a not-for-profit post-secondary private theological institution incorporated under the laws of the Province of British Columbia. The College is operated and funded through the Saint Bede's Anglican Catholic Theological College Society, a not-for-profit society (B.C.) and registered charity (Canada).

Saint Bede's College provides candidates for ordination the theological study, spiritual formation and pastoral training for ordination to the Sacred Orders of Deacon and Priest in accordance with the canonical requirements of The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada and the Churches of the Traditional Anglican Communion.

As a 'virtual' theological college, St. Bede's College offers its program of theological studies and spiritual formation by means of distance education programs, utilizing computer technology and electronic communications, as well as residential tutorials, lectures, and directed readings. Candidates for ordination (and lay men and women undertaking course work in the Bachelor and Masters of Theological Studies programs) may undertake their studies on either a full-time or part-time basis. Candidates for ordination are required to be active members of their local Parish; and receive practical training and preparation for the ordained ministry through supervised participation in the life of the parish in its liturgical, sacramental and pastoral ministry.

Upon successful completion of the program of theological studies and ministry preparation, the candidate for ordination is granted a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) or Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) by the Board of Regents, and is recommended for ordination to his Diocesan Bishop. Those in the lay studies program are granted either a Bachelor of Theological Studies (B.T.S.) or a Masters of Theological Studies (M.T.S.). There is also a Certificate in Anglican Studies.