



A PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP KEVIN ROBERTSON

TO BE READ BY THE CHURCHWARDENS ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Dear friends at the Church of St. Aidan,

As your Area Bishop, I send you warm greetings as you meet for your Annual Vestry Meeting today. In addition to the regular business of electing parish officers, passing the annual budget and dealing with other matters, you are also hearing the news today that your beloved incumbent, the Reverend Canon Lucy Reid, is retiring. Lucy's last day in the parish will be May 31, 2022.

I know there will be mixed feelings in hearing this news. On the one hand, we are delighted for Lucy and David as they begin a new chapter. We hope retirement will be a wonderful time of rest, play, and new adventures in a new home. On the other hand, there will understandably be grief and sadness that this pastoral relationship is coming to an end. For eleven years, Lucy has served your parish with such joy and faithfulness. You have been blessed by her many gifts: compassion, kindness, humility, courage, humour and an unwavering commitment to you, her beloved flock. Your ministry together – as priest and people – has created a community where anything is possible – even a newly renovated worship space! I am thankful for the amazing ways in which God's power, working through you, has been able to do infinitely more than we could ask or imagine. I pray that the next three months will provide many opportunities to say thank you and farewell.

I am pleased to announce today that, beginning June 1, the Reverend Jeff Nowers will be your Interim Priest-in-Charge. Jeff will be returning to full-time ministry in the parish at that time. You have come to know Jeff over the past few years as your Associate Priest, and I am confident that his many gifts will continue to serve you well as he steps into the role of Interim Priest-in-Charge during this period of transition.

On Sunday, March 27th, I am very much looking forward to being with you for the rededication of your space. After several delays, I know you have been waiting patiently to start this new chapter. When I am with you in a few weeks, I will explain the next steps in the parish selection process which will unfold over the coming months. I have already met with your churchwardens, Matt and Amy, to begin that conversation.

Thank you for your faithfulness in the various challenges we have faced over the past two years of this pandemic. Be assured of my prayers as you continue to grow in love and service to God and one another.

Yours faithfully,

The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto