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• WELCOME BISHOP MELISSA •



The newly ordained Bishop Melissa Skelton waiting to enter Christ Church Cathedral for the first time as Bishop.
PHOTO Wayne Chose



Passing the Crosier, the historic Pastoral Staff of the Diocese of New Westminster.
PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

I Am Delighted To Be Here At Last — At Last!

The Consecration & Installation of Melissa Skelton as the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster

NEALE ADAMS

Communications Officer Emeritus; Parishioner, Christ Church Cathedral

With ancient ceremony, under the sails of the Vancouver Convention Centre, and before more than 1,400 Anglicans and their guests, Melissa Skelton was ordained a Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada on March 1st.

Led by Nisga'a singers and dancers, with banners flying, accompanied by robed Bishops and clergy and hundreds of laity, the new Bishop paraded up the centre of Burrard Street for five blocks to Christ Church Cathedral.

She knocked on the Church's west door the traditional three times with her staff, was admitted and installed as the ninth Bishop of New Westminster. It was a full service in two locations—first in one of the Convention Centre's large exhibition halls, and then, at the Cathedral.

During the first and longest section of the liturgy at the Vancouver Convention Centre, a 120-member choir under the direction of St. Mary's, Kerrisdale music director Brigid Coult, augmented by a brass quintet and other instrumentalists, led the hymns, sang anthems, and provided trumpet fanfares.

Some 18 Canadian and American Bishops participated in the core of the ordination when they laid hands on the head of the Bishop-elect and proclaimed: "Send down your Holy Spirit upon your servant Melissa, whom we

consecrate in your name to the office and work of a Bishop in the Church."

It was a colourful ceremony in both places that lasted over three hours. To a trumpet fanfare, a procession of banner carriers led it off. White-robed acolytes carried banners, pale yellow with a green stripe that ran across them all, ranging from 8 to 14 feet high.

When placed together up front, the banners created a wide backdrop with the three centre and largest banners depicting a yellow cross with a blue background suggesting the official colours of the diocesan badge. Fabric artist Thomas Roach, assisted by Sheila Wex and Janet MacKinnon, designed and made the banners. They were set up later in the chancel of the Cathedral, showing continuity between the two locations.

Following the first banners were Interfaith and Ecumenical representatives, visiting Bishops, Diocesan Council members, about 150 clergy robed in white, Regional Deans, Archdeacons, and the Dean of the Diocese.

Dean Peter Elliott, in his blue cope then greeted the festive crowd: "I love it when Anglicans have fun," he said, to applause. Acknowledging that the gathering was on "unceded Musqueam land," he introduced local First

Nations Elder Debra Sparrow.

Sparrow, a well-known weaver, welcomed the crowd and the new Bishop, wishing her well on her new journey.

Then came yet more banners and the final procession: the Bishop-elect and her presenters, retired and current Bishops of the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon, legal officers, the preacher Bishop Greg Rickel of the Diocese of Olympia, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada Fred Hiltz, and Archbishop John Privett, the Metropolitan (chief Bishop) of British Columbia and the Yukon. The Archbishop presided.

Bishop Privett was the only one to wear a mitre, but all the Bishops were attired in white, red, and black, many with elaborate stoles. In contrast, the Bishop-elect wore only a plain purple cassock as she marched in from the back of the hall. She left the procession briefly to thank and embrace her First Nations welcomer.

Among the congregation was a busload of parishioners from St. Paul's Church in Seattle, where the Bishop-elect had served as rector for the past nine years. Before then, she had served in parishes in Maine, New Jersey, and New York, as well as working in businesses in Ohio and Maine.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

For more Diocesan news and events visit www.vancouver.anglican.ca



LEFT TOP First Nations Elder Debra Sparrow. Sparrow, a well-known weaver, welcomed the crowd and the new Bishop, wishing her well on her new journey.

LEFT BOTTOM Members of the Choir. PHOTOS Sandra Vander Schaaf

RIGHT The Bishops and the laying on of hands at the Consecration. PHOTO Bayne Stanley

I Am Delighted To Be Here At Last — At Last!

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

She is the first American to be elected Bishop in the 135-year-old Diocese of New Westminster, and the ninth woman to become a Bishop in the Anglican Church of Canada since women were first ordained in 1976. She is the first woman to lead the Diocese of New Westminster.

The ordination service began with the sprinkling of the assembly with holy water by several deacons of the diocese. Readings from scripture followed; the first in Japanese and the second in Mandarin. The English text was in the printed bulletin.

A dance to the lectern preceded the reading of the Gospel. The Diocesan Arts Ministry Group performed it to the music of drums and a hymn based on music from Cameroon.

Following the Gospel, Bishop Rickel, the Bishop-elect's former Bishop, preached. While his loss of an energetic and gifted priest was the Canadian diocese's gain, "Jesus Christ has no borders."

"As difficult as it is to see you go, it is absolutely right that you do," said Bishop Rickel.

He said there were two types of Bishops: those who relish being Bishops, and those who work to grow the Church and share Christ. He was confident Bishop Skelton would be among the latter, and lead her diocese in doing "the hard work of love."

The presentation and examination of the Bishop-elect followed. Standing in front of the Bishops, she answered the eight traditional questions in the ordination service. She was asked if she will be faithful in prayer and study, proclaim and interpret the Gospel, encourage and support the baptized, guard the faith of the Church, share in Church government, "be merciful to all, show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper." To all questions she firmly answered, "I will."

Along with the assembly she recited the Apostles Creed and the baptismal promises. After more prayer she knelt and received the laying upon her head of the hands of Bishops present, and was consecrated into the office.

Bishop Rickel helped his former priest into the vestments of an Anglican Bishop: the scarlet chimere, a sleeve-

less gown that went over her cassock, and the white rochet with its frilly ruffle at the cuff. He also presented a Bible, a pectoral cross, a plain Bishop's staff, and a Bishop's ring.

The presentation of the ring caused a light note. In his sermon, Bishop Rickel had said that during a rehearsal of the ceremony, that when he had presented the ring his former priest—who is single—had joked, "Finally, I got a man to give me a ring."

After receiving the ring in the actual ceremony, she held it up, beaming, as the crowd applauded heartily.

The offertory taken at the Consecration went directly to the Diocese of New Westminster's flow-through compassionate ministry initiative, care + share. The total amount given that will go directly to the three current recipients of care + share funding was \$8,805.44

Communion was celebrated, with the crowd receiving at 16 stations throughout the hall (including one with gluten-free wafers).

Following the final hymn and a Deacon's dismissal, the assembly left to march down the length of the west side of the Convention Centre, open to Vancouver harbour, and up Burrard Street.

In the lead were about 15 Kwhlil Gibaygum Nisga'a traditional dancers singing traditional welcoming and clan songs. The group consists of Nisga'a who now live in Vancouver but return each summer to their traditional homeland in the Nass Valley north of Prince Rupert. Most Nisga'a have been Anglican since missionaries came to their territory around 1890.

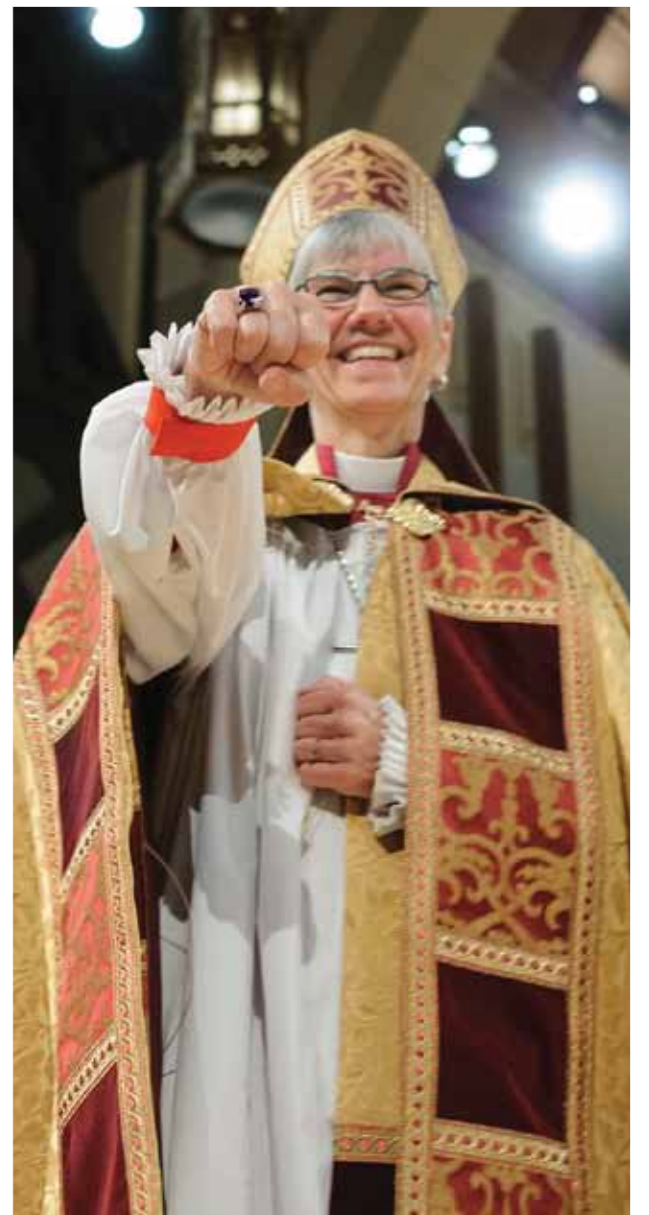
After the parade up Burrard Street to the Cathedral and gaining admittance, Bishop Melissa received a second staff, the historical crosier of the Diocese of New Westminster, from the diocese's former Bishop, Michael Ingham, as a symbol of becoming the diocese's chief pastor.

To the applauding crowd, she said, "I am delighted to be here at last—at last. I am humbled to be called to this office."

She told the group that a guide will be a quote from Saint Irenaeus: "The glory of God is the human being fully alive." ✠

Bishop Melissa, now Ordained and Installed, displays the Episcopal ring.

PHOTO Bayne Stanley



Growing communities of faith in Jesus Christ to serve God's mission in the world.



Published ten months a year as a section of the *Anglican Journal* by the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster.

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Proofreader Brenda Berck

Issue This is the 4th issue in the 45th year of publication.

Deadline For Submissions Please visit the diocesan website or contact Randy Murray for details.

Subscriptions

The *Anglican Journal* and *Topic* are sent to members of a parish who pay for it through their contributions to the national Church. Others, \$10. For address changes, please notify your parish secretary or write:

Topic c/o Anglican Journal,
80 Hayden Street, Toronto ON M4Y 3G2
or visit www.vancouver.anglican.ca
and click the link for subscription changes located in the footer of every page.

Printed and Mailed By

Webnews Printing Inc., North York ON
Circulation 6,350

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Thank you!

We Have Come to Make a Bishop, to Name a Bishop...

A reflection on the Consecration and Installation of Canon Melissa Skelton as Bishop

THE VENERABLE STEPHEN ROWE

Archdeacon of Fraser and Rector of the Anglican Church of the Epiphany, Surrey

On February 26th in the Anglican Church of Canada we celebrate the life of the first Anglican woman to be ordained priest. This was in extraordinary circumstances during the Second World War, and for almost forty years afterwards, Florence Li Tim-Oi, whilst retaining her priest's orders, did not exercise them.

This seemed very fitting just a few days before we gathered to participate in the consecration of Melissa Skelton. We were concerned about the weather as snow might occur, but were rewarded with a cool day, with snow flurries as we moved from one venue to the other.

This was the first consecration of a Bishop I have attended in Canada and it was a hugely moving and wonderful occasion as we experienced the diversity of our diocese in terms of liturgy, language, music and art.

The planning team had developed a beautiful worship space from a generic conference exhibition hall known as East Hall C at the Vancouver Convention Centre. As we

arrived downtown, people were already heading towards the venue, some dressed in albs and stoles. Inside the hall, the first thing we noticed were the wonderful banners which led the processions throughout the day.

The liturgy began appropriately with a welcome from our Dean, Peter Elliott, who has administered our diocese with such care and attention since the retirement of our former Bishop (Michael Ingham) on August 31st last year. Dean Elliott welcomed Anglicans and Episcopalians, as well as colleagues from other denominations and faith backgrounds. First Nations Leader Debra Sparrow then offered a greeting as our celebration was taking place on unceded aboriginal territory. She spoke with passion and again encouraged the Anglican Church to continue its work of reconciliation with First Nations peoples.

Archbishop John Privett presided over the ordination with the same grace and serenity we so much appreciated from him at the Episcopal Election.

Bishop Greg Rickel of the Diocese of Olympia spoke with joy and candour. He commended our election of Melissa, someone he clearly holds in very high esteem, and whom he will miss as a colleague. He said Melissa (as she still was at that moment) often gets more done by 9 am than he can manage in a whole day. The preacher also reminded Melissa of the two types of Bishops, those who enjoy being a Bishop and those who want to grow the Church and love Jesus Christ.

At the Eucharist, I was invited on stage with the Dean and other archdeacons and stood behind our Primate (who presided), and the newly ordained Bishop during the prayer of consecration. This gave a wonderful vantage point of the gathered masses, present to worship God and to make a Bishop. Before us were gathered deacons and priests ready to hold up the gifts of bread and wine.

As we left the Convention Centre en route to the Cathedral, members of St. David's, Delta offered us daffodils to celebrate the feast day of their patron saint. The long procession from the Convention Centre (as someone from my congregation commented) was very powerful, stretching out right along Burrard Street. Just a few months ago, we had walked as Anglicans to take part in the *Walk for Reconciliation*, a testimony to our desire for healing with First Nations people. Now we walked together, led by the Nisga'a, celebrating the new ministry of the Anglican Bishop of New Westminster.

I was amongst those welcoming Bishop Melissa to her Cathedral and so I had the joy of being at the front of the procession behind the Nisga'a drummers and dancers. We entered the Cathedral and came to stand close to the Bishop's seat placed in the middle of the Cathedral. As the Nisga'a sang and danced, the Cathedral filled with people, more and more and more people and many others gathered downstairs for the overflow; it was a delight to see the building rapidly filling up. A small girl amongst the Nisga'a seemed very interested in the vacant lonely chair sitting in the middle and it seemed to me that she wanted to have a little try out on the seat. It would have been very fitting.

For a moment it was clear that the party outside could not hear anything that was happening inside. This was important because the Bishop has to knock three times on the door with her pastoral staff (the cosier) to gain entry. Finally after a pause we heard the three raps on the door and the Wardens of the Cathedral opened the doors. The Dean entered into a formal but polite exchange of words and we saw Bishop Melissa now adorned in her cope and mitre enter her Cathedral for the first time.

There was a very moving moment when Dean Peter's voice cracked as he invited Bishop Melissa to enter as "our chief pastor and leader of our diocesan ministry."

Bishop Melissa was escorted to her chair, called the *cathedra*, meaning Bishop's seat. In another precious moment, after the formalities were complete, the retired Bishop, Michael Ingram, handed over the historical staff of the diocese. The transition from one Bishop to the next was complete—we welcomed our new Bishop with thunderous applause.

Bishop Melissa led us in prayer, and then blessed us for the first time as our Bishop. We sang *Guide me O thou great Jehovah* and that was it. Refreshments (diocesan treats) were served and our Bishop began her pastoral task of meeting and greeting people.

We were indebted to a large group of people who worked to enable this event to happen—a historical day, a day of passion and commitment, renewal and a new beginning for our diocese and our Bishop.

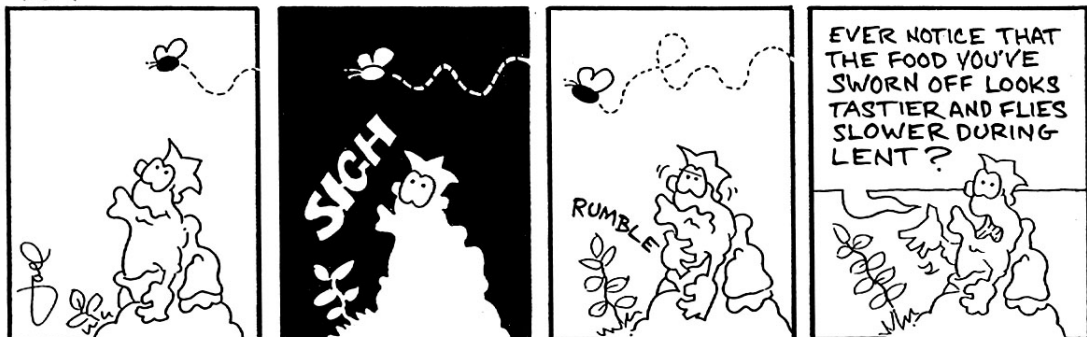
This was a day of hope, joy and celebration as we gathered in Bishop Rickel's words, "to make a Bishop." And now we have our Bishop, Melissa, we pray for her as she begins her ministry amongst us as chief pastor and leader of our diocesan ministry. ✚

The Seat of New Westminster is no longer vacant. The new Bishop is Ordained and Installed and Seated in the Cathedral of the Diocese of New Westminster.

PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf



PONTIUS' PUDDLE by Joel Kauffmann



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

compiled by Anglican Archivist Melanie Delva

- 45 years • 1969 Anglican and Roman Catholic seafarer's clubs merge in New Westminster.
- 40 years • 1974 Jean Vanier (Canadian Catholic philosopher, theologian and humanitarian) leads a retreat in Vancouver with over 500 attendees.
- 20 years • 1994 The Rev. Peter Elliott is appointed Christ Church Cathedral's Dean.

Sermon, Consecration and Ordination of The Reverend Canon Melissa Skelton

Vancouver, BC • Canada • March 1st, 2014 • St. David's Day

THE RIGHT REVEREND GREG RICKEL
8th Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia

To the Metropolitan and the Primate, to my fellow Bishops, to the clergy here, all visitors, and all the baptized, I bring you greetings from the Diocese of Olympia.

I want to thank you the Diocese of New Westminster, on behalf of all of us who crossed the border and journeyed to be with you today, a border I pray we will continue to make more and more porous in our common life, surely what we have gathered here today to do will go a long way in that endeavor. I have relished our growing relationship, as have the people of the Diocese of Olympia, and this day only strengthens that.

I want to take one liberty today, and thank my good friend and colleague, before all of you, Bishop Michael Ingham, for the many ways he has nurtured this relationship between us.

WE come here today, after journeys of all sorts, this communal one we have all been on that culminates in this celebration, one filled with speculation, frustration, preparation, anticipation, there are so many adjectives you could add.

WE, individually, come representing as many journeys as there are human beings in this space, and all those paths, lead us here, to this moment.

And what is it we come to do today? We all gather today, in this place, to make a Bishop. To name a Bishop. Melissa is your name, but you might just as well be renamed, because Bishop is about to become your first name, and if you are not careful, a lot of your identity. My wife and I were at a Church recently where the young people gave me a present, and then said, we have a present for Mrs. Bishop, too.

It has been a journey for our two dioceses, which today we might say is one's loss and another's gain. But leaving it there would surely be to miss the point, for the number one allegiance we share in this room, that which is above any country, or parish, or diocese, or Church, one that has no borders, is Jesus Christ, and in that we are bound together, and in that, today, we all win.

Much of what today entails might be seen through a very sterile word, but nonetheless, for the moment I will use it, technical.

We will do a host of things, say some ancient and hallowed prayers, and follow a pattern which has been followed for centuries, keeping alive the lineage of our faith, the continuity of our journey, the soul of our common Body. Technical, yet beautiful. Ancient, yet new.

For such an event, the one task I have, is to preach the Gospel, to Proclaim the Word, to bring the sermon, to rattle on, to say something that might illuminate that act, of making a Bishop.

As I thought about what I might add to all of this today, in this proclamation of the Gospel, one of my favorite cartoons came to mind, of an ancient, wise, robed man with a cane walking down a sidewalk which comes to a fork, and he stands there with a quizzical look, haltingly, wondering which way do I go? Each fork has a sign, one sign reads, "The Meaning of Life" and the other reads, "Wine and Cheese." That can really be a difficult choice. I thought of that cartoon as I thought of my task, because the sermon for such a day could go in a lot of different directions. I mean...

I could tell you how truly fabulous Melissa Skelton is. Much of which you have read, that she was a star at Proctor and Gamble, and then was "Vice President of Everything" at Tom's of Maine.

That she, in a great stroke of irony, and now poetic justice, oversaw the School for Bishops for us in the US. I could tell you that no one I have ever worked with has more energy, can multitask more efficiently, and basically make you tired just by watching her, than Melissa. That she has gotten more accomplished by 9 am most days, then I can in a whole day, but many of you in this room already know that. And for those of you who don't know it, you are about to find it out.

I could share with her, in front of all of you, the most important bits of Bishop wisdom I have received such as, "never pass porcelain" and you do need to heed that one, or what my Presiding Bishop told me, "if anyone brings you anything, just kiss it, bless it, and it will go away."

I could regale you with the history of the episcopacy in the world and in the Church, but I suspect that will only help some of you catch up on your sleep. And after all what is *Wikipedia* for anyway?

All of that to say, in all honesty, this sermon was not an



The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, 8th Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia. PHOTO Bayne Stanley

easy one to settle on. It did not just write itself. This is a big day, days like this are often uncontainable, larger than explanation, or translation, or explication, of any kind. There are a lot of firsts, first woman here, first US citizen, and of course, Melissa, it is for you, simply the first, the only, new, and unknown. And for every one of you who accept her this day, who call her to this office of Bishop, who name her Bishop today, just the same.

I think this liturgy, like so many of them really, is a liminal moment, it marks a hinge, a transition. Here you have the transition from, might we say, falling in love, and the hard work of love. From the euphoric, giddy anticipation of the new, to the reality of life day to day.

It might not be the best metaphor. I am not saying that Melissa is getting married to you today, or vice versa, although there is a ring, and other gifts, and she did say to me last night at the rehearsal, "finally, I got a man to give me a ring!" She has a great sense of humor too, please, please, for God's sake, keep that.

I want you in New Westminster to know, what anyone and everyone in Olympia already knows, Melissa is far wiser than me, she always has been and always will be. But, I do believe no one can know what it is to be in this office until you are in it. My one bit of learning, after 7 years in this office Melissa now comes to, has been a profound realization that there are really two kinds of Bishops when you boil it all down, those that like being Bishops, and those that want to grow the Church and to share Jesus Christ.

Only recently did I find that Augustine, our ancient Church Father, in the earliest days of Christianity, mused the same, so this has been an issue for a while.

In a sermon he asked a question, "Who is the Bishop who is called Bishop, named Bishop but is not one at heart?" He answered his own question, "The person misnamed Bishop, is he who rejoices in that honor, rather than the salvation of God's flock, who in that office seeks his own ends, not those of Jesus Christ."

I have not been the same since hearing that for the first time, and I am challenged by it daily. Because the one in the office cannot, and will never be able, to judge which one they are, only those they serve.

When Jesus talked about salt and light, he spoke of things, which the people knew, cherished, earthy things,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Bishop Greg called Melissa to the platform to respond to his sermon. She was greeted by enthusiastic applause, which she acknowledges in this photo. PHOTO Bayne Stanley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

universally understood, they are things, which infuse, pervade, become wholly a part of.

Both, salt and light, give of themselves completely. We know you cannot truly unsalt anything, once in it is in. You cannot retrieve light, once shed it is free, spent, gone. In a sense salt and light sacrifice themselves in order to be what they are, to live out their ultimate purpose.

I can tell you that Melissa has said, and said again, to anyone who would listen, and more than that has tried to live this out in the ministry she has, and in the discipleship she teaches, that we, Anglicans, have everything we need in our identity, we just have to own it, learn it, rediscover it, make it "Sing" as she says, and as St. David, the saint of the day, would teach us, do the little things of life, the fundamental things needed, in a lively way, in a way that says to the world we are in love, we have fallen in love with Jesus Christ, fallen in love with this God of ours.

But, it cannot stop there, you FALL in love, but then you have to BE in love, you have to be committed to the hard work of love and this is something Melissa has taught me, and those around me, so well, and lives, ...it is the relationship, the ongoing, hard work of love which happens in the day to day, that ultimately transforms who we are, what we do, ...how we live, and move, and have our being in this world. When we live each day in the hard work of love we become salt, and light to the world.

Today, in just a few moments, we will make a Bishop, name a Bishop, and a new relationship will begin, and whether you are here with me today to let Melissa go to this new life, or you are here today with all the anticipation of the new, either way, we will all be changed. Our world will be different than it was when we walked into this place. That is the very nature of our sacramental life.

And it is then, after all of this, the relationship begins. When the excitement and pageantry of today is a memory and the living begins. I actually had a colleague Bishop joke at my consecration, "Greg, this is it, you get all dressed up for your momma, and then it is all down hill from here."

I guess it could be, if falling in love was the only thing, if the euphoric newness is supposed to be sustained always. Having lived in the days after I have found, as I said earlier, there are Bishops that love being Bishops, and there are Bishops that want to grow the Church and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. It really is a decision, for me a daily one.

People of New Westminster, in Melissa, one thing I can tell you, and the people of St. Paul's, Seattle and the Diocese of Olympia would stand and resoundingly back me up on this, in Melissa, you have found the latter. She will never let you down in that.

Now, don't get me wrong she is a great admirer of beauty; she can surely adore the *bling*. You can watch her eyes light up as she is given these great clothes and the ring, and all that comes with this office, but that will not be the reason for her being, and this is what I am even more convinced of, if Jesus came to her and said, Melissa, lay all of that down, leave it behind, that is not the stuff I need, and follow me, there are few people I am absolutely sure would do so, but she is one.

She knows the difference in falling in love, and the hard work of love.

This sermon could have gone a lot of different directions, some of you may argue that it did, but here is my point, it doesn't matter.

Because, we came here today to make a Bishop. We will very soon do that, and we will walk from this place, and celebrate, her taking her new Cathedra, and then we will share some wine and cheese, and then we will go the most important direction, out, into tomorrow, into our shared future, where the relationship begins, where the whole reason for what we did here, today, is.

Melissa, as hard as this is to do, it is time for me to say to you, I love you, I will miss you, thank you, and I could never thank you enough. As difficult as it is to see you go, I know it is absolutely right.

Melissa, come out here please, and don't look up here, but instead look out there.

Melissa, when you put that video together, that is still up on the website, the one that got you into all of this, you were asked how you see the episcopate in New Westminster, and you started by quoting Archbishop Michael Ramsey and what he said about the priesthood, one that Carries the people on his or her heart before God You said the Episcopate anywhere has the foundation of Prayer. I want to remind you of that today, in front of God and everybody, as you gaze out, upon, those who will share this journey with you, who will carry the load with you, who will live and share the hard work of love with you in the days and years ahead. Hang on to that. Look at them, and in turn, people, look at her.

We come today to make a Bishop. We do this not just for her, but for us, the Church. She does not own the office, but she will inhabit it.

I am here, before you, to testify to the people of this diocese, on behalf of the people in mine, people who have lived and watched, and known, this person, named Melissa, soon to be named Bishop, and to assure you that this name fits, when she is named Bishop, she shall not be misnamed. I have never been so sure of anything, or anyone.

WE have come to make a Bishop, and the name shall be hers, but the office, the reality of what this day sets in motion, is yours and ours, together. WE have come to make a Bishop, but also to make a people, to continue our tribe, to renew our souls, to commit to the hard work of love.

Melissa, you are looking at those for which this work will be done, you with them, they with you. May this new relationship be rich, and beautiful, and true, and may it be a sign to the world, salt and light, a living testimony to Jesus Christ, our Rock and our Salvation.

And the people say... (AMEN) ✠

Bishop Greg checks his sermon notes in the Sacristy area prior to the commencement of the liturgy at VCC. PHOTO Archdeacon Ronald Harrison



Following the ordination Bishop Greg helps Bishop Melissa with her vestments. PHOTO Wayne Chose



Bishop Greg "gives her a ring." PHOTO Bayne Stanley



The Consecration & Installation of Melissa Skelton

1. Event Production Designer, Thomas Roach and Liturgy Team member, Kerry Baisley set-up the platform for the liturgy on Friday, February 28th. Here they are bringing in the stands for the banners. PHOTO Randy Murray

2. Diocesan Videographer, Cliff Caprani of All Saints, Ladner lines up a shot of the Dunsmuir crosswalk where the procession will cross the street from the 28th floor balcony of Park Place, the office building to the north of Christ Church Cathedral on Friday, February 28th. PHOTO Randy Murray

3. Daffodils donated by the parish of St. David's, Delta in honour of St. David's Day decorated the East Exhibition Hall C of the Vancouver Convention Centre (VCC). St. David's Parish Administrator, Belinda Kishimoto who is also a member of Diocesan Council, beautifully arranged them. The Welcomers and Sidespeople distributed the daffodils as all those in attendance exited the VCC to begin the procession south on Burrard Street up to Christ Church Cathedral. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

4. Hope Sealy of St. Mary's, Kerrisdale, a member of the Consecration Planning Committee Volunteer Organizing Team checks the reserved chairs prior to the beginning of worship. Hope and others were on the site getting things ready the day before as well. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

5. 1,930 chairs were set-up in the hall each with an order of service on the seat. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

6. The Check-In table for volunteers outside the south entrance to the Exhibition Hall; Mary Pat Dickson of St. Christopher's, West Vancouver and Synod Staff, Administrative Assistant, Sandra Stevenson of St. Martin, North Vancouver. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

7. The event Producer, Diocesan Communications Officer, Randy Murray and the Executive Producer, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott have a last minute conference. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

8. The music folks began rehearsing at 9:30 am on Saturday morning. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

9. No worries about finding the right room with excellent signage provided by the VCC and smiling Welcomers like Sarah Andrusco and Colleen Buttery of St. Stephen's, Burnaby. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

10. The soon to be ordained Bishop-elect, Melissa Skelton makes her way down the stairs of the Hyatt Hotel to begin the walk to the VCC. Behind Melissa is Bishop Michael Hanley of the Diocese of Oregon and to the left is Archbishop John Privett. In the background on the left is Archbishop Fred Hiltz and on the right Archdeacon Paul Feheley. PHOTO Wayne Chose

11. After choir practice, Christ Church Cathedral alto soloist Heather Pynn got something to drink and returned to the Hall between the Rev. Fr. Michael Forshaw, a retired priest of the diocese and the Rev. Fr. Mark Greenaway-Robbins, Incumbent of St. James'. Behind on the left is Gordon Lee, ODNW of St. Catherine's, Capilano and on the right Hilary Clark of St. Christopher's, West Vancouver. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

12. A "presbyterate" of deacons awaits the start of the liturgy. Included are the Rev. Karen Saunders, the Rev. Kim Prokopchuk and the Rev. Lizz Lindsay and behind on the left is Belinda Kishimoto and on the right are the Rev. Linda Varin and Margaret Sherwood. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf



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13. Holy Hardware in the sacristy area.
PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

14. The Bishop-elect arrives at the VCC with Archdeacon Paul Feheley on the left and the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Fred Hiltz on the right. PHOTO Wayne Chose

15. Retired Bishop of New Westminster the Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham has a chat with the former Clerical Secretary of the Diocese, the Rev. Karin Fulcher of St. David's, Delta. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

16. Prior to the processions, the Chancellor of the Diocese, George Cadman QC signs the Certificate of Election, which he read out in the liturgy after the Synod secretaries witnessed his signature. PHOTO Archdeacon Ronald Harrison

17. Banner Bearers and Postulants prepare for the processions. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

18. The main procession gets ready to move out. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

19. The procession moves through the Exhibition Hall to the worship area. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

20. Before the Gospel, Caitlin Reiley Beck, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator at St. Philip, Dunbar and a member of the Diocesan Arts Ministry Group supports the singing and dancing, keeping the rhythm going for the Cameroon traditional hymn, *Praise God's Holy Name, Hallelujah!* PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

21. Paul Songhyuk Im of Holy Cross, Vancouver reads Isaiah 61: 1 – 3 in Japanese. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

22. Chuck Pan of St. Chad's, Vancouver reads 2 Corinthians 5: 14 – 20 in Mandarin. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

23. "Your turn tomorrow!" Waiting in the sacristy for the processions to begin are the Diocese of BC contingent: retired Bishop, the Rt. Rev. James Cowan, the Bishop-elect Logan McMenamie and the retired Archbishop of Ontario, the Most Rev. Caleb Lawrence who was Assisting Bishop and Administrator of the Diocese of BC following the retirement of Bishop Cowan, August 31st, 2013, and prior to the Consecration and Installation of Bishop Logan McMenamie, March 2nd, 2014. PHOTO Archdeacon Ronald Harrison

24. "The Lord Be With You!" Gospeler, the Rev. Trudi Shaw of St. John the Apostle, Port Moody and Anglican Chaplain at Vancouver General Hospital and the St. Jude's Care Home reads Matthew 5: 13 – 16. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

25. The preacher, the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

...more Consecration & Installation photos on page 9.

Many Thanks to all the People in the Diocese of New Westminster who did their very best to ensure that the Consecration & Installation of Melissa Skelton as the 9th Bishop of New Westminster was a Spiritual, Exciting & Memorable Experience.

Here are a few of those people...

Consecration Planning Committee

Chair

The Very Reverend Peter Elliott

Liturgical Planning Team

The Reverend Dr. Richard Leggett
The Reverend Anne Anchor,
Kerry Baisley, Brigid Coult &
Rupert Lang

Multifaith & Ecumenical Invitations

The Venerable Grant Rodgers &
The Diocese of New Westminster
Ecumenical & Multifaith Unit

Production Team

Randy Murray & Thomas Roach

Volunteer Management Team

Cameron Gutjahr,
The Reverend Elizabeth Northcott,
Linda Robertson & Hope Sealy

Welcome & Invitations Team

The Reverend Heidi Brear,
The Reverend Eileen Nurse,
Phil Colvin & Susan McGee

Member-at-Large

The Reverend Craig Tanksley

Synod Office Staff

The Venerable Douglas Fenton,
The Reverend Ruth Monette,
Rob Dickson, Melanie Delva, Sandra Stevenson,
Tasha Carrothers, Glen Mitchell, The Reverend Marnie
Peterson, Michèle van Teunenbroek & Mark Beley

Music Team

Director of Music

Brigid Coult

Cathedral Choir Cantors

Byron Hanson, Bruce Hoffman,
Heather Pynn & Anna Collins

St Mary's, Kerrisdale Cantors

Bonnie Dodds, Carolyn Franklin
& Steve Froese

Solo Quartet

Kim Hardy, Deirdre Rogers,
Byron Hanson & Jake Gramit

Touch of Brass Quintet

Jim Littleford, Tom Shorthouse, Nick Anderson,
Andrew Poirier & Dave Sabourin

Accompanists

Gerald Harder, Rupert Lang & Michael Murray

Handbell Players

Led by Susan Ohannesian

Rhythm Section

Laurence Mollerup, *Bass*
Elliot Polsky, *Percussion*

Soloist for Rain is Over & Gone

Caroline Markos

Trumpet at the Installation Liturgy

Chris Robertson

Many thanks to more than
100 Choristers from Around the Diocese.

Holy Communion Teams

St. Chad's

The Reverend Paulina Lee,
Robert Coan & Jacky Xu

St. Michael's Multicultural Church, Broadway

The Reverend Wilmer Toyoken,
Marguerite Cutforth & Greg Tatchell

St. Philip's

The Venerable John Stephens,
Carol Simpson & Conrad Guelke

Holy Trinity, Vancouver

The Reverend Karl Przywala,
Margaret Trim & Fern Jaspers-Fayer

St. Andrew, Langley

The Reverend Paula Porter Leggett,
Trevor Barnes & Christine MacIntosh

St. Matthew, Abbotsford

The Reverend Allen Doerksen,
Carol Keighley & Patricia O'Conner

St. Mary the Virgin, Sapperton

The Reverend Georgina Harris,
Herman Klassen & Rob England

St. David, Delta

The Reverend Paul Woehrle,
Belinda Kishimoto & Gregg Burhoe

All Saint's, Ladner

The Reverend Elizabeth Northcott,
Glynn Abraham & Joyce Wilson

St. David—St. Paul, Powell River

The Reverend Adela Torchia,
John & Patty Catcher

St. John the Apostle, Port Moody

The Venerable Grant Rodgers,
Ron Lou-Hing & Dora Fejes

Christ Church, Hope

The Reverend Gail Newell,
Joan Cope & Peter Bailey

St. Hilda, Sechelt

The Reverend Clarence Li,
Corrinne Newman & Janet McConnell

St. Mark, Ocean Park

The Reverend Craig Tanksley,
Anne Schreck & Phil Tubbs

St. Clement, North Vancouver

The Reverend Lynne McNaughton,
Sara Hanney & Dave Parry

St. Catherine, North Vancouver

The Reverend Christine Rowe

Sidespersons

David Sheach • St. Matthew's, Abbotsford

Morrie Sacks & Sher Sacks • St. Hilda's, Sechelt

Pamela McElheran, Frank Winters
& Ann Mayo • St. Laurence, Coquitlam

Sandra Mendenhall • St. Anselm

Sue Paege, Penny Batchelor, David Batchelor
& Carolyn Dodds • All Saints, Ladner

Dorothy Poirtras • St. Catherine, Port Coquitlam

Sylvia Dawson • St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge

Beverly Kreller & Diane Bowra
• Christ Church, Hope

Steve Dunbar • St. Mary's, Kerrisdale

Reece Wrightman • St. James'

Sharon Burhoe, Anne Lyon & Nick Robinson
• St. David's, Delta

Gerry Brown, Ted Simpson & Barry Smith
• St. Philip's, Dunbar

Banners

Janet MacKinnon, Thomas Roach & Sheila Wex

Welcomers

Cam Calihoo & Conrad Calihoo • St. Paul's

Kathleen Gilles & Mitch Gilles • All Saints, Ladner

Brian Walks, Holly Tanksley, Jack Blachford
& Pauline Blachford • St. Mark's, Ocean Park

Betty Ross • St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge

Elaine Renforth, Sarah Andrusco & Colleen Butterley
• St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby

Lini Hitchings • St. Mary's, Kerrisdale

Robin Tavender • Christ Church Cathedral

Lindsay Gardner • St. Alban's, Burnaby

Josh DongHyok Im • Holy Cross

Mary Pat Dickson
• St. Christopher's, West Vancouver

Greeters & Refreshment Servers
at Christ Church Cathedral

Ed Friesen, John Kowalchuk,
Dorothy Watts, Irene Vanderwoerd,
Marian Carson, Diane Jeffries,
Jon Paul Henry, Liz Hardy,
Tom Young, Ron Jobe, Tomoko Ito,
Fay Forrester & Jennifer Anger

Vergers

John Taylor • St. Mary's, Kerrisdale
Richard McAlpine • Holy Trinity, New Westminster
Nancy Paulin • St. George's, Fort Langley

Media Team

Randy Murray • Diocesan Communications Officer

Media and Promotion Team

The Venerable Ronald Harrison • Media Advisor
Andrew Mackey • Media Relations & Liaison
Neale Adams • Reporter
Melanie Delva • Social Media
John Warren • Social Media
Alan Yuen • Social Media Photographer

Photographers

Dot Cellini (Diocese of New Jersey),
Wayne Chose, Sandra Vander Schaaf & Bayne Stanley

Videographers

Cliff Caprani & Ross Friesen

Sound Technician

Ryen Froggatt

Thanks to these Parishes
for supplying more than 125 Dozen Treats
for the Reception that followed the
Installation at Christ Church Cathedral

All Saints, Ladner
Christ Church Cathedral
Holy Cross, Vancouver
St. George, Maple Ridge
St. John the Apostle, Port Moody
St. Laurence, Coquitlam
St. Matthias—St. Luke, Vancouver
St. Paul, Vancouver
St. Christopher's, West Vancouver
St. Mark's, Ocean Park

Thanks to the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver &
the Hyatt on Burrard for their
generous hospitality on March 1st

The New Bishop,
the Right Reverend Melissa M. Skelton
& the Diocese of New Westminster
are grateful for the support of these companies...



Congratulations



HUB International Insurance Brokers sends our congratulations to
the new Bishop and all of our friends in the Anglican community.

David Mills
Senior Vice President

T: 604.269.1868
E: david.mills@hubinternational.com

www.hubtos.com

Their generous support
helped to make the March 1st
Consecration & Installation a great success!

The Consecration & Installation of Melissa Skelton



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- 26. Members of the Diocesan Performing Arts Ministry led by Cameron Gutjahr, Youth Director, St. Mary's, Kerrisdale and the Rev. Andrew Halladay, priest-in-charge, St. Augustine's, Marpole and Regional Youth Coordinator for the North Vancouver Regional Council sing and dance a spirited Gradual Hymn. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 27. Bishop-elect Melissa smiles while listening to the sermon. Seconds after Bishop Greg Rickel called her to the platform so he could speak to her and have her respond. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 28. The Bishops examine the Bishop-elect. Here Melissa is questioned by the Rt. Rev. Barbara Andrews, Suffragan Bishop of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon with responsibility for APCI (The Parishes of the Central Interior). PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 29. The Ordination. PHOTO Wayne Chose
- 30. The newly ordained Bishop Melissa Skelton is helped with her vestments by her former Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel. PHOTO Wayne Chose
- 31. Fully vested Bishop Melissa displays the Episcopal ring, a gift from the people of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia. PHOTO Wayne Chose
- 32. Bishop Melissa is warmly welcomed to the Anglican Church of Canada by Archbishop Fred Hiltz during the Peace. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 33. At the Offertory the anthem *The Rain Is Over and Gone* by Paul Halley was sung by the choir with soloist, Caroline Marcos. All proceeds from the collection were directed to the diocesan flow-through compassionate service ministry initiative care + share. \$8,800 was collected. Was that a high C at the end? PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 34. Brigid Coult Directing the Choir. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 35. Priests and Deacons from 16 different parishes around the Diocese of New Westminster prepare to administer the Eucharist. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 36. The Eucharistic Prayer offered by the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 37. Bishop Melissa receives Holy Communion from the Primate. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 38. The administration of Holy Communion went very smoothly with 16 stations throughout the VCC Exhibition Hall. PHOTO Randy Murray
- 39. The Rt. Rev. Melissa Skelton administers the Bread of Holy Communion for the first time as Bishop. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

...more Consecration & Installation photos on pages 12 & 13.



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Post-Conflict Democracy & Peace Building in El Salvador

GLEN MITCHELL

Director of Stewardship and Gift-Planning, Diocese of New Westminster; and Parishioner, St. Mary's, Kerrisdale

Foundation Cristosal's Global School bell rang early every morning because our group had a heavy agenda of education, site-visits and volunteering to accomplish during our ten-day visit to El Salvador. Foundation Cristosal (www.cristosal.org), an Episcopal Church organization registered in El Salvador, operates the Global School for Engagement and provides human rights, legal and community development assistance to several communities in El Salvador.

Thirteen individuals affiliated with St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario and nine others affiliated with St. Mary's, Kerrisdale (SMK) and one from the Primates World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) travelled to El Salvador January 29th to February 7th, 2014 to work as presidential election observers and to take part in the *Post-Conflict Democracy and Peace Building* course offered by Foundation Cristosal.

El Salvador is a country slowly recovering from the civil war that raged in the 1980s. A peace accord was developed in 1992 following a stalemate between the government and the combatants. It provided a new beginning and several elections held at five year interval which since that time have all elected right-wing governments. Then in 2009, the FMLN (Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional / Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front), a leftist political party that began as a guerilla force, was elected to the presidency. It was this quinquennial event that drew us to El Salvador in 2014.

Dr. Susan Burgess, working her first time as an observer, told *Topic*, "El Salvador (The Saviour) lives its name. Suffering from decades of violence and poverty and continuing abuse from external political and economic interests, the people of El Salvador are remaking democracy and social justice. Their example may even save us if we can truly listen to their stories of our own complicity in the struggles of the country. This was the gift of our experience together in El Salvador. To learn to listen and then act."

A more seasoned election observer, Andrew Davis, was equally impressed. "I was privileged to witness a powerful and dramatic act at one of the JVR (polling stations) at the Santa Lucia School in Soyapango (a large suburb in eastern San Salvador). Three heavily armed police personnel attended the JVR and were engaged in serious conversation. One of the police stepped forward to present his DUI (national ID card) to the clerks. He then stepped back to his colleagues and surrendered his arms to them. Once done, this officer returned to the clerk to complete his personal vote. This was also the first time on-duty police could vote, and at polling stations away from their home communities. Whether a prescribed protocol or just as a personal gesture of respect, this surrender of symbols of power and authority, while engaging in the higher calling of a democratic vote, froze the moments in my memory—for all the right reasons."

Polls showed the rightwing ARENA (Alianza Republicana Nacionalista / Nationalist Republican Alliance) party likely to reclaim the presidency. However in the final days before the vote, popular opinion shifted and FMLN received the largest number of votes, 48.93% of the total. ARENA was in second place with 38.96%. A third party, to the right of centre, UNIDAD (Movimiento Unidad / Unity Movement), received 11.44%. Overall voter turnout was 55%. At some polls however, participation exceeded 70%. All these numbers mean that the electorate must return to the polls March 9th with only two choices: FMLN and

ARENA. As UNIDAD has thrown its support to FMLN, it is expected to win.

Another first time observer, Jan Rups Levett summed up her feelings about the trip and the election this way: "Three important images of the Salvadorian people will remain with me: joy, hope and dignity. There was unsurpassed joy in the face of Rev. Antonio Lopez at Los Calix when Glen (Mitchell) presented the cross from St. Mary's, Kerrisdale. There was a faith-based hope in the talk of the people at La Anemona when they discussed their future. There was a quiet dignity in the walk of an older couple coming to vote in their Sunday best. They had lived through the price paid for this right."

Before and after the election our group of Canadian Anglicans worked our way through our Global School curriculum. We began with an emotional visit to the Chapel of the Divine Providence, the site where Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated on March 24th, 1980. The experiential lecture we received there from Foundational Cristosal's Olivia Amadon reflected on the Church's role in the historical period leading to the civil war and the Monsignor's killing. We walked the path that the single bullet travelled from the open doors of the Church to where Romero was celebrating mass at the altar. The victim of many death threats, many believe that the Archbishop saw his killer aim and pull the trigger. Romero died instantly.

Just down the street is the house where the Archbishop lived. It is now a museum and contains many of his personal effects including the garments he was wearing when he died. Romero had lived in a small room behind the chapel because he refused to live in the Bishop's Mansion in San Salvador. The sisters of Divine Providence built him this house and presented it to him only a year before his death.

In Cuscatlán Park, survivors of the civil war have erected a large memorial wall with thousands of names of those killed in the early war years. It was our second stop to learn about the history of oppression and the major events that led to the war in the 1980s. Many have tried to create a Salvadoran society where equal opportunity and social justice prevail. The powerful families and military that dominate in El Salvador have, for generations, reacted negatively to such moves. Perhaps the most well known of these was the 1932 massacre of unarmed indigenous farm workers accused of being communists.

This theme of naming all opponents communists was a popular one throughout the fifties and sixties as the Cold War developed. Dissent of any kind was labelled communist and was often a death sentence for the speaker. As the sixties became the seventies, many who were trying to reform the society came to the conclusion that violence was their only option. As the civil war developed, the Carter, Reagan and Bush administrations provided as much as \$1 million every day to arm the government against the guerillas. Most of the guerilla's arms came through the Sandinistas in Nicaragua and from Fidel Castro in Cuba. At least 75,000 died during the 12 years of war.

Anne Kessler, visiting El Salvador for the second time reflected on her experience this way. "I first went to El Salvador in 2009 and it was an amazing and formative experience for me. Returning this time, with more knowledge of the country and the language, was a different but equally fantastic experience. Learning from local peoples about their struggles, seeing the places where Oscar Romero and the six Jesuit priests were killed, and witnessing their



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fledgling electoral processes have all made me consider my place in the world and continue to ignite my passion for social justice. Seeing people's unwavering and trusting faith in God in circumstances much more dire than my own, continues to make me consider my own faith."

We travelled to La Anemona, a community that Foundation Cristosal supports by educating the people about their rights. As a result, they have water and electricity despite having lost everything in a 2009 storm. Here we met "Chencho," a retired Anglican priest who leads the Meso-America Peace Movement. His topic for the afternoon was Politics, Democracy and Ecology. Through lecture, role-play and lively questions (and answers) we spent the afternoon learning about the choices we make to have "life" or "death." Chencho argues very effectively that life itself is the most important value. Any other measure—especially if we derive our worth from money and wealth—is a form



of death. The entire population of the planet, not just Salvadorans, struggles with these two paradigms.

After the election we met with our Canadian Ambassador to El Salvador, Pierre Giroux. He described the work the embassy does in the region including programs dealing with violence against women, youth violence prevention, police training (CIS) techniques and trade promotion. The subject of mining by Canadian companies was raised but he would only say that dialogue is continuing. It was the next day when we visited the Department (like a state or province) of Cabañas in the central north that we heard the real story about mining.

The gold being sought is in an area the length of the country 300 km by 50 km wide. This area is highly populated. These Salvadorans live in fear that their tenuous water resources will be further damaged by mining projects. So they have mounted an effective resistance to the projects

and the central government has banned mining. This has led to a \$315 million suit against the government by Vancouver-based Pacific Rim. Violence has been commonplace and several protesters are dead. We met still others that have been threatened and shot. This is an example of what Chencho is talking about — these people are choosing life over the certain death they believe mining will bring to their way of life.

Another of our group, lawyer Tom Nesbitt, described his reaction to his time in El Salvador: "For me the trip to El Salvador was a wonderful opportunity to visit with our old friend José Oswaldo Lopez (Lopez is Foundation Cristosal's Human Rights lawyer), study Spanish for a few weeks at a language and democratic action school called CIS, and observe the presidential election. I see José's integrity and commitment as the catalyst that helped SMK choose El Salvador as the country in which to invest its efforts. It is

a country that has endured centuries of colonialism and interference by others, and the election we were privileged to witness was a small step in the realization of a more democratic voting process in that country."

Our final destination before relaxing at the beach prior to returning home was the Parish of Cristo Rey in Los Calix. In the Department of Usulután in the river delta, this is the parish where SMK is building a new Church/flood refuge centre with the community. On my fourth trip to Los Calix, it was my pleasure to present the new processional cross that we had made in Vancouver from old oak pews removed from St. Mary's. I told them we had processed the cross all the way from Kerrisdale where our rector, the Rev. Jeremy Clark-King had blessed it and us for our journey. In giving it to Deacon Antonio Lopez, I told them that we hoped that this symbol of our partnership would remain with them for many years as we worship God together. ✠

1. Father Jose "Chencho" Alas, Executive Director of the Foundation for Sustainability and Peacemaking in Meso America, with Ernesto Zelayandia, Global School Coordinator and translator, develops his theme of Politics, Democracy and Ecology at La Anemona. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

2. All decked out ready to observe, the author with Obispo Martin Barahona, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of El Salvador at the training session at San Juan Evangelista Parish in San Salvador. PHOTO Lisa Avery

3. Voting Centres like the one at Colegio Cristiano Rey Salomon could adeptly handle voters with disabilities. Many workers and volunteers helped to ensure they had an opportunity to exercise their franchise. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

4. Our group of 24 observers took a lunch break at San Andrés, the Anglican Church in Soyapango, a large eastern suburb of San Salvador. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

5. Polling Stations are generally outdoors in El Salvador. Many have tents erected to protect the workers from the continuous sunshine. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

6. Political parties are permitted to have "Vigilantes" — we call them scrutineers — present at each poll. Unlike in Canada, they are all decked out in their party's colours. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

7. When the polls close at 5 pm counting begins by sorting all the ballots from each box. These are given to the scrutineer to hold and count. At this poll it took four tries before the numbers balanced. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

8. The Parish of Cristo Rey gathered with members of St. Mary's, Kerrisdale after the presentation of the new processional cross made from oak from old pews at St. Mary's. PHOTO courtesy of Andrew Davis

9. The site of Vancouver-based Pacific Rim's El Dorado mine in the Department of Cabañas in northern El Salvador is the center of attention by those who oppose mining. The government's decision to not issue a permit to the company has resulted in a \$315 Million suit by the company against the government. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

10. Marcelo Rivera died because of his conviction to oppose mining. His is not the only death in this ongoing struggle in El Salvador. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

11. The group earned a well-deserved rest at Atami Beach Club near El Tunco (one of the planet's best surfing beaches) before returning to Vancouver. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

12. A community leader at El Carmen, Andrés, sits atop the bulldozer that has just improved the road to this remote community. With the help of Foundation Cristosal the community has built its own bridge, convinced government to repair the road and established a very successful chicken production cooperative. This year they have declared an intention to solve their water supply problems. PHOTO Glen Mitchell

The Consecration & Installation of Melissa Skelton

- 40. 2000 Daffodils were available for distribution to all those who attended and participated in the Ordination Eucharist at VCC. They were handed out in the plaza area of the VCC as the congregation, the new Bishop, Bishops, priests, deacons and diocesan leaders processed to Christ Church Cathedral for the Installation. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 41. Kwhlil Gibaygum Nisga'a Traditional Dancers led the procession. It was an honour and privilege to have them participate on this special day for our diocese and for our Church. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 42. The procession gets going. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 43. Bishop Melissa processing following the three big banners, Cross and Candles and the Nisga'a Dancers. PHOTO Wayne Chose
- 44. The chief architect of the March 1st liturgy and a person of Welsh heritage, the Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett, Incumbent of St. Faith, Vancouver. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 45. The Ordaining Bishop, the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon, Diocesan Bishop of Kootenay, the Most Rev. John Privett. Behind the Archbishop we see on the left Bishop Greg Mohr of the BC Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, behind Bishop Greg, retired Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province, Archbishop Terry Buckle and to the right of Bishop Greg the soon to be Ordained and Installed and currently Bishop of the Diocese of British Columbia, the Rt. Rev. Logan McMenamie. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 46. The procession heading south on Burrard. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 47. The procession crosses Burrard at Dunsmuir for the last section of the trip to Christ Church Cathedral. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 48. The procession nearing Dunsmuir. Soon after this photo was taken, Bishop Melissa and Kerry Baisley went back to the fourth floor vesting area of the Hyatt Hotel so Bishop Melissa could vest in her cope and mitre for the first time as Bishop. PHOTO Archdeacon Ronald Harrison



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- 49. Bishops and others on the east sidewalk of Burrard Street nearing the Cathedral. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 50. With the help of Kerry Baisley, ODNW, Bishop Melissa dons her cope for the first time as Bishop. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 51. Someone's knocking at the door? PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 52. Bishop Melissa's friend Dot Cellini of the Diocese of New Jersey. Dot who is a member of the Cathedral in Trenton, New Jersey came all the way from her home in Eastern Pennsylvania to photograph and be part of this historic event. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 53. The Cathedral's Wardens; Gary Kenwood, Dr. Jack Forbes and Amy Francis opened the Cathedral doors to allow the new Bishop to enter. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 54. The Dean, the new Bishop and others listen as the Chancellor reads the certificate. PHOTO Bayne Stanley
- 55. The Chancellor reads the certificate of ordination. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 56. Kerry Baisley escorted Bishop Melissa to the chair (cathedra) while the congregation said these words, "Melissa, we the people of this diocese, receive you as our Bishop. Be among us as our pastor and leader. May the Lord stir up in you the flame of holy charity and the power of faith that renews the world." PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 57. Prior to the final hymn, *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* the Rt. Rev. Melissa Skelton blesses the people for the first time as Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 58. The reception following the Installation was a great opportunity for Bishop Melissa to meet and greet. Here she thanks Cooper from St. Paul's, Seattle for coming to the liturgy and assures him that they will stay in touch. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf
- 59. Many stayed in the Cathedral following the Installation to meet the new Bishop and enjoy refreshments. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf

Welcoming, Relevant, Traditional, Evangelical

The Institution and Induction of The Reverend Karl Przywala as Rector of Holy Trinity, Vancouver

RANDY MURRAY
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor



LEFT The Preacher, the Ven. John Stephens, Archdeacon of Vancouver and Rector of St. Philip, Dunbar. 2ND FROM LEFT Larry Sackney and Jon Scott present the Canons of the Diocese. MIDDLE The Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese, the Ven. Douglas Fenton reads the Licence. 2ND FROM RIGHT Prayer team members Nova Leaf and Margaret Trim present the prayer books. RIGHT The Rev. Karl Przywala reads the Oath.



LEFT Rector's Warden Dr. Margaret Bloom presents the keys to the Church to the Rev. Karl Przywala. On her right is People's Warden Liz Bell and on her left is People's Warden Stephen Goodridge. RIGHT Altar Guild members Britta Negrin (left) and Jean Senior (right) present the bread and wine.



Karl is welcomed to the Diocese of New Westminster by Dean Peter Elliott.

The Parish of Holy Trinity, Vancouver had been without a Rector for just over a year following the departure of their long time pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Oakes. John left the parish and went on leave from the diocese to pursue an academic career in the eastern United States. The Holy Trinity community was blessed to have the ministry of priest-in-charge, the Rev. Jim Fergusson during the interregnum. He did a wonderful job as the ordained leader of their shared ministry.

Holy Trinity's new Rector, the Rev. Karl Przywala (pronounced PR-VOW-ER) began his ministry in Vancouver on February 1st and he was Installed and Inducted on February 18th, 2014. Since 2007, the Rev. Przywala was Incumbent of six parishes in the Church of England Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. This ministry position (benefice) is named The Cranmer Group as it contains the village of Aslockton, where Archbishop Thomas Cranmer was born.

Before that, he was a curate in the Diocese of Durham, serving at Chester-le-Street and Houghton-le-Spring. The Rev. Przywala lived in Australia from 1996 to 2004 and he has both British and Australian citizenship. He trained for ordained ministry at St. Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra, Australia and was ordained deacon in 2004 at St. Philip's Church in Sydney Diocese by the Bishop of the Diocese of Bathurst under letters granting permission from the Bishop of Durham. The Rev. Przywala's deaconing was according to the 1662 Prayer Book rite and when he was made priest in Durham Diocese in 2005, he was one of the first to be ordained using the newly introduced Common Worship ordination rite.

With the arrival of the Rev. Karl Przywala, Holy Trinity's four descriptors are: *Welcoming, Relevant, Traditional, Evangelical*. It is clear from Karl's history that these are words and concepts that he has lived out in his ministry.

The Institution and Induction liturgy was quite different from the Induction Eucharists commonly celebrated in our diocese. The Institution and Induction took place within the framework of Evensong. Following the Introit, Preces and Processional Hymn the Institution took place, with the Wardens of the Parish presenting the Rev. Przywala to the Very Rev. Peter Elliott. This would be the last Induction service officiated by Dean Peter Elliott during his 6 months as Administrator of the Diocese of New Westminster following the August 31st, 2013, retirement of Bishop Michael Ingham and prior to the March 1st, 2014, Consecration of then-Bishop-elect Melissa Skelton.

The Executive Archdeacon of the diocese, the Ven. Douglas Fenton administered the Oaths and Subscriptions and following the reading of the Oath by Rev. Przywala, Archdeacon Fenton read the Licence. The service continued

with the prayers, canticles, appointed scripture readings and following the creed, the sermon.

The preacher was the Ven. John Stephens, Archdeacon of Vancouver. He began his homily referencing the Super Bowl that had taken place on February 2nd and the fact that advertising spots for the telecast sold for \$4 million per minute, and that the ads created were at least as popular (probably more popular) than the game itself. Archdeacon Stephens used this contemporary image to introduce the idea that tonight's service was sponsored by Richard Johnson, the first cleric to minister in Australia and a huge influence on the Rev. Karl Przywala. Richard Johnson's first sermon in Australia preached February 3rd, 1788 chose these words, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me," words taken from Psalm 116, words spoken just minutes prior to the sermon preached February 18th, 2014. The psalm continues on in verse 13: "I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people." The psalm ends with: "Praise the Lord!" Archdeacon Stephens went on to say:

"That is why all of us are here tonight. To give thanks to God for all God's gifts. To give thanks to God for sending Karl to this parish of Holy Trinity. To give thanks to God that Karl has answered the call of God. To give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit known to the canonical committee and to us here tonight. The same Holy Spirit who guided and inspired Richard Johnson and who continues to bring us light and hope even now and even here. For we too call on the name of the Lord and offer thanks for the benefits given to us. We are richly blessed by a loving God.

Richard Johnson's Bible, the one he carried with him from Britain to Australia, can be found at St. Philip's Church York Street in Sydney. Karl served at St. Philip's many years ago. I was intrigued to listen to a video of the current rector Justin Moffatt speaking about that Bible, that King James Version Bible that is held in trust by that Church. He feels strongly that every Christian in Australia owes their faith to that Bible and that first preacher long ago Richard Johnson. Johnson was a great evangelical, proud to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. He was not afraid to stand up to local authorities even if they made his life extremely difficult as a clergyperson. He preached the gospel but he also lived the gospel. He would visit the ships that came into the harbour and care for the people on board. Many criminals and many extremely ill. He also befriended the aboriginal people and treated them with a respect not often seen in the late 1700s. He was driven by his faith in Christ to live, preach and show the gospel.

Richard Johnson had a great influence on Karl's life and his own calling to the priesthood. Richard Johnson actually had enormous influence on the spread of Christianity and the following of Jesus in Australia but also in a roundabout way much further a field even

here in Vancouver at Holy Trinity Church. Which is why I see him as sponsoring, if you will, this service tonight. For Richard Johnson was influential in shaping your new Rector and chances are he will affect how Holy Trinity is shaped going forward.

We have come here for an induction, the beginning of Karl's ministry here. But if you have only come to see what Karl looks like or to take part in the service tonight and that is the end of things then we really all should not have bothered. If we are just here for the short term there really is not much point. But if you are here to support Karl, to be part of his own calling from Christ, to be part of building up this parish, to be part of spreading the good news of the gospel of Jesus in this Church community, this neighbourhood, this area of our fair city then you are here for the right reasons."

Following the sermon it was time for the Induction with representatives of the congregation presenting symbols of ministry of the whole people of God: the Bible, the water for Baptism, the Canons of the Diocese, the Keys to the Church, the Prayer Books and Books of Praise and finally the Bread and Wine, the elements of the Eucharist.

The music in worship was offered by Members of Oculus, Essonance, St. John, Shaughnessy and Holy Trinity Choirs with Jeryl Taylor and Michael Dirk organists. Following worship there was a joyful reception held in the Parish Hall.

A brief biography the Rev. Karl Przywala distributed to the members of Holy Trinity states that he "was born in Birmingham, England in 1963; having spent his thirties living in Australia, he is now set to spend his fifties in Canada... He sees the challenge and privilege of being entrusted with leadership at Holy Trinity as "the highlight of my ministry to date." Biblical preaching and teaching has always been at the heart of his ministry and his prayer for Holy Trinity Church is that we will continue to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3: 18)

Please keep the Rev. Karl Przywala and the Parish of Holy Trinity, Vancouver in your prayers as they move forward in ministry together living into their four descriptors: *Welcoming, Relevant, Traditional, Evangelical*. ✠

Common Threads Indigo Quilts

More Than We Can Ask or Imagine

THOMAS ROACH AND SHEILA WEX

Christ Church Cathedral, Common Threads Indigo Quilts Project Coordinators

It all began as a project to dampen the acoustics and add colour to the bland but noisy and echoing Parish Hall at Christ Church Cathedral. We planned to engage the community and share our love of textiles and indigo dye. To visually link the quilts, a red band signifying community would sweep around the room.

From the first dye days, through open studios and workshops, we saw artistry and community blossom. The tremendous outpouring of enthusiasm, creativity and commitment was simply astounding.

Indigo is as ubiquitous as blue jeans, and yet has a profoundly spiritual dimension. Natural indigo derives from a variety of plants common throughout the world, but getting the dye into solution requires patience and mastery. White fabric immersed in the dye vat first appears pale yellow. As it emerges and is exposed to oxygen, it magically turns blue. Repeated dips create deeper tones.

During ten dye days in early 2013, we stitched, clamped and tied more than 50 yards of cotton, linen and silk to create an array of pattern and texture in blue and white. This palette was enriched with red, solid darker blues and a selection of other indigo fabrics.

After creating templates of each panel and designing the red band, everyone gathered in the hall. As we looked outward, the panels became lenses to view our landscape, community and ministry. Individuals and teams then took on the design and construction of many of the quilts while others contributed a few hours at a time on one of the community panels. Quilters and textile artists from outside the Cathedral were drawn in by the project and the excitement it generated.

As the quilts came together, we were awed by the creativity and commitment of the artists. Each quilt is uniquely the creation of its maker, yet clearly belongs to the whole. Birds and fish, especially salmon, make frequent appearances. Unique fabrics make unexpected appearances in multiple quilts. The final resulting 26 quilts and one art panel (considerably more than the 18 quilts we originally planned) are so much more than we could have asked for or imagined.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to all of the 118 people who contributed over 4000 hours of their time to this project. Whether it was dyeing a piece of fabric, stitching a block, or making a whole quilt, they found ways to participate that suited them best and this incredible participation made the project happen. The keen interest and creativity of everyone who came into the project was always infectious and uplifting.

The project wouldn't have been possible without the support of the Cathedral's 125th Anniversary Committee, 125th Anniversary Sponsors and Donors, Cathedral Staff and Trustees. We especially thank the building and custodial team who created space for us, set-up and cleaned-up — and always with a smile.

We would never have finished this without the incredible assistance of Elsie Sands and Janet MacKinnon, two mentors from Vancouver's quilt community. We are grateful beyond measure for their mentorship, friendship, experience, determination, technical skill and artistry. Thank you.

We know the Cathedral Community and all who pass through the Parish Hall will treasure this gift of creativity. ✦



Thomas and Sheila the project coordinators pose near one of their quilts.

PHOTO Bayne Stanley



LEFT Heart and Hands blocks, made by children and families at an Epiphany Party on January 5th, 2014 and Thomas Roach. Quilted by Lauren Tolhurst. RIGHT Serenity block made and quilted by Elsie Sands. PHOTOS Martin Knowles

RANDY MURRAY

Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

The official opening, the unveiling of the quilts, took place in the Parish Hall of Christ Church Cathedral on Friday, February 21st, 2014, and it was indeed a wonderful event. During a brief address, the Cathedral's Dean and Rector, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott pointed out that the nearly 4,500 hundred hours of work invested in the Common Threads project is the equivalent of 2½ years of labour by one person. After more words were spoken, Thomas and Sheila asked that all those present who had been involved in the project gather around the quilts that they had worked on. Then, Thomas asked that they close their eyes while a surprise was put in place. The surprise was a length of red ribbon that encircled the room, held by each person who had worked on the project and each was given a pair of scissors. When they opened their eyes they found themselves holding the ribbon, the "common thread" connecting the 118 creative people who had done this remarkable work.

Following a blessing offered by Cathedral Vicar, the Ven. Ellen Clark-King each participant cut a section of the red ribbon, which they would keep as a reminder. Printed on the red ribbon in each section were the words "Common Threads—Indigo Quilts, February 21st, 2014." After the ribbon cutting, Dean Elliott recited the famous blessing by Henri-Frédéric Amiel of which the first verse can be found embroidered on one of the quilts by long-time Cathedral parishioner, Heather Davies:

Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind.

And may the blessing of the One who made us, and the One who loves us, and the One who travels with us, be with you and those you love this day and always.

Amen.

But there was still more to come as Dean Peter Elliott and Archdeacon Ellen Clark-King had put their heads together and pen to paper and produced *The Quilt Song*, sung to the tune *St. Denio* (Immortal, Invisible):

At Christ Church Cathedral there's upstairs and down
The upstairs is beautiful — heritage crowned
And downstairs are offices, washrooms and all
And then there's the space that we call "Parish Hall."

The Hall is a gathering place used every day
For meetings, receptions and lots of AA
And Sundays it's where coffee hour takes place
But noise means we struggle to talk face to face.

So Sheila and Thomas came up with a scheme
Put quilts on the wall — that would work like a dream
To muffle the echoes and soften the sound
And also spread indigo beauty around.

We gather today to give plaudits and praise
To all of the workers who gave up their days
To sew and to quilt and to make this room new
So Thomas and Sheila's great dream has come true. ✦

The quilts are available for viewing on Sunday mornings, before and after the 10:30 service. To arrange an appointment to view the quilts at another time, please email 125indigo@gmail.com.



LEFT Thomas rolls out the ribbon. RIGHT Sheila rolls out the ribbon while Donna Wong-Juliani, Catherine Nicholls, Sue Wagner and Judy Maddren keep their eyes closed. PHOTOS Bayne Stanley



Deirdre Rogers on right has opened her eyes and is about to cut the ribbon while Janet MacKinnon, Jenny Roche and Martha Evans on left aren't quite there yet. PHOTO Bayne Stanley



Heather Pynn, Wendy Roberts and Andrea Griffin cut their ribbons. PHOTO Bayne Stanley



AROUND THE DIOCESE

• Baptism at St. Clement's, North Vancouver •

SUBMISSION Alecia Greenfield • St. Clement's, North Vancouver

Hannah Greenfield, age 12 was baptized recently at St. Clement's, North Vancouver and wrote this paragraph about it to go with these three images.

"On All Saints Day (the first of November) I got baptized at St. Clement's Anglican Church. The coolest thing, in my humble opinion, of baptism is that every time a person is baptized the rest of the congregation renews their vows along with you, and at my Church we spray the congregation with water from a cedar branch after you have had the water splashed on your forehead. Since I have been baptized I feel more a part of my Church's community, it is nice knowing I will always be welcome somewhere." ✚

Hannah and her Community. PHOTO Kath Biebrich



The Ven. Lynne McNaughton making the sign of the cross on Hannah's forehead marking her as Christ's own. PHOTO Kath Biebrich



Hannah leads in the asperging with the Ven. Lynne McNaughton and the Rev. Elizabeth Mathers. PHOTO Kath Biebrich



• Our House Blessing •

SUBMISSION Lisa English

On Sunday, January 13th, 2014, after the 11 am service at St. Paul's about 30 guests attended the Official House Blessing of Our House West Coast Society (for those recovering from addiction). Many travelled from their homes in the west end of Vancouver's downtown to witness and participate in the blessing of the Surrey home. The Rev. Jessica Schaap dipped pine boughs in Holy water, sprinkling it around the house and on those gathered, as they sang along with Cat Steven's (Yousuf Islam's) song *Our House*.

Candles were lit as residents of Our House, parishioners of St. Paul's, and other guests—all moved in procession together from room to room. "Peace be to this home and to all who live here," participants read at the entrance to the living room as Rev. Schaap shook Holy Water from the pine boughs. "The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in."

Each room had its own verse: for the kitchen, "...and you give them food in good season;" for the living room, "...and love covers a multitude of sins;" and for the bathroom, "I will sprinkle you with clean water, and you will be cleansed..." Having our bodies washed with pure water." It was a spiritual experience that held special meaning for Our House residents. The ceremony culminated as each resident, helped by the guests, read their own portion in their own room. "Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may wake with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. I lie down and go to sleep. I wake again because the Lord sustains me." The Rev. Schaap sprinkled each room and its resident as she asked the Lord to, "...sanctify the resident's hours of rest and refreshment, hours of sleeping and waking... by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, he/she may

rise to serve you all the days of his/her life." The procession moved easily from room to room, finally blessing the garage and storage room before coming to a natural end in the kitchen where the blessing had begun. Everyone agreed that something very special had occurred. There were few dry eyes left in the house by the time we made our way back to the kitchen.

When the official part of the ceremony was concluded, guests and residents of Our House assembled in the living room for a buffet style lunch. Everyone who visited Our House for the house blessing remarked on the exceptional atmosphere in the house,

and on how beautiful and peaceful the house seemed set amongst cedar trees. All felt as though they had participated in a life-changing, life-affirming moment, and noted that there was definitely a positive presence in the house where "good things were happening." We all hope and pray that the day of the house blessing will be one of many moments where the Lord's spirit will be apparent in the lives of the people who reside at Our House and continues to be present in the community from St. Paul's parish who love and support and those residents in witness of Christ's command to love one another. ✚

Under the light the Rev. Jessica Schaap leads the blessing of the Our House West Coast Society residence.



• Diocesan Synod 2014 •

The 115th Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster is scheduled to take place May 23rd and 24th again in the Grand Ballroom of the Italian Cultural Centre located at 3075 Slocan Street in East Vancouver. As of this writing, in early March, the theme proposed by Bishop Melissa Skelton is *Always We Begin Again*. As of the middle of February, Synod Planning under the leadership of newly appointed Synod Planning Committee Chair, Simon Johnston, has begun in earnest. ✚

The floor is open for debate on resolutions at Synod 2013, in the Grand Ballroom of the Italian Cultural Centre.



AROUND THE DIOCESE



• www.holidayservice.ca • For Lent/Holy Week/Easter 2014

The Diocese of New Westminster's adjunct website for worship and events listings for festivals throughout the church year is now available with up-to-date extensive Lent/Holy Week/Easter listings of worship and events around the diocese.

Share with as many people as possible that
ALL ARE WELCOME
by sharing the link to holiday services from your email and social network accounts.

• Window Cam-Pane Revisited at St. Christopher's, West Vancouver •

In the January 2014 issue of *Topic* on page 15 we told you about the fundraising initiative at St. Christopher's, West Vancouver to do some major repairs to their bell tower and stained glass windows. Things have been going very well as we see in this photograph, St. Christopher's rector, the Rev. Michael McGee, with retiring Rector's

Warden, Doreen Pewsey, flanking the chart of the Church's progress on fundraising for the restoration. With a goal of the total cost of \$86,400, the congregation has raised to date \$82,450.79. St. Christopher's gives very grateful tax receipts to all who will contribute to finish off the campaign. ✦

PHOTO Hilary Clark



• Douglas Todd Visits Christ Church Cathedral •



PHOTO Randy Murray

The Men's Breakfasts at Christ Church Cathedral (CCC) are becoming very popular. The organizers, David McMillan the Rev. Alisdair Smith and Dr. Jack Forbes with the sustaining mentoring of Dr. Marv Westwood are building a ministry that is both meaningful and relevant. A group of 40 gathered in the Parish Hall of the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of New Westminster on Saturday, February 22nd to hear a presentation given by author and speaker, Douglas Todd who is also the Religion/Spirituality/Diversity writer for Vancouver's largest daily newspaper, the Vancouver Sun. Douglas is very interested in contemporary men's issues and how men are depicted in the media and in society. To highlight this theme he wrote a quote from Robert Bly on the flipchart adjacent to his podium area, which read, "Young men want to know you can be sixty and not be defeated." His address took a look at what things "defeat" men and what things fortify men. To support his presentation Douglas distributed a number of articles that he has written on the subject that haven't yet been published. He said that these pieces do not have a lot of support particularly from those that make decisions about what goes out in print.

An admitted and enthusiastic feminist, Douglas said that he embraced feminism whole-heartedly at the age of 19 and has remained there. He went on to examine more closely the Robert Bly quote and shared his personal experiences of growing older and of being one half of a domestic partnership that is a part of a large blended family.

He has noticed forces in the culture that aren't too supportive of men; stereotypes of the Homer Simpson style buffoon have become more and more the norm. But he was quick to emphasize that he and all of us for that matter are not interested in returning to a patriarchal society, we all know that women were and are right to campaign for their issues past and present. Instead of working at being nice and passive as a corollary to the macho stereotypes he endorses the words of Dr. Marv Westwood, a highly regarded psychologist who is also a CCC parishioner when he says, "Be an honourable man."

Following Douglas's 30-minute talk, the plenary broke up into small groups of 5 and 6 to discuss the sources of where and from whom do men draw their *strength*. After 15 minutes each group reported back with Douglas and Rev. Alisdair Smith handling the co-moderator duties.

It was well worth getting up early on a Saturday morning to participate in this growing ministry of Christ Church Cathedral. ✦

• Bazaar & Garage Sale •

LOCATION Holy Cross Japanese Canadian Anglican Church
4580 Walden Street
(One block East of Main & 30th Avenue), Vancouver
DATE Saturday, May 10th, 2014
TIME 12 noon to 2:30pm
LUNCH Curry Rice and Chow Mein

Enjoy Chiarashi Sushi, Home Baking, Manju and Kimuchi. All are welcome. Hope to see you there.

For more information phone 604.879.1344 or email holycrossanglican@hotmail.com or check out the Holy Cross Japanese Canadian Anglican Church Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hcjcac ✦

• Silent Auction •

LOCATION St. Catherine's Anglican Church
Prairie Avenue & Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam
DATE Saturday, May 31st, 2014
TIME 7 pm to 10 pm
PRICE Tickets \$20 (no tickets at door)
Includes appetizers and refreshments.

Tickets available by contacting the Church Office (no tickets at the door) at 604.942.9812 or by email at office@stcatherineschurch.ca. ✦

• ERRATA •

On page 3 of the February issue of *Topic* in the article *Clergy Exchange 2013 between Powell River, BC and Cheltenham, UK* we incorrectly identified Paul Youde as the Rector of St. Philip and St. James', Leckhampton. The rector is the Rev. Nick Davies. ✦

We apologize for any inconvenience these errors or omissions may have caused.



Your Legacy for God

A bequest in your will to the Diocese of New Westminster or your parish church is an ultimate act of stewardship and a tangible expression of your trust in God. Consider titling the value of your estate, or creating an endowment as your legacy gift to God's mission in the world.



For Assistance contact:
Glen Mitchell, Director, Stewardship & Gift Planning
(604) 684-6306, Ext. 218; gmitchell@vancouver.anglican.ca

A Different Kind of Marriage

JOHN WARREN

Synod Delegate from St. John the Apostle, Port Moody; and Member-at-Large, Diocesan Communications Committee

This past May, St. John the Apostle received a letter from the neighbouring parish of St. Margaret of Scotland. It mentioned that their two other neighbouring parishes also received similar letters. The time had come for the people of St. Margaret to consider their next chapter and what would be the best way to provide continuity.

We, the faith community of St. John's were being asked to consider opportunities that might include the people of St. Margaret. A number of members of both councils attended a joint meeting the following week to discuss what we felt the options were. There was a sense of welcome and conciliation on both sides and we agreed to enter into further discussion. We met at The Table. Parishioners from St. Margaret were welcome to join in worship at St. John and the Ven. Grant Rogers, St. John's Rector, was invited to be guest clergy at St. Margaret. A smaller team from both parishes went on to handle the details through joint council meetings and then on to a Special Vestry meeting for each parish that was held on October 20th, 2013. At that meeting both communities voted to enter into deeper merger discussions. The vote from both parishes was unanimously in favour of proceeding. A wave of emotion was palpable in the room.

We all knew we were treading new ground, unfamiliar to many of us, but we did have guidance from those around the diocese who had experienced similar circumstances. The Ven. Grant Rodgers continued to captain the voyage with the support of the Wardens and representatives from both parish councils. Bishop's Warden, David Nash was the principal representative from St. Margaret. It was not just about worship as there are many other considerations: buildings, properties, holdings and a variety of assets.

While many scenarios were considered and discussed,

both parties felt that a *marriage* was the best analogy. Two lives might be joined but one name would remain—and they would strive to live in harmony out of the one location, in this case on the street that took its name, St. Johns Street in Port Moody. During this time of consideration, parishioners from St. Margaret continued to join in worship at St. John's and in increasingly larger numbers. The Rev. Michael Chin one of the ordained leaders of St. Margaret of Scotland's shared ministry was asked to give the homily on his birthday, which was a first for him. He spoke memorably about times his faith had been tested and questioned.

February 2nd, 2014, marked the start of the Chinese New Year and also Candlemas, the Christian festival that celebrates the presentation of Jesus in the temple. The Rev Stephanie Shepard, Rector of St. Timothy's, Burnaby and also at that time priest-in-charge of St. Margaret delivered a homily, which spoke of walking forward in faith and encountering a curve in the path. We also celebrated the baptism of Isla Claire Stock, whose family are long-term parishioners at St. John's, crossing multiple generations. The Legal Registrar of the Diocese of New Westminster, Donald Paul was in attendance and answered questions from both parishes as they gathered for discussion and discernment in different areas of the Church. The draft agreement had been made available during the previous week. Parish Rolls were validated, pollsters were elected, details were discussed and questions answered, votes were cast and counted. The results were unanimous on both sides. All parties had agreed to the merger. We collected in the body of the Church and documents were signed on the Altar. Witnesses to a marriage indeed for the date set for when the merger would take effect was February 14th.

The following Tuesday, David Nash and Archdeacon

Grant Rodgers presented the documents to parish council where the merger was finally approved in full.

On Saturday, February 15th, 2014, representatives from neighbouring parishes gathered in thanksgiving for the years of Open Doors at St. Margaret of Scotland. The Very Rev. Peter Elliott, the Ven. Grant Rodgers and the Rev. Stephanie Shephard took part along with St. Margaret of Scotland's deacon, the Rev. Lillian Elliott.

We are all thankful for the shared blessings that have been created and nurtured through our time in the buildings at St. Margaret of Scotland. There is certainly a sense that moving forward in this manner has created an atmosphere where renewal can take place as we continue to try and discern the opportunities that are presented to us all. ✠

David Nash, St. Margaret of Scotland's Bishop's Warden, The Rev. Stephanie Shepard, St. Margaret of Scotland's priest-in-charge and Teri Hazelton, St. Margaret of Scotland's People's Warden lead the parishioners of St. Margaret through the agreement discussion. PHOTOS Alan Yuen



LEFT Clergy and Wardens sign the merger agreement; David Nash, the Ven. Grant Rodgers, Incumbent of St. John the Apostle and Teri Hazelton. RIGHT The Rev. Stephanie Shepard delivers the homily. PHOTOS Alan Yuen



Registrar Donald Paul discusses next steps accompanied by Clergy and Wardens from both Churches: Teri Hazelton; David Nash; the Ven. Grant Rodgers; the Rev. Stephanie Shepard; Maureen Simons-Regan, Associate Warden at St. John the Apostle; Sharon Cooper, People's Warden at St. John's; and Terry Walton, Rector's Warden at St. John's. PHOTO Alan Yuen



Sorrento Centre Secures \$500,000 for Youth Leadership Program

ERIN GREEN

Anglican Church of Canada

Sorrento Retreat and Conference Centre, Sorrento, BC, has received commitment for \$250,000 in funding from the Diocese of New Westminster. This contribution matches a Ministry Investment Fund (MIF) grant and allows the centre to launch a residential youth leadership program. The MIF grant runs from 2014 through 2016, with contributions of \$80,000 in each of the first two years and \$85,000 in the final year. The total \$500,000 will support up to five pilot years of the Winter Youth Leadership Development (WYLD) program.

The residential program focusing on personal development and vocational discernment will bring together young adults from 18 to 28 years of age at Sorrento. WYLD seeks to respond to a culture where traditional religious belief and practice are sometimes unappealing to young people, but where questions of meaning are nevertheless pressing. The program will help participants respond to these questions by discovering how their skills and passions relate to the world's deepest needs. The chair of Sorrento's board, the Ven. Andrew Pike, remarks, "Places like Sorrento will become more and more important for people to

discover their own spiritual nature."

This innovative program draws inspiration from other intentional communities and will give participants space to contemplate "who they are, where they're going, and what they are up to," says Pike. Small cohorts of about ten young adults will live community and partake in work, worship, and play together. Pike explains that participants are expected to both shape and be shaped by their time together; "There is an expectation of giving as well as receiving."

The MIF and Diocesan contributions are critical for WYLD. Unlike adult programming at Sorrento, which can operate on a cost-recovery or profit basis, young adult programming needs financial support to reduce financial barriers. Youth programming runs at a net loss, but is central to Sorrento's identity and own vocation. Explains Pike, "If we don't have a ministry that supports and encourages young people in faith, then we may as well close up shop and go home because that's what we are about."

According to Michael Thompson, General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Ministry Investment Fund Grant from the endowment of General

Synod is particularly appropriate in this anniversary year. "A significant source of funding for the founding of Sorrento Centre fifty years ago was a grant from the national Church, and now we are able to renew that partnership." Mr. Thompson also expressed gratitude to those who generously support General Synod through bequests, and for the partnerships that

generosity makes possible.

When asked what success for WYLD would look like, Pike said he hopes to see participants emerge on the other side with a deep "optimistic confidence" that would equip people with the skills for lifelong discernment, spiritual development, and the courage to follow a particular path.

To find out more about the Sorrento Centre and its programs, please visit www.sorrento-centre.bc.ca. ✠



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This article originally published on the National Church of Canada's website, www.anglican.ca/news/ on February 26th is reprinted here in Topic in its entirety and with the permission of the author and of the Anglican Church of Canada.
• Editor
.....

Archdeacon Andrew Pike presenting the Sorrento Case at Diocesan Council, November, 2013.

OPINION

Counting the Cost

LESLIE BUCK

St. Paul's, Vancouver

Whenever a mass shooting occurs at a school in the United States, protagonists immediately refuse to address the role of gun control in relation to such outrages on the grounds that a contentious debate would dishonour the memory of the victims. So the question is left unasked and as the horror subsides it is forgotten and the status quo remains.

Something of the same kind occurs every Remembrance Day when we invoke respect for the dead to avoid asking whether their deaths were in vain. Any suggestion that they achieved nothing by dying devalues both their sacrifice and the suffering of those who survived. So the question is righteously rejected.

This year sees the centenary of the start of the First World War, and all of the combatants, we may reasonably suppose, are dead and no one survives. Perhaps, then, we may begin to ask forbidden questions. Was that death and suffering really justified?

Clearly, there is no simple answer. On the negative side, at least 15 million people died, nearly one percent of the world population at the time. On the positive side, the First World War achieved its objective of destroying the Austrian, German and Ottoman Empires leading to national freedom for many subject peoples. It also achieved the destruction of the Russian Empire, although that was unintentional—what today we would call collateral damage. We may also note that the subject peoples of the other European Empires had to wait for another war before gaining their freedom, although some of them did change masters.

The principle of national self-determination is still readily endorsed by most Canadians (although many of us draw the line at self-determination for Quebec). Following the First World War its application saw the map of Europe drawn with many new borders. But it is very difficult to draw a tidy physical line between communities; minorities are inevitably left on both sides of the border.

The case of Czechoslovakia illustrates the point well. The borders drawn in 1918 placed many German-speaking people in the midst of the Czech-speaking lands, leaving a situation that Hitler exploited in 1938. In 1945, the newly restored Czechoslovak government took the precaution of avoiding further trouble by expelling the German-speaking minority, committing ethnic cleansing (at that time a term yet to be coined) in the process.

The problem continued to bedevil European politics well into the final years of the twentieth century with wars in the Balkans, so much so that the Serbian *irredentism* (recovery of territory culturally or historically related to one's nation but now subject to a foreign government) that was said to have precipitated the First World War was still being played out in Sarajevo eighty years later. The same is true of the Middle East where ghosts have continued to haunt the old Ottoman Empire, because, after 1918,



lines were drawn in the sand by European powers with reference to what lay beneath the sand rather than the interests of the people who lived on it.

All in all, however, many subject peoples were freed from foreign domination and Britain and France were saved from the threat of German hegemony. There were other positive outcomes too: the emancipation of women was advanced and democratic institutions were strengthened, although many would have regarded those changes as collateral damage rather than intentionally sought after consequences.

In all of our attempts to assess outcomes, we are hampered by not knowing what would otherwise have happened if, say, Britain and France had not declared war on Germany. We know what did happen, both good and bad, but what might have happened remains forever conjectural. This leaves the scales on one side of the balance empty, and final judgment is impossible. Still, to save honour we have to insist that more was gained than lost.

Since 1914, the Church has been wholly complicit in saving honour and avoiding judgment, thus missing its chance to examine possible alternatives to making war. One very small indication that the norm might be changing appeared when the British celebrated their victory in the Falkland War. Archbishop Robert Runcie had the temerity to remind people that the opposing side had also endured death and suffering. He received severe criticism for his observation but it was a welcome break from the *Onward-Christian-Soldiers* tradition.

Instead of asking whether the death and suffering of the First World War was really justified we might pose a different question: Did our forebears have any alternative? Many today would say "No," and it is easy to see why they might be thought right. But if there was no alternative, and if the outcome was as acceptable as we claim, it leaves us with every reason to move once more into war.

Again, we may be seeing a change. We see the outcomes of war in Iraq and Afghanistan and readily compare those outcomes with the good intentions with which the wars were launched. It was this dissonance between intention and outcome, surely that recently made European governments hesitate in adding to the mayhem and slaughter in Syria. Interminable diplomatic discussions may be exhausting but they seem to

produce fewer deaths and casualties.

Do we really have no alternative, or are we just too impetuous or too lazy or shortsighted to look for one? ♦

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Just for general information, Mr. Buck submitted this opled piece to Topic prior to the late February/early March crisis in Ukraine.
• Editor
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Weaving Strands

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PONTIUS' PUDDLE by Joel Kauffmann





Diocesan Youth Movement

YOUTH CONNECTIONS

News & Events for Youth in the Diocese of New Westminster

youth groups •
For Parish Youth Groups go to <http://tinyurl.com/DNW-Youth>

contact • The Rev. Ruth Monette,
Acting Director for Mission & Ministry Development
rmonette@vancouver.anglican.ca
604.684.6306 ext. 219

How does one Keep Calm and Love God? It is a difficult question, one that 70 youth and youth leaders from across the province wondered about and lived out together, February 7th to 10th at the 2nd annual Winter Retreat at Sorrento Centre. Sorrento Centre, The BC Yukon Anglican Youth Movement and The Diocesan Youth Movement of New Westminster jointly organized the retreat. These three organizations’ cooperation and collaboration, increasing over the past few years has strengthened the youth ministry in the province as well as in the diocese.

The theme this year of *Keep Calm and Love God* was explored, looking at three of the ways that we can love God: by loving ourselves, loving each other and loving the world. Three different speakers talked about what those three different ways of loving God could look like.

A tableau of the Last Supper, the last item on a group scavenger hunt. PHOTO Kim Blair



There were times over the weekend to play outside in the snow, including our very own Winter Olympics. PHOTO Phil Colvin



Keep Calm and Love God

CAMERON GUTJAHR
Member of BCYAYM Executive Council; Youth Representative to Diocesan Council; and Youth Director at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale



A snowy group picture of the 70 youth and youth leaders from around BC who attended the second February Retreat at Sorrento Centre. PHOTO Kim Blair

Andrew Halladay, priest-in-charge of St. Augustine’s, Marpole, spoke on the theme of loving ourselves. Together we gave and received compliments and explored how we felt about ourselves. We ended the session contemplating the statement, “God thinks that you are beautiful.”

Steve Bailey, Deacon at St. Laurence, Coquitlam, spoke of loving each other. Together we wondered about Jesus’ call to love each other, especially those who hurt us, looking at what Jesus said about turning the other cheek. We learned about the alternative Jesus gives us; not lashing back, not letting people walk over you, but our ability to practice non-violent resistance.

Caitlin Beck, Children and Youth Ministry Director at St. Philip, Dunbar, and Devon Goldie, co-chair of the British Columbia Yukon Anglican Youth Movement

(BCYAYM), spoke about loving the world. They used as an example the National Youth Project of the Anglican and Lutheran Churches, *Right to Water*. This project is an effort to raise money to promote awareness about the lack of clean water in indigenous communities. The project culminates at this summer’s Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) gathering when we hope to have raised sufficient funds to bring water to one of these communities. Together the group learned more about this issue as well as how it is connected with loving God in their own communities.

Keeping true to the theme of “loving ourselves,” the whole weekend was designed to be a retreat. The group met all together only for meals and for worship that was led by an enthusiastic worship team (which included 4 ukuleles) who had never played together before. Besides this, the rest of the weekend was all about choices. Over the weekend, participants attended workshops of their choosing offered by leaders of the Diocesan Youth Movement (DYM), BCYAYM and Sorrento Centre that focused on different ways of loving ourselves and loving each other. Similarly, participants chose from a selection of activities, such as finger-painting, baking, board games and *Snowtimate Frisbee*. This year, back by popular demand was the annual February Retreat Trivia night; this event saw teams test their mental mettle against each other to see who knew the most random trivia. Another returning event was the February Retreat Winter Olympics, which was a fun way to get to know each other and work as a team. It seems this idea has caught on as a similar competition was also held simultaneously in Russia. There were many things to do over the weekend running the gambit of interests, however, throughout the weekend there was a lot of free time for retreat; time when people could sleep, complete homework, play games or have conversations (both serious and silly). These non-programmed moments are rare in young people’s lives and were welcomed and relaxing parts of the weekend. While many people probably left tired, they also returned to their homes rejuvenated and re-energized.

These weekends serve many purposes. They first and foremost allow us to serve our young people by allowing them to build new, loving and healthy relationships with each other, to explore their faith and be affirmed and encouraged as children of God. Also (and this is very important), these weekends are an opportunity for those who do youth work to network and support each other. Youth ministry is often an isolating job and it is good to start and strengthen relationships that can become a support network when back home. These weekends also provide an important example for the rest of the Church. They are an example of connection and collaboration between dioceses and parishes. As well, these weekends demonstrate an efficient use of resources that benefit people and parishes from varying contexts; they benefit young people who might come from parishes without active programs by providing a program, as well as connection and expertise.

These weekends are a time when barriers are broken down between parishes, dioceses, big and small Churches and many of the other things that separate us. It is liberation and allows us to get down to exploring the real business of loving ourselves, loving each other and loving the world. *Keep Calm and Love God.* ✠