



## IN THIS ISSUE



**Preach Off •  
Bake Off •  
Deanery Worship  
& Picnic**

PAGES 9 – 11



The  
Prayer  
Tree

PAGE 8



20  
Years  
a Dean

PAGES 12 – 13

## September Celebrations of New Ministry

RANDY MURRAY

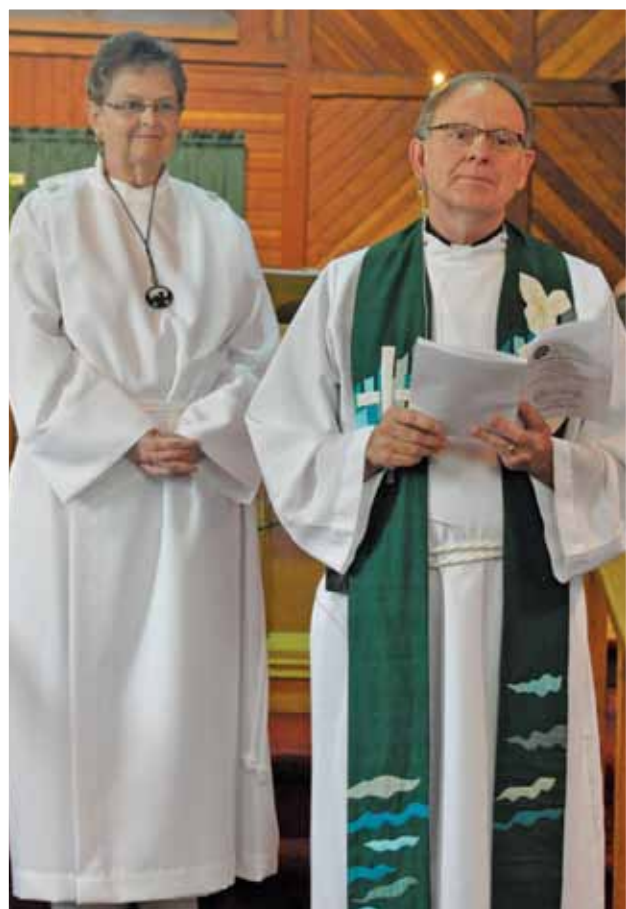
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor



LEFT The Bishop presents the new rector, the Rev. Stephen Laskey, as the ordained leader of the shared ministry of St. Helen's, Surrey. PHOTO Randy Murray



RIGHT Bishop Melissa Skelton leads the applause as the Rev. Kelly Duncan is welcomed by the community of St. George's, Fort Langley as the leader of their shared ministry. PHOTO Randy Murray



The new rector, the Rev. Allan Carson waits for the presentation of the Gifts of Ministry. Crucifer/Server Glenda Eno looks on. PHOTO Randy Murray

### *An Exciting & Fascinating Place to Be*

#### **A Celebration of New Ministry • The Reverend Stephen Laskey at St. Helen's, Surrey**

The first of three early September inductions in the Diocese of New Westminster took place Wednesday, September 3rd at St. Helen's, Surrey.

The Rev. Stephen and Jos Laskey travelled a long way from their last posting at Christ Church in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, arriving at the Surrey Gateway neighbourhood parish in time to begin their new ministry July 15th, 2014. Stephen and Jos were in the community for more than 6 weeks before the Induction Eucharist, and were able to establish themselves. The buzz around the parish about the new rector and his partner was and continues to be extremely positive. This kind of atmosphere is certainly conducive to a prayerful and profound Celebration of New Ministry.

Considering that the liturgy was taking place on the Wednesday evening following the Labour Day long weekend, the turnout was excellent, with most of the rows of the beautiful Surrey church occupied.

The procession began right on time at 7 pm with the singing of *The Earth Belongs to God* to the tune: *Trumpet Voluntary*. The choir under the leadership of People's Warden, Lynn Turner sang enthusiastically as they made their way through the nave and up the steps through the rood screen to the chancel.

As this Celebration took place on a feast day of the church, the Feast of St. Gregory the Great, the clergy were robed in white and gold and there were three readings and a psalm: *Micah 6: 608; Psalm 57: 6–11; 2 Corinthians 4:*

*5–12; and the Gospel, Matthew 25: 1–13.*

The preacher for the liturgy was the Ven. Stephen Rowe, Archdeacon of Fraser and rector of the Anglican Parish Church of the Epiphany, Surrey. He welcomed Stephen and Jos and added that it was a privilege to be asked to preach. He revealed that he had missed a typo in his church's Sunday pew bulletin, August 31st, 2014, promoting the Celebration of New Ministry at St. Helen's missing out the crucial letter 't' in induction. Stephen Laskey was to be *induced* rather than inducted.

He then continued by making reference to the close regional bonds shared by his parish and by St. Helen's, Surrey:

"...as Ministry Assessment Process (MAP) partners Epiphany is enjoying and developing a closer bond with St. Michael's and St. Helen's. So it is appropriate to have the rector of Epiphany as preacher tonight as it is to have Connie Wilks (also from Epiphany) acting as deacon and Bishop's Chaplain.

When I looked up Gregory the Great I was dismayed to read that he led his people through 14 crisis-filled years and pray Stephen that it will not be so for you.

Yet Gregory also used his gifts as a pastor and teacher to strengthen the faith of his community; this is something that we do hope and pray will happen during Stephen's ministry at St. Helen's."

Archdeacon Rowe continued to examine the readings for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

For more Diocesan news and events visit [www.vancouver.anglican.ca](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca)



# CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY



The Eucharistic Prayer, Bishop Melissa Skelton and the new rector. PHOTO Randy Murray



Eileen Mathew reads the Epistle, 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 12. PHOTO Randy Murray



The preacher, Archdeacon Stephen Rowe. PHOTO Randy Murray

## *An Exciting & Fascinating Place to Be* A Celebration of New Ministry • The Reverend Stephen Laskey at St. Helen's, Surrey

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the evening in the context of Rev. Stephen Laskey's new ministry. But his focus was on the congregational development of the Surrey parishes and how that relates to their location, the busy and flourishing city of Surrey:

"Stephen, as you already know this parish has made great strides in recent years as it has seen the congregation grow and become more diverse. As a community you have demonstrated that congregational growth is possible and, St. Helen's for that, you are a credit to our diocese. As you move forward you will want to continue that growth while at the same time ensuring you have in place the structure and leadership to sustain and support that expansion.

St. Helen's, in common with all the Surrey parishes will want to continue to meet the challenge of this ever-expanding city and the huge growth and development we have all witnessed in the last ten years. This is an exciting and fascinating place to be and we have a particular call to respond to God in this place (Surrey) at this time. There will be no easy answers to how we seek to be Church and not all the traditional ways will be workable. But by

prayer, good preparation, and hard work there will be nothing to prevent us from doing God's work here."

Following the sermon, the induction continued with the Covenant in Ministry beginning with the Administration of the Oaths and Subscriptions by the Executive Archdeacon, the reading and signing of the Oath and the reading of the License of Institution. This was followed by the presentation to the new rector by members of the parish of the Symbols of Ministry, the Peace and then the Eucharist, the focus of our worship.

After worship there was a reception with sweets, savouries, punch and hot drinks in St. Helen's large and well-appointed Parish Hall. The reception was bright and lively and the new rector and his wife were beaming. It was a great start to another chapter in the 100 plus year history of St. Helen's, Surrey. May it be a long and happy one for Stephen and Jos and their new community of faith. ✠

*"...by prayer, good preparation, and hard work  
there will be nothing to prevent us from doing God's work here."*

The Ven. Stephen Rowe

## 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.

**Editor** Randy Murray  
rmurray@vancouver.anglican.ca

**Designer** Jennifer Ewing, BDes

**Issue** This is the 9th 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](http://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

### The Anglican Church & The Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 64,000 congregations in 165 countries.

### The Anglican Church of Canada

A community of 640,000 members organized into four ecclesiastical provinces, including British Columbia and the Yukon.

### The Diocese of New Westminster

The Anglican Church in the Lower Mainland and on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia, 67 parishes and one ecumenical congregation.



### The Bishop of New Westminster

The Rt. Rev. Melissa M. Skelton

### Address

Diocese of New Westminster  
#580 – 401 West Georgia Street  
Vancouver BC V6B 5A1

**Phone** 604.684.6306 ext. 223

**Website** For the latest news and features go to [www.vancouver.anglican.ca](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca)

### Contributors & Helpers for this issue

Judy Barteluk, Caitlin Reilley Beck, Patrick Blaney, Heidi Brear, Paul Bunnell, Cesar Castro, Wayne Chose, Hilary Clark, Leonard Dyer, Rob England, Douglas Fenton, Michael Fuller, JP Henry, Daebin Im, Phil Kershaw, Ruth Monette, Kelly Montfort, Gail Newell, Archbishop John Privett, Stephen Rowe, Bishop Melissa Skelton, Michiko Tatchell, Paul Woehrle and Dale Yardy.

**Thank you!**



# CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY



The Rev. Stephen Laskey reads the Oath. PHOTO Randy Murray



The Rev. Stephen Laskey signs the Oath. The Executive Archdeacon, the Ven. Douglas Fenton looks on. PHOTO Randy Murray



LEFT Stephen receives the keys to all of the St. Helen's buildings from the Church Wardens: Lynn Turner, Heather Herd and Rohan Anthonisz. RIGHT Archdeacon Stephen Rowe welcomes the new rector to the Fraser Archdeaconry. PHOTOS Randy Murray



The Reception "goodies" table. PHOTO Randy Murray



Jos and Stephen Laskey graciously pose for a photo during the reception. PHOTO Randy Murray

## PONTIUS' PUDDLE by Joel Kauffmann



## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

compiled by Anglican Archivist Melanie Delva

- 40 years • 1974 Diocese celebrates Time for Renewal with large service at the Agrodome and over 6,000 in attendance.
- 35 years • 1979 Lyndon Grove launches history of the Diocese of New Westminster, Pacific Pilgrims.
- 15 years • 1999 Diocese approves companion link with Diocese of Taiwan.



# CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY



LEFT An Carson reads *Jeremiah 1: 4-9*. CENTRE The preacher, the Rev. Craig Tanksley. RIGHT Two dozen plus gathered in the church building extension and followed the service on streaming video. PHOTOS Randy Murray

## *Chosen by God, Called by Jesus* The Induction of the Reverend Allan Carson at St. John the Baptist, Sardis

On the drive out to Sardis (a community located just to the south of Chilliwack) on Highway 1, the afternoon of September 7th, 2014, I watched as the exterior temperature readout on the dashboard thermometer of my friend's Volkswagen rose to 30 degrees celsius. We both commented on a similar sojourn we had taken exactly three years ago

The new rector receives a presentation from the Sunday School ministry during the Covenant in Ministry. PHOTO Randy Murray



on September 7th, 2011, when many in our diocese made the trip to St. Matthew's, Abbotsford for the Celebration of New Ministry of the Rev. Allen Doerksen on one of the hottest days of the year. It was indeed a bit of a scorcher on September 7th, 2014.

All of the available sanctuary seating in the beautifully restored and renovated 100+ year old wooden church of St. John's, Sardis was filled to capacity 30 minutes prior to the scheduled 4 pm start time. With rather limited room in the nave, the addition of the narthex and chancel extensions to the original building came in handy, offering plenty of seating for the clergy (chancel) as well as overflow seating (narthex extension) where worshippers were able to connect to the activity in the sanctuary with the aid of streaming video and audio. St. John's is one of the finest architectural examples in our diocese of a small, late 19th/early 20th century wooden church expanded into a much larger building. However, as the number of bodies in the church increased so did the interior room temperature, inspiring many in the congregation to put the 24-page order of service publication to good use as a personal fan.

This was the second of three Celebrations of New Ministry in the space of five days and the fifth of Bishop Melissa Skelton's young episcopacy. An hour before worship, Bishop Melissa met with St. John's deacon, the Rev. Larry Adkins, and new rector, the Rev. Al Carson to organize and plan the flow of worship. The Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese, the Ven. Douglas Fenton, joined them later. The first reader during the liturgy, who offered the Old Testament reading, *Jeremiah 1: 4-9* was Al's daughter, An. At the very young age of 16, An is very involved in international compassionate service through her work with an orphanage in Sanmenxia in China's Western Henan Province. The supporting organization *International China Concern* (ICC) were the recipients of the financial gifts collected during the offertory at her father's induction that afternoon. The preacher was the rector of St. Mark's, Ocean Park and Regional Dean of Peace Arch, the Rev. Craig Tanksley.

The Epistle for the day read by Kathie Kompauer was *Ephesians 4: 7, 11-16*, however, Craig had prepared a homily based on some earlier verses, specifically *Ephesians 4: 1-6* including verse 7. During the Gradual Hymn he vacated the preacher's bench in order to secure a copy of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible so he could share the six verses with the congregation prior to beginning his message. This actually worked very well and served to focus the congregation on his message.

"I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all."

Ephesians 4: 1-6

Craig began by making reference to the almost six years that he and Al had been deanery colleagues during Al's time at St. Cuthbert's, Delta. He went on to say that an induction is like a marriage. The two parties share a deep commitment and the induction liturgy through ritual and covenant solidifies that commitment. "Nobody is born a Christian," said Craig, "we are chosen by God and called by Jesus and given the task of bearing fruit." Paul writing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



## CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY



LEFT Two St. John's music groups offer *Come to the Well*. RIGHT Bishop Melissa leads the applause as the congregation welcomes the new rector, the Rev. Allan Carson following the Covenant in Ministry. PHOTOS Randy Murray

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

this letter in jail urges the Ephesians to live a life worthy of this "calling" to "walk the walk" in modern parlance.

He urges the readers of the letter to:

- Be Gentle
- Be Patient
- Show humility
- Be long suffering
- Live fully

These five directions are the "fruit of the spirit." These are the qualities that God wants to grow in us. The fruit of the spirit identifies what God looks like, what Jesus looked like in life amongst us, and what the Children of God should look like. He then went on to list about a dozen potential ministry foci, all valid and all worthy of support, but instead of endorsing a many and varied ministry plan, Craig wrapped the list up with Paul's message that we must "make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of Peace." In Paul's day there were no other churches to attend, but Paul sensed that maintaining the Unity of the Spirit would be the greatest challenge for future Christians. It turns out he was right. The first and greatest priority in the face of tens of thousands of protestant denominations is to affirm the Unity of the Spirit:

- One Lord
- One Faith
- One Baptism
- One God

Craig then said that as he prepared this sermon and studied the text he put himself in Al's shoes and wondered to which verse Al would be drawn. He decided that it would be Verse 7:

"But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift."

It is the Grace of God that enables people who come from varied backgrounds to worship and work together and it is in this context that they begin their "amazing journey together as priest and parish." He finished his address by asking everyone to say together Paul's words that began the service, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of

God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all."

The worship continued with the Covenant in Ministry, which concluded with the Bishop saying, "I present Allan as the leader of your ministry, and I invite your welcome." This was followed by the Intercession, the Peace and the Eucharist.

Organist Doug Johnson led the music in worship with considerable skill and musicianship. Two St. John's music groups, *The Praise Group* and *Friends-in-Harmony* led the music during communion with each group doing one piece on their own and then uniting for a rousing rendition of *Come to the Well*.

After worship, many of the clergy and lay remained and

walked across the parking lot to the Parish Hall for a light supper consisting of sandwiches and sweets. There were tables set up in the Parish Hall and also tables and awnings set up outside on the green space to the east of the building for those who wished to stay outside and enjoy the cooling air of the late summer afternoon.

The Rev. Al Carson had recently completed 11 years as Rector of St. Cuthbert's, Delta. He and his family have been residents of the Chilliwack area for years so an incumbency in the neighbourhood will certainly contribute to less driving and more family time. Please remember Al and his family and the Parish of St. John's, Sardis in your prayers as they embark on their "amazing journey." ✠

Bishop Melissa and the Rev. Larry Adkins close out the procession prior to the Dismissal. PHOTO Randy Murray



LEFT The view of the Fraser Valley hills from the Parish Hall entrance. RIGHT Outdoor reception seating was very popular after the warm temperatures in the church. PHOTOS Randy Murray





# CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY

## *Filled With the Dignifying Love of God* The Induction of the Reverend Kelly Duncan as Rector of St. George's, Fort Langley

Cantor, Kat Goheen leads the Psalm (*Psalm 132: 6 – 8, 11 – 18*). PHOTO Randy Murray



Deacon for the liturgy, the Rev. Karen Saunders offers the Gospel for this special feast day, *Luke 1: 26 – 33* (Jesus Christ's Birth is foretold to Mary). The new rector is visible behind and to the right. PHOTO Randy Murray



The third induction service in the Diocese of New Westminster within six days took place on a warm, moonlit, late summer evening at St. George's, Fort Langley on Monday, September 8th, 2014. Just 24 hours earlier, Bishop Melissa Skelton and the Parish of St. John the Baptist, Sardis had completed the Celebration of New Ministry of that faith community's new rector, the Rev. Allan Carson.

These parishes share a common deanery, "Valley," and a common Archdeaconry, "Fraser," but more than that, both communities worship in the original buildings built when the Province of BC was very young; Sardis in 1912, and St. George's in 1901 (consecrated in 1908). Both of these buildings have undergone major but respectful renovations including some practical additions. These additions enhance the buildings, maintaining the original integrity of the structures while at the same time making them more useful for the mission, ministry and worship of the 21st century. This has occurred at both locations entirely due to the commitment and enthusiasm of the two worshipping communities. They are tremendous examples of modern Anglican congregations moving forward with new full time rectors as their ordained leaders.

In the past, when significant numbers of the new rector's last parish would attend their induction, former Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster, the Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham would sometimes joke that this was probably a good thing as those parishioners more likely than not wanted to be there to offer support and **not** to make sure that their departing clergy person was now actually gone and installed elsewhere. The former was certainly the case with the large numbers of St. Mary's, Kerrisdale parishioners who made the 120+ kilometre round trip to St. George's, Fort Langley to help celebrate the new ministry of their former assistant priest, the Rev. Kelly Duncan.

Kelly has been a priest of the Diocese of New Westminster for almost seven years and this is her first incumbency. Prior to the commencement of worship, People's Warden and canonical committee member, Kim Hodge remarked that she was very excited about the choice that they had made and that she sees "a very bright future" for Kelly and St. George's.

Kelly follows a successful two-year term of interim ministry with the Rev. Paul Borthistle as priest-in-charge and prior to that the Rev. Pam Worthington was rector of the parish for 23 years.

There was an excellent turnout of clergy for this liturgy and of course the tiny nave was absolutely full with approximately fifty more seated in the overflow located in the Parish Hall. In a similar set-up to the day before in Sardis, the fifty worshippers followed the worship through live video.

This induction service was similar to the first of the three as Kelly's induction also took place on a Feast Day, September 8th being the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church has celebrated Mary's birth since at least the sixth century. A September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year with September, it is also exactly nine months after the Immaculate Conception, December 8th.

The Gospel for the liturgy read by the Deacon, the Rev. Karen Saunders was *Luke 1: 26 – 33*:

### The Birth of Jesus Foretold

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'"

The preacher at this induction was Bishop Melissa Skelton. In a brief but profound address, Bishop Melissa focused on the concept of preparation. How the scriptures prepare the reader for the foretelling of the birth of the Saviour by relating the story of Elizabeth and the birth of John the Baptist who will prepare the way. The Bishop listed all of the planning that went into the preparation of a Celebration

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Kelly accepts the water of Baptism and the oil of Healing from Dorren Golat and Fay Morelli. PHOTO Randy Murray





## CELEBRATIONS OF NEW MINISTRY



The Rev. Kelly Duncan who's last Ministry post was as Priest Assistant at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale is welcomed to the Valley Deanery by Regional Dean, the Rev. John Sovereign and to the Fraser Archdeaconry by the Ven. Stephen Rowe. The Archdeacon of Fraser appears to have said something funny. PHOTO Randy Murray

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

of New Ministry Eucharist liturgy. But no matter how prepared we are we must remain open to possibilities. When the angel visited Mary, she was fearful, she faced the announcement with trepidation. She was unprepared but the "dignifying love of God fills her." She became more than equal to the task.

Bishop Melissa preached about preparedness and how that relates to Mary's preparation to accept the Holy Spirit and how that relates to us and to the start of a new ministry. PHOTO Randy Murray



"For Kelly, the same is true. Everything that has come before — her upbringing, her education, her personal life, her work experience in and outside the Church, all her brilliance and her mistakes, all her joys and her pain have prepared her and brought her to this night.

And yet at the same time, here you both are, parish and new incumbent, by the grace of God, fresh and new, unprepared, and wondering, like Mary, what sort of thing is about to happen — and this is all just as it should be. But know this, if you, like Mary, are willing to say 'yes' to each other now and 'yes' to each other in your life together as it takes its twists and turns, its own ups and downs: if you, like Mary, together are willing to create an empty space of openness, prayer, wondering and discernment here, God's Holy Spirit will come upon you and within you as parish and incumbent. And Christ will again be born: here and now."

Following the Bishop's homily it was time for the Covenant in Ministry. Prior to describing the process by which the new Incumbent had been chosen, the Ven. Douglas Fenton, Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of New Westminster thanked the Wardens, Kim Hodge and Rick Pallen for their excellent work and their devotion to the process. He also thanked the Rev. Paul Borthistle who served the community for two years as priest-in-charge. At all the inductions Archdeacon Douglas described the process of how ministry positions are advertised throughout the diocese, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Episcopal Church in the United States and throughout the Anglican Communion.

He wanted the people of St. George's to realize that priests from all over the world had seen this posting, had read and studied the Parish Profile of St. George's, Fort Langley and in some cases had made enquiries or sent applications for the position.

This was followed by the administration of the Oaths and Subscriptions, the reading of the Oath by the new rector, the signing of the Oath, the reading of the License of Institution, the Presentation of the Symbols of Ministry, the Peace, the Eucharist, the Dismissal and that great church tradition, the Reception, with sweets, squares, cookies and cakes.

Organist, Andre Erasmus and Cantor, Kat Goheen (a friend of Kelly's) led the music at the liturgy. They created an environment most conducive to congregational participation.

By 9:15 pm on September 8th, as the last remaining cookies languished on plates in the St. George's Parish Hall the three Celebrations of New Ministry had come and gone, our diocesan family strengthened and inspired by the uplifting liturgies that took place in these three parishes. Please keep the parishes of St. Helen's, Surrey, St. John the Baptist, Sardis and St. George's, Fort Langley in your prayers as together with their new ordained leadership they accept their "unpreparedness" and "make space" for Jesus Christ. ✠

LEFT & RIGHT Between 40 and 50 gathered in the St. George's, Fort Langley Parish Hall to worship with the aid of an in-house broadcast shown on a screen. Many folks from St. Mary's, Kerrisdale attended the induction in support of Kelly.





# The Prayer Tree

HEIDI BREAR  
*Rector, St. Margaret's, Cedar Cottage; Regional Dean of Kingsway*

Last fall I was visiting with a friend who is a United Church Minister in Toronto, and she told me about a wish tree that her worshipping community had set up temporarily in a local park. They left tags and a pen and invited people to add their wishes to the tree. When they returned the following day, much to their delight, they found that many people had stopped to add their wishes.

After hearing about their wish tree I was inspired to turn one of the maple trees that surround the parish of St. Margaret's Cedar Cottage into a prayer tree. I loved the idea of the parish being able to offer a place for people to pray and leave their prayers to be prayed by others.

One of our parishioners, Kelly Montfort, describes what happened with the prayer tree in this way:

"Last November, Heidi put a sign on one of the trees outside the church that said *Add a Prayer, Say a Prayer* and attached to the tree a bag that contained pens and tags with ribbons on them. The congregation wondered why and some said it would never work, but we watched as day by day the number of tags grew and some of the prayers got very intense. People in the neighbourhood embraced the prayer tree. Some people stopped to meditate under the tree. Maybe to pray for those who left tags?"

Now the tree is covered with prayer tags and a few prayers written directly on leaves. Many are expected: "Peace, Healing, Wholeness, Unity," says one. "Pray to find a nurse job," says another. "Let my acceptance to UBC not be revoked" and "Make it stop. Make it stop," are personal pleas. We have begun to include a petition about the prayers left on the tree each week in our Prayers of the People at St. Margaret's. Many passers-by stop to read the prayers. Some take a tag home so that children can write or draw a prayer as well."

It became clear almost right from the beginning that there was something about the prayer tree that captured the hearts of the people in our neighbourhood and parish in a way I could not have imagined, and it wasn't long before it started becoming difficult to keep the bag stocked with enough tags for all the prayers. I still take so much delight in seeing

the many and varied people who stop to say a prayer or add their prayers; a young man in a hoodie, small children on their way to preschool, an older couple out on a walk around the neighbourhood. Many people who have never worshipped with us on a Sunday morning have told me about how much the prayer tree means to them and what a valued part of our Cedar Cottage neighbourhood it has become. ✝

PHOTOS Kelly Montfort & Heidi Brear





## Preach Off • Bake Off • Picnic & Prayer

### The First Annual Royal City/South Burnaby Deanery Service

DALE YARDY

Rector, Holy Trinity Cathedral

On Sunday, September 7th, at 10 am, the five newly aligned parishes of the Royal City/South Burnaby Deanery: St. Mary's, Sapperton; St. Barnabas, New Westminster; St. Alban's, Burnaby; All Saints Burnaby; and Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster, gathered for their first annual combined Eucharist and picnic. Approximately 100 people from the five parishes descended upon Lower Hume Park in New Westminster for this special event.

It was a stunning day in New Westminster, the sun was shining, people were out walking their dogs, there was a young man operating a remote control eagle overhead which caught everyone's eye just before the service. Many people were curious about what we were doing. A few people walking by chose to sit and listen to part of the service. There was a real spirit of togetherness and celebration throughout the day. Musicians from different parishes came together to lead the music and did a wonderful job.

The Executive Archdeacon, the Ven. Douglas Fenton presided over the Eucharist, whilst the clergy of the Deanery participated in the first ever Diocesan Preacher's *Preach Off*, which had each preacher read a random parable, then give it their best interpretation in under 3 minutes. The Rev. Shirley Stockdill, priest-in-charge of All Saints' totally *rocked it* with an interpretation of the parable of the Virgins and the Lamps citing an amusing and poignant tale of almost running out of gas in her car, and of the need to keep our spiritual reserves topped up.

Our Executive Archdeacon judged the *Bake Off* and awarded Susan Stennsgard from Holy Trinity Cathedral the *Purple Spoon*. The clergy from the Deanery were relieved the Executive Archdeacon reserved judgement on the *Preach Off*.

The Rev. Faun Harriman, regional dean and rector of St. Alban's (who threw her back out at a *Pointer Sisters* concert the night before, *she was so excited*) still managed to organize and participate in this special day, working alongside the St. Mary's Events Committee who both did a superb job in ensuring every little detail was looked after. Karen Baron, Warden of St. Mary's said, "It was an awesome day, and it was so great to get to know the other parishioners of our Deanery." ✠

More photos from the day on pages 10 and 11.

*"There was a real spirit of togetherness and celebration throughout the day."*

Over 100 gather for the first combined worship of the newly formed deanery — Royal City/South Burnaby. PHOTO Dale Yardy



## The Bridge Over the Pacific Ocean

MICHIKO TATCHELL

Holy Cross Japanese-Canadian Anglican Church, Vancouver

On Sunday, August 17th, 2014, Holy Cross, Vancouver had guests from the Diocese of Chubu, Japan, the Rev. and Mrs. Kiyoshi Nomura. The Rev. Nomura was one of the seminary students that the Rev. Dr. Cyril Powles taught in Japan. The Rev. Nomura was planning to attend Cyril's Memorial Service last year but he could not come to Vancouver due to illness. This summer, he had recovered well enough to visit Cyril's wife, Dr. Marjorie Powles and his son, Peter who used to live with him in the same dormitory. Holy Cross was very fortunate to have him as preacher and his wife, Mariko, as interpreter on that Sunday. In his sermon he compared the racism toward Korean people in Japan to the Canaanite woman in *Matthew 15: 22*. He said he was deeply troubled by hate-speeches and reminded us how Jesus talked to the Canaanite woman. He also updated the

The Rev. Kiyoshi Nomura and Mrs. Mariko Nomura at Holy Cross, Vancouver.

PHOTO Daebin Im



current situation in the Fukushima area and the evacuees who are still struggling to survive. NSKK (Anglican Church of Japan) continues to support the victims through *Let Us Walk Together!* Project Part II, which is seeking a world without nuclear power plants. The Rev. Nomura is a member of the operating committee of this project.

Many Canadian Missionaries built the Diocese of Chubu. On October 18th, 1912, the Rev. Heber James Hamilton, who had been working in Japan since 1892, was ordained Bishop in Montreal to become the first Bishop of Missionary Diocese of Chubu. In 2012, the diocese celebrated their 100th Anniversary and our Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz and Archdeacon Paul Feheley attended the celebration. Having read the Diocesan History Booklet, I was amazed to find out how many missionaries worked at Holy Cross in Vancouver after they served in the Diocese of Chubu in Japan.

The Rev. Francis W. Cassilis-Kennedy, Provincial Board of Mission to Orientals (PBMO) sailed to Japan in 1894, and returned to Vancouver in 1914. He was appointed superintendent of Japanese work on the Pacific Coast in BC. The Rev. William H. Gale succeeded The Rev. Cassilis-Kennedy in 1931. Miss Marguerite Grace Tucker, PBMO and Order of Canada (CM, appointed on December 29th, 1986) and the Rev. Reginald Neve Savary devoted their lives to Japanese-Canadians, especially during World War II. The Rev. Cyril Powles's father was Bishop of Diocese of Chubu from 1948 to 1955. These are just a few of the many interesting stories associated with the Anglican Church of Canada. By the time you read this article All Saints Day will have recently passed, and it is most appropriate for us at Holy Cross to remember all those who devoted themselves to proclaiming the Gospel to all without prejudice and despite the circumstances.

Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever.

Amen. ✠

## A Message of Thanks & Appreciation from the Most Reverend Douglas Hambidge

Archbishop Douglas Hambidge, retired Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon, was ordained to the diaconate in St. Paul's Cathedral, London on the Feast of St. Michael & All Angels in 1953 by Bishop J.W.C. Wand, Bishop of London. The same Bishop priested Archbishop Hambidge the following year, on the same feast day, in the same Cathedral. On both occasions there were about thirty ordained to each order.

Archbishop Hambidge asked that diocesan communications publish the following in order to share his message of gratitude with the Diocese of New Westminster community and beyond:



"Dear Randy,

May I, through you and *Topic*, send a word of thanks and appreciation for the many greetings and good wishes I received as I celebrated sixty years since my ordination to the priesthood. Special thanks to the Bishop, the Synod Office folk, the Archdeacons and Regional Deans, and others in the diocese.

I am richly blessed by so many wonderful friends, and I give thanks to God for good health and continuing opportunities for ministry."

+Douglas Hambidge ✠





*Preach Off • Bake Off • Picnic & Prayer*  
The First Annual Royal City/South Burnaby Deanery Service • September 7th, 2014







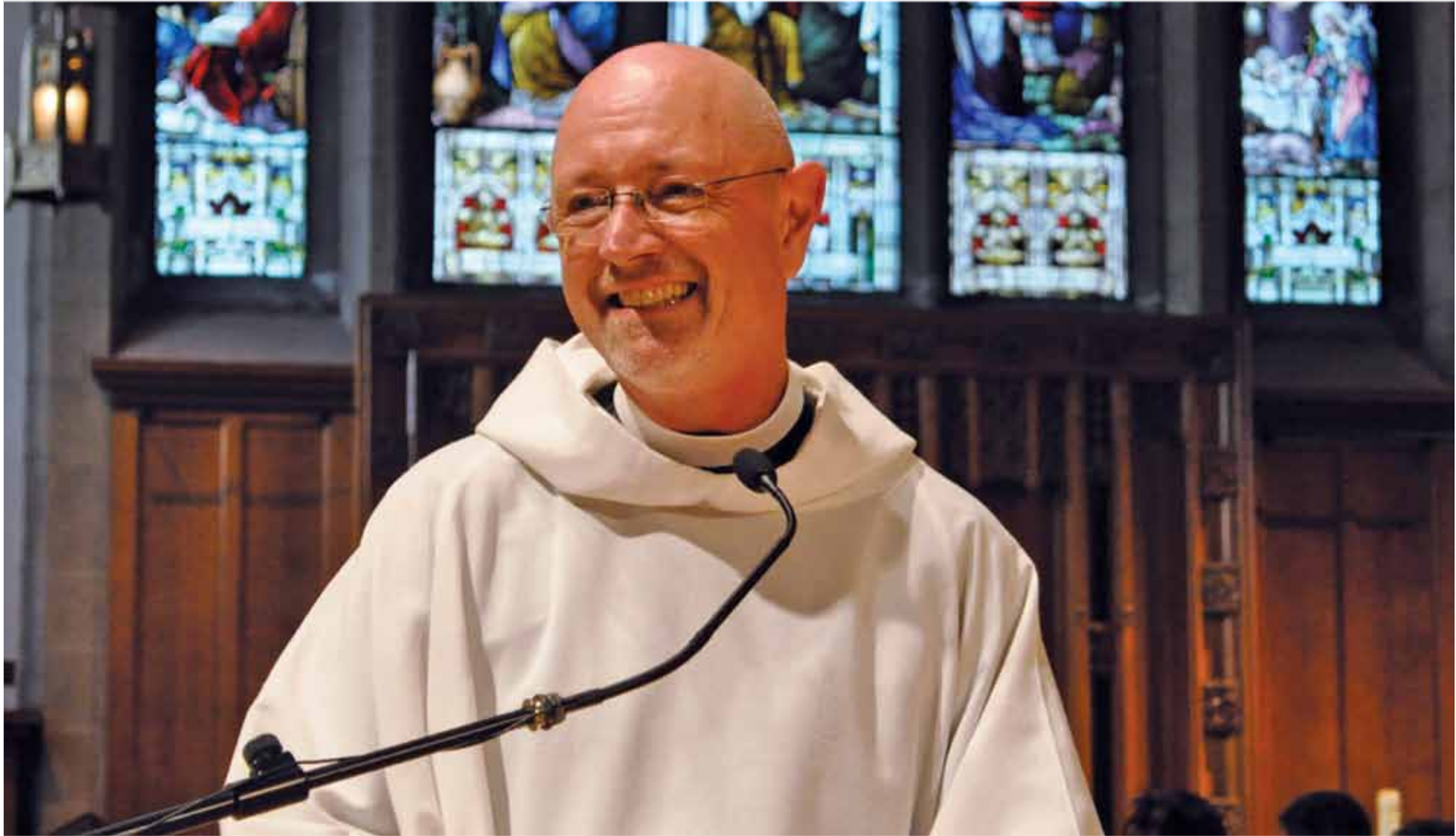
- 1. On Sunday, September 7th, 115 Anglicans gathered in Hume Park, New Westminster, for the first annual Royal City/South Burnaby Deanery picnic and service in the park. PHOTO Rob England
- 2. The Rev. Shirley Stockdill in clericals on right hustles to the HandyDART to aid a nonagenarian parishioner and help her attend the event. PHOTO Dale Yardy
- 3. Families participating in the combined congregation worship take advantage of the beautiful late summer weather to play or relax in the sun. PHOTO Rob England
- 4. The Rev. Shirley Stockdill, priest-in-charge at All Saints, Burnaby, begins the *Preach Off* with a highly animated mini-sermon while the Rev. Dale Yardy looks on. Shirley was awarded the coveted *Top Hat* award for best mini sermon at a clergy meeting held late in September. PHOTO Rob England
- 5. The Rev. Maggie Rose Muldoon, interim priest-in-charge at St. Mary the Virgin, Sapperton, makes a point during her turn to preach. PHOTO Rob England
- 6. The Rev. Dale Yardy, rector of Holy Trinity Cathedral, moves through the congregation during his mini-sermon. PHOTO Rob England
- 7. The Rev. Faun Harriman, rector of St. Alban's, Burnaby, and Regional Dean of the Royal City/South Burnaby Deanery, strikes a pose during her contribution to the *Preach Off*. PHOTO Rob England
- 8. The celebration of the Eucharist by the Ven. Douglas Fenton, Executive Archdeacon. PHOTO Rob England
- 9. Musicians Emily Kwok of St. Alban's and Bev Treherne and Michelle Jeannotte of St. Mary the Virgin provide music during communion. PHOTO Rob England
- 10. The Ven. Douglas Fenton and the Rev. Faun Harriman congratulate Susan Stensgaard of Holy Trinity Cathedral, winner of the *Bake Off* and proud recipient of the *Purple Spoon* award. PHOTO Rob England



# 20 Years a Dean!

RANDY MURRAY  
*Diocesan Communications Officer & Topic Editor*

Dean Peter beams at the congregation as he began his address on the occasion of his 20th Anniversary as Dean and Rector. PHOTO Jon Paul Henry



The Thirteenth after Pentecost is a Sunday surrounded by Feast Days, but for Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, this particular September 7th in “ordinary time” was a very special day. It was the day that the downtown Vancouver faith community marked 20 years of sacramental ministry and pastoral leadership of their rector, the Very Rev. Dr. Peter Elliott. Dean Peter’s ministry has not just been confined to the fulsome operation, which is the mission, ministry and property of Christ Church Cathedral, for as Dean of the diocese he has also been a huge part of diocesan ministry and leadership since 1994.

Dean Peter began this ministry in 1994, following the departure of the previous Dean, the Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham who had earlier that year been elected Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster. The Canonical Committee of Christ Church Cathedral wanted a committed and inspirational leader who would be there for the long haul. They received that and more. As the pastor for several hundred parishioners, Peter’s role as the ordained leader of shared ministry was clear cut, however the Cathedral parish and leadership had some big plans brewing so the Dean’s role outside of traditional leadership could be described as somewhat amorphous. That didn’t faze Peter as he rolled up his sleeves and energetically took on the Cathedral’s 11 year, three part renovation project while at the same time making himself available to the greater community of downtown Vancouver with great enthusiasm, not only as a spiritual leader but as a civic leader as well.

Peter’s accomplishments are well documented. His *Wikipedia* entry is quite accurate so you are encouraged to visit that URL on the web for more information, <http://bit.ly/1ACS8nH>.

Following the Eucharist on September 7th, the Rev. Dr. Ellen Clark-King, Peter’s colleague in ministry for the past seven years took on the role of MC and introduced People’s Warden, Dr. Jack Forbes who read a message from longtime parishioner and member of the 1994 canonical committee, Jeannie Birtwell. In that message she recounted some details of the search and the grueling job interview that Peter experienced. She remembered that he had remained composed and good-humoured which was a sign to the committee that they had found the right person. To punctuate the canonical committee reminiscence, Dr. Forbes introduced parishioners, Clare Morgan and Randy Murray who performed a special tribute song with lyrics written by Ellen Clark-King to the tune of the *Nanny Song* from Walt Disney’s *Mary Poppins*. In the text, the singers are advertising for a new Dean who seems to have many of the attributes possessed by Peter Elliott:

Clare Morgan and Randy Murray sing the Rev. Dr. Ellen Clark-King’s lyrics advertising for the perfect Dean. PHOTO Jon Paul Henry



- Said
- Wanted a Dean for one adorable Cathedral
- Sung
- If you want this choice position  
 Be a star at exposition  
 Lovely smile, eyes keen,  
 Make jokes, most clean!  
 You must be kind, you must be witty  
 Very bright and love our city  
 Teach us new wisdom, build our place  
 Sing songs, teach grace.  
 Never preach fire, brimstone  
 Never sing a preface to the wrong tone  
 Love us as your sons and daughters

Baptize us in holy waters  
 If you will teach and be our pray-er  
 We'll love you more as you lose your ha-ir  
 We will love dear Thomas too  
 So you will know  
 That twenty years on  
 Our hearts will all glow.  
 Hurry, Deany!  
 Find your people!  
 Sincerely  
 Christ Church Cathedral.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Next, Rector's Warden Amy Francis said a few words and introduced the children of the parish who were the hit of the tribute event performing the song *PETER!* written by four younger members of the parish to the tune of Michael Jackson's *Beat It* (Peter = Beat it) complete with a full instrumental backing track.

#### Song for Peter's 20th Anniversary

By Henry, Rachel, Sophie and Charlotte

We told you that we really want you around here  
We want to see your face, please never disappear  
The sparkles in our eyes and our words are very clear  
You're Peter, just Peter

You better stay, you better do what you can  
Nobody else could have so many Facebook fans  
And we've never in our lives met such a funny man  
You're Peter, and you'll never be bad

#### Chorus:

You're Peter, Peter, Peter, Peter  
You are such a brilliant leader  
Every sermon you give is always so right  
You're so laid back, you're never uptight  
You're Peter  
Just Peter  
Just Peter  
Just Peter



The children of the parish led by Heather Jessup sing *PETER!* to the tune of *Beat It*. PHOTO Jon Paul Henry

After the kids brought the house down, it was time for Ellen Clark-King to speak about her colleague and close friend and introduce Director of Music, Rupert Lang, members of Cathedral Choir and again parishioner Randy Murray to perform a song selected for this event. The song performed was one of Peter's favourites, Leslie Bricusse's, *Fill the World With Love* most notably recorded by another of Peter's favourites, Petula Clark. Lyric sheets had been handed out at the conclusion of worship in order that the

congregation could sing along. It all went quite well and finished with a sustained standing ovation for Peter.

The formal part of the celebration concluded with Peter addressing the community that he has led and loved for 20 years. He thanked everyone for the experience and with emotion welling up he shared his deep appreciation for his husband, Thomas Roach and his incredible commitment to the ministry of the parish. Peter numbered the staff that he had worked with for 20 years: seven curates, three building

administrators, five priest associates etc., and finished up by saying, "and one Director of Music—Rupert Lang!" This prompted another sustained ovation from the congregation.

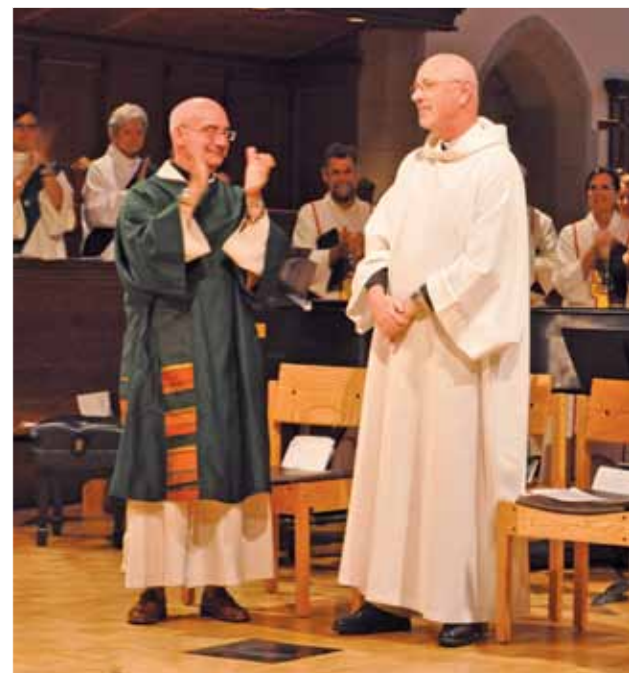
Peter is well known for choosing appropriate and thought-provoking quotes to augment his sermon texts and this address was no exception as he closed with what is commonly referred to as the "missing" verse of Simon and Garfunkel's 1969 tune, *The Boxer* written by Paul Simon. The verse was not included in the version available on the album *Bridge Over Troubled Water* but is regularly performed by the duo (and by Paul Simon solo) most notably during their 1981 reunion concert.

Now the Years are Rolling by me  
They are Rocking evenly  
And, I'm older than I once was  
And younger than I'll be  
That's not unusual  
Nor is it strange  
After changes after changes  
We are more or less the same  
After changes, we are more or less the same. ♣

The congregation stands and applauds. PHOTO Jon Paul Henry



Peter stands and with a slight smile acknowledges the appreciation of the community that he has led for 20 years. PHOTO Jon Paul Henry



## ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA

# Free Up

\$50
FREE UP FIFTY

Did you know that in 1956, General Synod established a Foundation to receive donations for the purpose of disbursing financial assistance across the country. It was also agreed that every parish give a \$50 donation every year to support their Foundation.

Get on Board

Ask your church wardens if your parish is a member. 12 of 70 parishes in the Diocese of New Westminster are annual donors. We need 58 more parishes in your diocese to Free Up Fifty in 2015.

Free Up Fifty is our 2015 campaign for every parish to be an AFC member.

Speak with your church wardens to donate today.

[www.anglicanfoundation.org](http://www.anglicanfoundation.org)



# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## •Sunshine, Hot Cars and Rock 'n' Roll •

SUBMISSION Paul Woerhle

The theme of the 2014 Tsawwassen Sun Festival Parade held on August 5th was, *Sunshine, Hot Cars and Rock 'n' Roll* and the St. David's float certainly met the criteria.

We secured a car and driver: a hopped-up 1931 Ford Coupe driven by parishioner Jim Stimson. The weather forecast was sunny and warm. Now all we needed was rock 'n' roll! Calls went out to known guitarists (6) and on the morning of the parade, all we had was one electric guitar and a battery-powered amplifier. So I faked it. I created a playlist on my iPod consisting of some of the classics, even the James Brown

version of the Wild Cherry hit, *Play That Funky Music, White Boy* and plugged it into the amp. We hit the road with three adults, two teens, and four children, handing out invitations to church and to our Vacation Bible School, each stapled to a candy. There were 850 distributed to be exact.

On the side of the car was a banner, *Jesus is the ROCK; Let him ROLL your blues away*. It turned out to be a great day, bearing witness to God's great gift to us in Jesus and many blessings through sunshine, hot cars, and yes, even rock 'n' roll. ✦

Pastor Paul with guitar and "do-rag" behind the St. David's, Delta "float."



## • Bishop Melissa is Engaged! •

At the September 9th meeting of Diocesan Council, Bishop Melissa Skelton joyfully announced that she is engaged to be married to Eric Stroo. Eric is a vocational deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia and maintains a practice at various locations around the Seattle area as a mental health counsellor with The Samaritan Center. As of this writing, in late September, there

are no immediate plans, but the wedding liturgy will likely be an intimate event in the US Pacific Northwest as both of Eric's parents are in assisted living situations in Oregon. The wedding will be followed by a party here in the Diocese of New Westminster. With a huge smile the Bishop affirmed that after her marriage she will be **here** in the Diocese of New Westminster. ✦

Eric Stroo. PHOTO Bishop Melissa Skelton



## •Making and Remembering History into the Future •

SUBMISSION Gail Newell

On Saturday evening, September 6th, Hope's own National Historic Site, Christ Church Anglican Parish, welcomed the first woman Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster, Melissa Skelton, for an informal tour of the premises. Consecrated in November 1861, Christ Church is the oldest continuously operating church building in British Columbia and the oldest building in Hope, one of two that survive from the Gold Rush days that saw a great influx of Americans.

Bishop Melissa is not only the first woman Bishop of the Diocese, but the first American-born Bishop. Unlike the gold panners seeking their fortunes, it was God's

call that brought Melissa with a strong understanding that God's work through the church is not over. Like the gold panners, we need to sift for gold, but instead we sift through all the talk of church decline and the tradition of the church to bring forth those nuggets that will enrich the world around us. There is much hurt and pain near and far in the neighbourhoods around us that God invites us to address.

On Sunday morning, Bishop Melissa preached and presided over the Sunday Service of almost double the usual congregation. This little church with cedar walls impregnated with the prayers of the faithful for almost 153 years is a space in which God's presence can be felt. Here, those in need know they are not alone and those taking up God's work in the world are guided and strengthened.

After the service and potluck, Bishop Melissa held a question and answer session. She related some of her experience at St. Paul's in Seattle. That church was not sure how they would survive and began to work on congregational growth, reaching out to specific populations in Seattle. They discovered that God had other ideas. As they grew more deeply into relationship with their creator it attracted the unexpected and they grew in ways they had never asked or imagined. Today St. Paul's is not just surviving, but thriving and this experience is what Bishop Melissa is now bringing to the Diocese of New Westminster.

The congregation deeply appreciated Bishop Melissa's words, her depth of faith and most of all her joy as a beloved child of God participating in God's work in the world in a new and most meaningful way. ✦

Bishop Melissa Skelton and the Rev. Gail Newell outside Christ Church.



Bishop Melissa Skelton and the Rev. Gail Newell greeting the congregation after the service.



Potluck social — Johanna Coughlin, Bishop's Warden speaks with Mary as Diane, Joan and Carol work in the kitchen.



**The Student Christian Movement**  
— Turning over the tables since 1921  
The SCM engages the prophetic teachings of the revolutionary Jesus of Nazareth and nourishes links between spirituality and activism.  
Support us at [www.scmcanada.org](http://www.scmcanada.org)



# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## • "Pat's Plan" is Carried Out •

Burning the Mortgage at St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver

SUBMISSION Patrick Blaney

On Sunday, September 7th, St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver had much to celebrate and we did it in style. A number of years ago St John's was in some financial troubled waters with a large debt incurred by the installation of a new metal roof and the inability to pay our share of the apportionment. The then leadership of the church came up with a plan to pay off both, inspired by a suggestion from parishioner Pat Kuechler, but the church needed the help of the diocese. Working together a repayment plan was developed and implemented.

St. John's was very proud to announce this summer that it had paid off all its debts months ahead of schedule and decided to have a "mortgage burning" party to celebrate the event. Business Administrator

of the Diocese of New Westminster, Rob Dickson was invited to honour the event with us and say a few words. Rob said that this was a perfect example of a parish and the diocese working together in partnership to build ministry and help secure a future for the church.

The event was well-attended and a symbolic mortgage was burned. Bob Hardy, St. John's Treasurer and Treasurer of the Diocese of New Westminster, suggested that given the church's history (the original building burnt down 23 years ago) that we do the burning outside. St. John's is very proud to say that we are now debt free and we would like to thank the diocese for help and guidance over the past few years. We now plan and look forward to a growing and dynamic future. ✠

Diocesan Treasurer and St. John's parishioner, Bob Hardy; Diocesan Business Administrator, Rob Dickson; rector of St. John's, the Rev. Patrick Blaney; and the inspiration for "Pat's Plan," Pat Kuechler.



## • Indigenous Justice Ministries Coordinator Appointed •

Bishop Skelton is pleased to announce her appointment of Mr. Brander McDonald as the Indigenous Justice Ministries Coordinator for the Diocese of New Westminster. The position was created to assist the diocese to continue its work of both restoring and building new relationships with the Indigenous Community. The renewed engagement created by the Truth and Reconciliation Event in Vancouver in September 2013, highlighted the need and the desire for relationships to be developed and strengthened through dialogue and education.

Brander is a member of the Cree Nation, Peguis Band. He was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba and raised in BC. Brander brings

a wealth of experience to the position. He has worked in cultural education in secondary schools, in First Nations communities, in correctional centres, as a cross-cultural communications consultant and currently as the Indigenous Relations Coordinator with the Mennonite Church of BC/Canada. Additionally he has worked as a therapist, musician, artist, hockey coach and youth worker. His formal education includes degrees and diplomas in Psychology, Fine Arts, Music, Counselling and Digital Audio Recording Engineering.

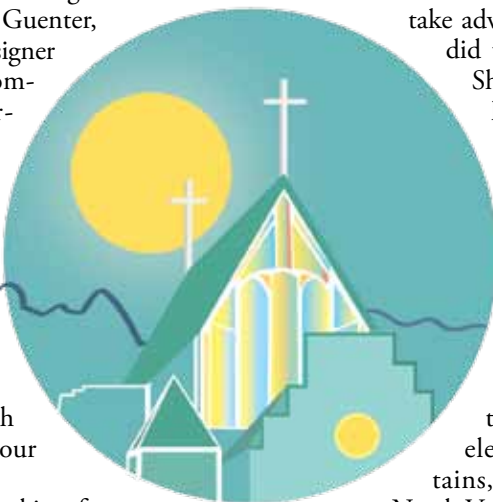
Brander began his work at the Diocese of New Westminster on November 1st, 2014. ✠

## • New Logo for St. John's, North Vancouver •

SUBMISSION Patrick Blaney

St. John's with a new website has a new look and a brand new logo! The logo designer, Taryl Guenter, is a local Graphic Designer who is also the Communications Coordinator for Christ Church Cathedral downtown. Working in conjunction with St. John's rector, the Rev. Patrick Blaney and parish administrator, Eleanor Rogers, Taryl came up with this new image for our church.

What we were looking for was a design that would incorporate one of the most unique physical features of our church, which is of course our green



metal roof. It is a bit of a landmark here in North Vancouver and we wanted to take advantage of that. Taryl did this and much more. She also juxtaposed the light of the sun, representing God's light in the world, to the light coming from inside the church, thus bringing the light of Christ in our church to the outside world. We also wanted to incorporate the element of the mountains, which is distinctly North Vancouver.

We would like to thank Taryl for her work and we look to enjoy our new logo for many years to come. ✠

## • Some Enchanted Evening • Mozart, Musicals and More •

SUBMISSION Hilary Clark

Ruth Whitelaw, a St. Christopher's chorister who passed away recently couldn't have been more pleased with the tribute in her memory presented on the evening of September 14th, 2014, before an appreciative audience of 150. Music Director, Annabelle Paetsch arranged a concert in the nave consisting of excerpts that were Ruth's favourites, by composers as varied as Mozart and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Paetsch acted not only as impresario, but also as accompanist, solo performer and MC.

Soloists were those who have performed before at St. Christopher's. The theme *Mozart, Musicals and More* gave the audience a hint of the range of music they were to enjoy.

The evening began with baritone, Jason Cook, entering the nave from the narthex, wearing a top hat and singing Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Some Enchanted Evening* accompanied by Annabelle Paetsch on the grand piano. He was then joined by soprano Alexandra Hill to have a marital spat as the Count and Countess from Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*. Both singers have pow-

erful, well-controlled voices that blended together, with their singing supported by their acting skills.

Next, Douglas Hagerman on oboe, Edgar Bridwell on violin, and Anne Duranceau on viola da gamba performed a Telemann *Trio Sonata*.

One of Ruth Whitelaw's favourite composers was Rachmaninoff. To honour her interest, Paetsch interpreted the second movement of his *Piano Concerto 2* performed as a solo work. It was riveting.

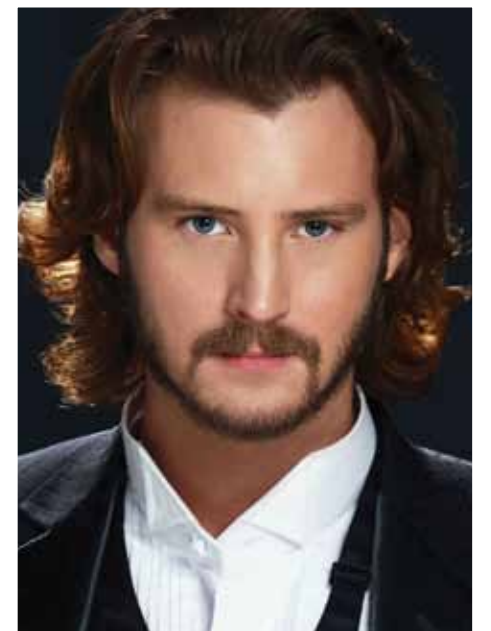
The evening proceeded with works by Lerner and Loewe, Tesori and Schumann. Then dipped into popular recent musicals by Webber, and Kretzmer and Schönberg. Cook and Hill romanced each other with *All I Ask of You* from *Phantom of the Opera* accompanied by the four instrumentalists.

The evening concluded with refreshments in the church hall, and a speech from Ian Whitelaw. The proceeds will go toward the church's music program. Stay tuned for information about St. Christopher's music programming. ✠

Soprano, Alexandra Hill.



Baritone, Jason Cook.



## • Welcome Home •

SUBMISSION Phil Kershaw

The faith community of St. John the Divine, Maple Ridge welcomed back the Rev. Arran Thorpe on Sunday, September 14th. Arran, a Maple Ridge native was baptised in St. John's by current rector, the Rev. Charles Balfour 16 years ago and now Arran is the rector of Trinity Anglican Church in Ottawa.

Arran received a BA from St. Mary's

University in Halifax in 2002, a Masters of Divinity from the Atlantic School of Theology in 2006, was ordained a Deacon in the Anglican Church in December 2007 and priested at the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul in Halifax in 2008. It was a wonderful experience for the St. John's congregation to welcome Arran home. ✠

The Rev. Charles Balfour and the Rev. Arran Thorpe. PHOTO Phil Kershaw





# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## • The Hazeltones Visit Sapperton •

SUBMISSION Judy Barteluk

St. Mary's, Sapperton

St. Mary the Virgin, Sapperton was pleased to welcome The Hazeltones, a sing-a-long Gospel group who performed in the church on Saturday, September 20th, 2014. This eight member band consists of: Bruce Feltham, Bob Fitzsimmons, Jane Harding, Rick Hutching, Debbie Penn, Jim Morrison, Ken Rattray and Jo-Anne Rattray. They take no profit from their performance with all proceeds directed to a charity or charities of the host's preference. St. Mary's decided to share the proceeds with the Seniors Society of New Westminster. Representatives of the Seniors Society presented a plaque of appreciation to St. Mary's after a brief spoken presentation outlining their work in the community.

During the concert, the audience was treated to two full hours of sing-along folk-songs and gospel songs, including: *Teach Your Children*, *Blowing in the Wind*, *Danny*

*Boy, I Saw the Light*, *Amazing Grace* and many more crowd favourites. The band's voices, their enthusiasm and the multitude of instruments that they played made this concert a most enjoyable affair. The Hazeltones only perform a few concerts in a year but I would urge you to look them up on their *Facebook* page at [www.facebook.com/pages/Hazeltones/209145369209737](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hazeltones/209145369209737) and take in a concert when you can.

Prior to the concert those in attendance enjoyed tea and coffee served with platters of sweets and fresh fruit served.

The St. Mary's community is in the last stages of having the hall renovated so we were excited to be able to use the kitchen for the tea. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this a delightful afternoon and especially to The Hazeltones who are so generous with their time and talent. ✠

The Hazeltones perform *Amazing Grace* in the St. Mary's, Sapperton sanctuary. PHOTO Rob England



The folks from the parish who prepared and served the tea. PHOTO Rob England



A good-sized crowd enjoy the tea prior to The Hazeltones concert. PHOTO Rob England



## • St. John's College to award Honorary Degrees •

On September 30th, 2014, Dr. Christopher Trott, Warden and Vice-Chancellor of St. John's College located on the campus of the University of Manitoba announced that the Ven. G. Douglas Fenton is to receive a Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa). The following is the text of the official announcement:

"The Rev. Fenton is a graduate of St. John's College and was Chaplain and Dean of Residence at St. John's between 1988 and 1995. He has a distinguished career in the church as a parish priest and later was responsible for Young Adult and Higher Education Ministries in the Episcopal Church in the United States. More recently he has moved to become the Executive Archdeacon in the Diocese of New Westminster in Vancouver. As one of his nominators comments, 'A gift he brings to our church is his excellent leadership with congregation development, youth ministry and development of leaders within the church. His experience in the wider church gives him a unique worldview within the church and his willingness to share this makes him stand out as a church leader.' Archdeacon Fenton will preach at the Founders and Benefactors service at 11 am on Sunday, November 2nd."

The other recipient of an Honorary Degree from St. John's is Mr. Justice Thomas R. Berger scheduled to receive a Doctor of Canon Law (Honoris Causa) and to give the Convocation address also on Sunday, November 2nd.

Founded in 1866, St. John's, one of the oldest seminary schools in Canada is currently located on the campus of the University of Manitoba. It is also home to the Institute for Anglican Ministry, a ministry of the Diocese of Rupert's Land specializing in Lay Ministry training. With roots dating back to the first Anglican clergy person in the Northwest Interior, the Rev. John West in 1820, St. John's is one of the founding colleges of the University of Manitoba.

Congratulations Douglas! ✠

The Ven. G. Douglas Fenton. PHOTO Wayne Chose



## • New Roof for St. John's, Shaughnessy Parish Building •

Many thanks to Paul Bunnell of St. John's, Shaughnessy (SJS) for sending in this photo, on the right, of a crane beginning the work of replacing the roof on the SJS administration building in early September 2014. Diocesan Communications will keep everyone up-to-date in the coming months of the renovation plans at SJS. Please stay tuned. ✠



## • Annual Quality Fair at St. Laurence, Coquitlam •

LOCATION 825 St. Laurence Street  
in Coquitlam

DATE Saturday, November 15th

TIME 10 am to 3 pm

St. Laurence, Coquitlam will be holding its annual Quality Fair on Saturday, November 15th. Gift baskets, baking, jewelry and collectibles will all be available for purchase, plus there are always lots of items for kids. Soup and hot dogs are on the lunch menu or enjoy a free coffee or tea.

For more information please call 604.936.5423 or visit [saintlaurence.ca](http://saintlaurence.ca). ✠

Heather, Tony and Erin serving up tasty hot dogs to hungry shoppers at the 2013 Quality Fair.





# Provincial Council Meeting Report

RUTH MONETTE

*Director for Ministry and Mission Development (Acting); Diocese of New Westminster Clergy Representative to Provincial Synod*

On September 12th and 13th, the Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon met at St. Andrew, Langley. This body, which includes representatives from each of the dioceses (British Columbia, Caledonia, Kootenay, New Westminster and Yukon) and the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, meets regularly between Provincial Synods. Twice a year the group “gathers” for telephone conference calls and once a year, they gather in person. The Council is responsible for carrying forward the work of Synod in the three years between each of those events.

The work of the Ecclesiastical Province has four key areas. The first is maintaining the archives for the Province,

which are located with the Archives of the Diocese of New Westminster and managed by the same archivist, Melanie Delva. The Province’s archives include material from the Diocese of Cariboo. At this September meeting, the Council heard updates on the necessary relocation of the Archives due to the sale of the Iona Building at Vancouver School of Theology (VST) and approved funding for their portion of the relocation along with adjusting their budget to include rent for the new space. Melanie provided Council with a lovely report on how her work as an archivist is a ministry for the church, which touches the lives of many who are not regularly present in our congregations.

The second area of work for the Ecclesiastical Province is

youth ministry. The British Columbia and Yukon Anglican Youth Movement (BCYAYM) sends two delegates to the Council and makes regular reports. The opportunities for young people—particularly from the more rural parts of the Province—to gather are vitally important. BCYAYM sponsors an annual weekend conference over Thanksgiving weekend and has been exploring partnerships with Sorrento Centre and the Diocese of New Westminster to offer an annual event in February as well. The Provincial Council provides annual funding through their budget and other forms of support to BCYAYM.

Third, the Ecclesiastical Province has been working for some time on potential areas of cooperation among the dioceses. Recently, we have been considering the formation of deacons and priests as well as lay readers with an eye towards sharing resources for formation and easing cross-diocesan moves. Additionally, conversations are on-going about safe church practices for provincial events (this is part of the Council’s work to support BCYAYM) and ways camping ministries in the Province can communicate and work together. At the September meeting, the Council spoke about increasing our relationships through prayer and other exchanges.

The fourth area of work for the Ecclesiastical Province has been the stewardship of a major gift from the late Doris Skelton—a portion of the farm she and her husband owned near the Surrey/Langley border. The dream for this property had been to create a retreat centre, but after nearly a decade of research, it became clear to the Ecclesiastical Province that such a centre was not feasible. In late 2013, the Ecclesiastical Province and the City of Surrey came to an agreement for the land—reuniting the whole of the Skelton farm into the city’s Hi Knoll Park. The Ecclesiastical Province has retained the right to exclusive use of the site for four days each year. To celebrate Doris Skelton’s gift, the work of stewardship many had given to the land in the year’s since it came into the Province’s ownership (including Monte Worthington from the Diocese of New Westminster), and the successful agreement with the City of Surrey, the Provincial Council met for Holy Eucharist on the site. It was a beautiful day and a moving commemoration of the Founders, Benefactors, and Missionaries of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Council of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon meets again via telephone conference in March and May of 2015 and the next Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon is scheduled for September 2015. ✠

Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC/Yukon and Chair of Provincial Synod, the Most Rev. John Privett takes a selfie with the Provincial Synod folks behind him at Hi Knoll Park, Surrey. The author is second from the left in the back row.



## Resquiescat in Pace

✠ The Reverend Dirk Tensen Rinehart Pidcock, Priest  
February 1st 1939 – September 18th, 2014

Dirk Tensen Rinehart Pidcock, of Kaslo, BC died at home peacefully on September 18th, after nearly two years of significant health issues. He will be lovingly missed by his wife of 52 years, Karen, children Ann, Nathan, Asia Sung, and grandson Jordan Rinehart.

Dirk was born February 1st, 1939, in Nyssa, Oregon. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1961, studied theology at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California in preparation for the Episcopal priesthood. He served three parishes in the Diocese of Eastern Oregon, before moving with his family in 1978 to direct the Sorrento Centre of the Anglican Church of Canada. From 1984 to 1991, he served as associate priest at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver.

Moving to Kaslo in the Diocese of Kootenay in 1991, Dirk and Karen served the seven congregations in Nakusp, New Denver, Kaslo, Balfour, Willow Point, Nelson, and South Slocan. As Missioner of the Kokanee region for twelve years, Dirk was a pioneer in developing innovative ways the Anglican Church might continue to know a healthy presence in communities that have difficulty supporting traditional ministries. Dirk believed each faith community had all the gifts necessary to be alive to the teachings of Jesus... caring for one another and for the world about them... ever-building the spiritual strength and confidence of the membership. He ended his professional life as Archdeacon of the Kootenays, while serving voluntarily as a priest to the end.

Dirk served as president of the Kaslo Hospice Society and served on the board of the Community Fund of North Kootenay Lake Society. Both in Vancouver and Kaslo, Dirk encouraged and supported refugee sponsorship, and served three years on the board of the Primate’s World Relief & Development Fund (PWRDF) of the Anglican Church of Canada. Although a diagnosis of chronic leukemia slowed him down during the past two years of treatment, he continued living life to the fullest, with gratitude for

each new day.

The Memorial Eucharist was held October 3rd at St. Mark’s Anglican Church, followed by a reception at St. Andrew’s Hall, Kaslo. ✠

✠ The Reverend Michael John Feit, Priest  
June 30th, 1924 – September 15th, 2014

The Reverend Michael John Feit, aged 90 years, died at St. Paul’s Hospital, Vancouver on September 15th, 2014. Born in Birmingham, England on June 30th, 1924, Michael served 4½ years in the Royal Air Force as War- rant Officer, Flight Engineer/Fitter 11 Engines, Lancaster 15 Squadron. He is survived by daughter Yvonne and son Bernard, along with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Michael was a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and recipient of the Halcrow Premium Prize in 1973, as well as a Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers. Ordained in the Church of England in 1969, he served as ‘worker-priest’ and consulting civil engineer in the UK and India for 8½ years while in charge of St. Dunstan’s with St. Catherine’s in Feltham, Middlesex and St. Matthew’s in Ashford, Middlesex. He undertook fulltime ministry as priest-in-charge of St. Hugh’s in North Hykeham, Lincoln and followed this appointment as rector of St. Andrew’s, Leasingham and Cranwell; St. Mary and St. Peter, Waddingham; St. Nicholas, Snitterby; and St. Peter, Bishop Norton, all in Lincolnshire.

Michael retired in 1990 and emigrated to Canada with his wife Beryl to join their children. He served as an honorary hospital Chaplain at Surrey Memorial Hospital for 14 years but resigned to look after his beloved Beryl his wife of 60 years who predeceased him four years ago. He also served as an honorary assistant priest at the Anglican Parish of the Church of the Epiphany in Surrey, BC from 1990 to 2010.

Services were held at the Anglican Church of the Epiphany in Surrey with a Compline service the evening of September 26th and a Funeral service with Eucharist on September 27th. ✠

## Clergy News Around the Diocese

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE ARCHDEACON

St. Catherine of Alexandria, Port Coquitlam with St. Columba, Pitt Meadows—the Canonical Committee has recommended to the Bishop that she appoint the Rev. Karen Urquhart as their next rector. The Bishop concurred and Karen has accepted. Karen is currently a priest in the Diocese of Bunbury, Province of Western Australia. The Rev. Gord Dominey will continue as Intentional Interim priest-in-charge until Karen’s arrival. She will likely begin her new ministry this month.

The Rev. Robin Ruder Celiz was welcomed as the new priest-in-charge (Vicar) of St. Martin, North Vancouver with a Celebration of New Ministry on October 1st. The Ven. Lynne McNaughton, Regional Archdeacon of Capilano, was the preacher. Coverage of Robin’s celebration Eucharist will be included in the December issue of *Topic*.

St. Stephen, West Vancouver posted their profile on September 8th and applications were invited. The former incumbent, the Rev. Trevor Fisher retired on August 31st, 2014. The Rev. Roberta Fraser is priest-in-charge during the interregnum.

At Christ the Redeemer, Surrey, the Rev. Paul Borthistle begins an Intentional Interim Ministry for a two-year term as the parish goes through a period of self-study.

The Canonical Process at St. Cuthbert’s, Delta, will begin with a period of self-study prior to preparing the parish profile. The Rev. Arthur Nash is priest-in-charge during the interregnum.

The Rev. William Roberts resigned as priest-in-charge at St. John’s, Squamish effective October 27th, 2014. He will begin an appointment with Sabeel Centre in Jerusalem. A priest-in-charge will be appointed following consultation with the Canonical Committee. ✠



# St. Michael's, Vancouver & the BIBAK BC Organization Renew Partnership Agreement

CEASAR CASTRO

St. Michael's Multicultural Church, Vancouver

B-I-B-A-K is an acronym representing the five provinces found in the Cordillera Mountains of the Northern Philippines: Benguet, Ifugao, Bontoc, Apayao and Kalinga. Before division, these five provinces were one, and they are comprised of several indigenous cultural groups, the largest are called the *Igorots* (meaning people of the mountain) and the *Ifugaos*.

There are BIBAK organizations all over the world, located in places where groups of folks with this heritage may settle or gather. It is good for the Igorots to have an organization that keeps their cultures and traditions alive. A good, local example is the BIBAK BC organization chapter. Having chapters all over the world is very comforting. If Igorots or Ifugaos get lost or are lonely and disconnected perhaps in Moscow or London or anywhere, they can search out the local BIBAK.

There are two principal components of the original agreement between St. Michael's Church and BIBAK BC.

1. It is understood that this partnership carries with it no financial obligations to either partner.
2. It is a declaration of intent to jointly support new Filipino immigrants to Canada and to jointly develop specific programs to achieve that objective.

The declaration that was signed this past September 7th is one that has been updated to reflect the times.

To provide some background we go back to the signing of the original joint declaration, August 12th, 2007. Everyone involved agrees that it is a blessing from God that brought the two communities together. Prior to the 2007 signing, St. Michael's, Vancouver was on the brink of closing its doors and the core group of officers and members of BIBAK BC were looking seriously at buying a property to house the organization. But after the signing, St. Michael's started to come alive and BIBAK BC was and is happy to have found their *dap-ay* (which translated means a common place to gather and bond), in the City of Vancouver.

God is good, and with God's guidance BIBAK BC was directed to St. Michael's, a faith community that strives to create an environment with zero tolerance for racism and all forms of discrimination. St. Michael's greeted BIBAK BC members with a warm welcome and open arms. The church became like home, especially for new arrivals from the Philippines, who felt comforted during their transition period.

Thanks go out to those early BIBAK members of St. Michael's. I don't want to mention any names in fear of missing someone, but you know who you are. On behalf of BIBAK BC and the membership, thank you very much for being the *instrument* that enabled the agreement between the church and BIBAK BC. God listened and granted your prayers.

In the past, BIBAK BC spent a lot of time, effort and money securing venues for our major events, four to five times a year. Now St. Michael's, in spite of a busy schedule

of programs and activities, does their best to ensure that the church hall is available for important BIBAK events. A special thank you goes out to the church staff.

The 125th anniversary of the church in the fall of 2014 is an appropriate time to renew the agreement with new signatories, which was a great idea from our brother, Greg Tatchell. The Rev. Wilmer Toyoken (Fr. Wilmer), and I agreed with him that we should renew the joint agreement

every so often, perhaps every seven years as the leadership and membership of both groups will change over that time period. This is also a good reason to party every seven years and celebrate with the members of St. Michael's

Finally, with the help of God, may this win-win agreement between the church and the BIBAK communities continue forever with more success, for the good of all. ✚

Folks representing BIBAK signing the agreement in St. Michael's Chancel entrance (September 7th, 2014). Left to right: Ramon Busaing, BIBAK BC President; Helen Stewart, representing *Bontoc*; Mary Leger, representing *Ifugao*; Clifford Belgica, representing, *Benguet*; Pena Taloza, representing *Apayao*; and Tino Layugan, representing *Kalinga*. PHOTO Ceasar Castro



The signatories and others relax and pose for a photo at Coffee Time in the Parish Hall after renewing the agreement. SEATED: Ramon Busaing, Bart Alatan, Moses Kajoba, Greg Tatchell, Ceasar Castro, Elisa Castro and Solidad Shah. STANDING: Brigitte L. Busaing, The Rev. Fr. Wilmer Toyoken and Agnes Alatan. PHOTO Ceasar Castro



## OPINION



The Rev. Michael Fuller.

### How Can I Approach Sharing My Faith?

MICHAEL FULLER  
Rector, St. John's, Shaughnessy

The title of this piece is a question that I'm often asked. So, how are we to approach the question of sharing that which we believe? So, a few pointers:

1. **We should avoid sharing more than is necessary.**  
We want those we are talking with to accept Christ and live good lives right there on the spot! It *aint* going to happen! I think sometimes we trip ourselves up by taking the conversation along a route that leads away from the gospel and answers questions not being asked. You don't have to prove that you know more than you really do. Also you don't have to explain Noah's Ark or Jesus walking on the water. Just keep it simple and to the point.
2. **We need to be careful of the language we are using.**  
Don't use spiritual language that makes you appear as some sort of religious freak. Avoid words

and phrases that have great meaning for you but to others are simply inane. For example saying to someone, "let the Holy Spirit flow over you," is just plain creepy. Worse still is saying, "Let the arms of God enfold you." Make sure the words you use are understandable and not just religious. Sometimes we get caught up in the spirituality of words and phrases just because they sound good, but honestly they don't explain anything. Just use everyday language

3. **Avoid the temptation to get involved in a debate/argument.**  
There are always people who want to ask about your faith just so they can get into an argument about something. These people aren't looking to enter a dialogue. They're looking for a verbal fight; don't entertain them. No one has ever come to a knowledge of Christ after losing an argument about religion. We're told in scripture that there

are people who don't receive the Good News, so we need to do what Jesus tells us in Luke's gospel, "If people do not welcome you, leave their town, shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." We were not told to defend our faith; we were commanded to share it.

4. **We do not have to know it all.**  
This is the most difficult point. I always thought I had to know everything in order to share. It's okay if you don't know all the answers to their questions. You can say, "I don't know, let me get back to you." Those are genuinely seeking the truth will understand. I would also point out that there're some questions you won't find the answers to until we get to heaven. So, know that it's alright to admit not knowing and go and find the answer. You could even say, "Because I can trust God concerning what we do know. We believe by faith the things we don't know yet." ✚



## OPINION

### Book Review

LEONARD E. DYER

Deacon, Diocese of New Westminster

Andrew Bailey, craftsman of both written and spoken word, is no stranger to monologue — skilled one-man performances of his clever and witty observations of life and chance and the unexpected becoming the norm. *The Rite of James Biddle* (*The Rite*) is Bailey's first novel. If this is the first of things to come we are fortunate; there will be little disappointment. Packed into this easy to read work are the themes of justice, compassion, victory over the darker neurotic self of falsity, and growth through adversity to a greater and more profound self-knowledge.

Throughout *The Rite*, Bailey presents us with the realities of church order (and disorder!), and the raw, desperate values of street life and domestic violence. Andrew, with his background in Anglicanism, its culture and church society, his depth of reading complemented by his servant hood in Victoria, BC's Quadra-Pandora neighborhood, its urban struggle, rough edges and abuse, has authority to present accurately and with feeling the story of James Biddle. He does it well.

A Vancouver resident, Andrew, in his 30s has a very Anglican heritage, and is thoroughly steeped in the culture and tradition of Anglicanism. His uncle, the Ven. John Bailey, is a retired Archdeacon in the Diocese of New Westminster. For ten years Andrew was sacristan of St. George's Chapel at Windsor, and custodian of St. John the Divine Anglican Church on Quadra Street near Pandora in Victoria. The mission and ministry of St. John's models Andrew's portrayal of church life and its people very clearly in *The Rite*. Just as Andrew is fond of and reflects his grounding in the Anglican way, the story of the Rev. James Biddle remains compassionate as well as critically accurate.

On May 24th, 2014, preceding the release of Bailey's novel, Bailey staged a 12 hour performance of his 70,000 word novel complete with breaks for enjoyment of food items featured in the story of James Biddle. From a delicate lesson in the proper making of tea to making *spaghetti-lasagna*, the day even included an Easter Egg Hunt. A unique experience, it was hosted by the Intrepid Theatre in Victoria as part of Uno Fest 2014.

*"There are a few stories, once read, in which the characters remain as friends in the reader's mind. I was captivated by the sheer humanity and reality of the struggles and conflicts revealed in this tale."*

Getting acquainted with the book itself, the setting of St. John's, Victoria is a likely backdrop for *The Rite*. St. John's, which your reviewer has visited, is an apt urban culture focal point for the intrigues played out in this drama. The conservative front cover of the book features a title block befitting the Rev. James Biddle; a photo of a tweed clad clergyman, no doubt the young fogey, Biddle, himself, and the hero of *The Rite*. The evolution of Biddle from tweed to t-shirt and jeans is this tale.

Through it all — the betrayal, unfairness, abuse, fear, bullying and conniving — Andrew Bailey's characters make harder and harder choices. Some characters remain perpetually locked, cyclical and unproductive, while others triumph and overcome their self-doubt and inner darkness. In James Biddle's case, he is victorious over a serious addiction of feeling "less than," but it is a Pyrrhic victory as he loses his accustomed tidy world but gains his soul. Is it worth it? He's a priest. He can't doubt. How can he not have faith in God? Is his real self-emerging? How does James resolve this conflict among others?

So who is the Rev. James Biddle? A 36-year-old priest, celibate, not by choice but by chance or self-inflicted lack of chance! Mocked and sexually taunted at church camp he is self-described as a neat bachelor with a tidy house and a neat garden. Given to Rodgers and Hammerstein, he also delights in *Anne of Green Gables*; an infatuation that leads him to tryst with a woman also named Anne whom he tutors in Greek. That's when he is not lecturing, a non-credit course on Erasmus at University of Victoria (and by the way, his middle name is Erasmus). He is the son of a retired Bishop of the diocese. His mother died young. James had always felt abandoned. He is, also, the chum of the Sewing Circle at St. Andrew's Anglican and of the gatherings of aged clergy who over Earl Grey assess the nature of the church and its who's who. He specializes in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 11 o'clock... to be displaced by an eager Adonis-like deacon, who advocates a *U2Charist*. Deacon Adonis calls the Divine,

"Creator." James grinds his teeth at the impropriety, and, oh yes, James drives a 1997 Toyota Corolla.

A closeness develops with Anne: James describes them as "having relations!" He always did want a small family. In time, the abused Anne (there's a brute of a husband) leaves the scene. Her daughter JoAnne, James' godchild, subject to frequent physical abuse by her alcoholic father becomes the focus of James' life. JoAnne, precocious, clever, seeks James refuge, and alternatively runs away to the streets.

With Anne no longer present, we wonder, can JoAnne become a force majeure in James losing his life to save it?

Almost... there is Melissa — hip, musical, and betrothed to a rock star. They ask James to marry them. James falls headlong into pursuit of the ambivalent Melissa (with RockStar away Melissa is conflicted, and James is smitten). Deacon and Melissa, the hipster, help James rescue JoAnne. In the fury of pursuit James learns about cell phones! He gets onto *Facebook*, makes public and all too affirmative admissions about his love life, and runs afoul of the Safe Church policy. All the while he doubts his vocation, and "Wise at 13" JoAnne urges him to live life, and be bold.

Melissa is everything James isn't and there is a chasm yet yearning attraction. Artfully woven, the lives of Deacon, Melissa, and JoAnne, jolted by RockStar's return, link together in a fast-acting drama, as James seeks his 13 year-old runaway, JoAnne.

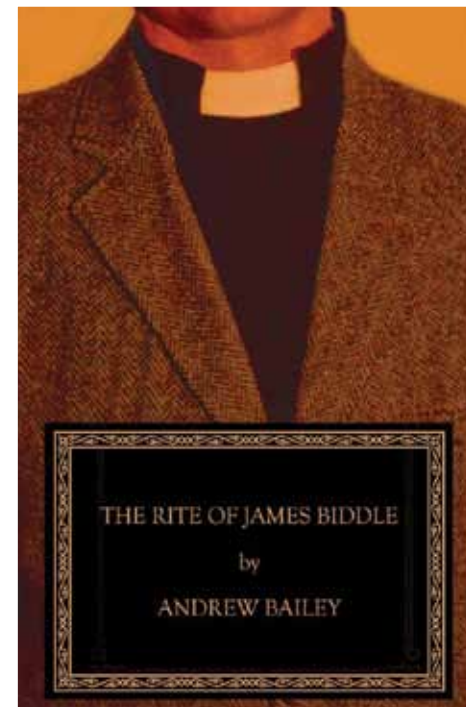
There are a few stories, once read, in which the characters remain as friends in the reader's mind. I was captivated by the humanity and reality of the struggles and conflicts revealed in this tale. True selves were forged out of anguish and doubt. Some "false selves" and their inherent deceit dissolved as the story coursed its way to the end. Some failed to transcend their limitations.

*The Rite* is an absorbing human drama. It is a thrilling read. I heartily recommend it. Buy the book and enjoy.

Additional information about *The Rite*

of *James Biddle* may be obtained by contacting Bayeux Arts at 403.249.2477 or mail@bayeux.com. You can also contact Andrew Bailey directly at 778.874.3754 or by email at thisisnotbailey@gmail.com. ✦

Andrew Bailey. PHOTO Justin Carter



**The Rite of James Biddle**

Written by Andrew Bailey

Published by Bayeux Arts, July 2014



The Rev. Paul Woehrle.

### The Real Ministers

PAUL WOHRLE

Rector, St. David's, Delta

*"The real ministers are the body of believers, living as verbs (ministering) in their homes, neighbourhoods, churches and places of work."*

Those who received the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster this year, as those recipients have since 2009, powerfully remind me of my baptismal calling.

The word "minister" is often used as a verb, but it is also used as a noun referring to ordained persons or public servants. I draw attention to this fact in order to correct an often misunderstood aspect of the life of the church; that is, calling the priest, pastor or deacon — "The Minister."

The church is a corporate body of people who follow Jesus Christ and have signified this outwardly by baptism in water in the Threefold Name of God. These people serve their communities motivated by God's love

and Christ's command, and gifted and empowered by the Holy Spirit. This is the expression of the ministry and mission of God's church.

It is also what I understand the verb "to minister" to mean. The ordained person, in this sense is not the one who ministers. The real ministers are the body of believers, living as verbs (ministering) in their homes, neighbourhoods, churches and places of work.

What happens in pointy-roofed buildings on Sundays and other days is the church's primary task of worshipping God, and being equipped and empowered for the work of ministry. The responsibility

for equipping ministers falls mainly to the clergy and gifted others. Or as the Apostle Paul wrote in *Ephesians 4: 11–12*, "Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry."

As we celebrate the ministers among us, and in particular during this month that was begun by gathering to honour those receiving the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster, let's continue to put our focus on the hours, days, weeks and faithful years of ministry done by the laity, for the up-building of God's church and for the extension of the Reign of Christ, to the glory of God. ✦



# A Message from the New Diocesan Coordinator for Children & Youth Ministry

CAITLIN REILLEY BECK

Diocesan Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministry (as of December 1st, 2014)

It is an exciting time to be called to serve in children and youth ministry in this diocese. Ever since it became official that I would be appointed to the position of Diocesan Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministry, my mind has been busy imagining and dreaming about the wonder-

ful ministry we will build together.

I first arrived in the Diocese of New Westminster just over two years ago, in fall 2012. I came across the country, from Ottawa, for a position as Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry at St. Philip's Dunbar. In order to move out west, I left my position at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Ottawa, the parish where I was lucky enough to grow up and serve as Coordinator of Christian Education and Lay Pastoral Associate. Before I began my career in ministry, I studied Interreligious dialogue, Mission studies, and Eastern Christian studies at Saint Paul University in Ottawa and completed a Masters in Liturgical Studies at the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale. Four years ago in Ottawa,

Caitlin Reilley Beck. PHOTO Javier R. Sotres

I left a PhD program to pursue ministry fulltime; I was far more excited by my work in the parish than the mountain of books looming over me in my library studio. It was this pursuit that led me out west to this diocese.

As a youth minister at St. Philip's, I have had the opportunity to work with a whole host of talented youth ministers: from volunteers in the parish, to clergy from various churches, to my fellow youth workers from around the diocese and other denominations. Together we have been building engaging and sustainable youth ministry both at the parish level and at various regional levels. One of my favourite experiences has been developing 'liturgy school' at St. Philip's. In liturgy school, junior youth learn to become worship leaders by engaging with liturgy in different ways: observation, participation, lessons about worship, preparation and by leading worship. The liturgy school students have helped us as a congregation to transform how we worship God as one community with people from many different generations and backgrounds.

There are so many people in this diocese who are keen on building children and youth ministry — it is a wonderfully enthusiastic climate in which to begin this new job. Now we need to build the structures that will channel this talent and enthusiasm into sustainable ministry. I hope to help each of these people hear God's call to ministry with children and youth, and to connect them with the training and resources they need to do it effectively. I hope to find new ways to celebrate the ministry of children and youth, and invite them to share their gifts as co-workers in ministry in the church. I hope to make children and youth ministry something that we all regularly wonder about together: as parishes, as members of different generations, as youth ministers, as deaneries, as clergy and as a diocese. The Holy Spirit is at work in the church and in the world, reaching out to and through children and youth — and each of us is blessed to be a part of that work.

So give me a call, send me an email, or if you can afford the stamp, send me a letter! I would love to have a conversation with you about how you can be a part of children and youth ministry in this place.

Caitlin is scheduled to begin her new ministry in the Diocese of New Westminster on December 1st, 2014. ✠



## 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

#### December 1, 2014 • please contact •

Caitlin Reilley Beck,  
Diocesan Coordinator for Children & Youth Ministry  
cbeck@vancouver.anglican.ca  
604.684.6306 ext. 225



Diocese of New Westminster  
ARCHEVÊCHE D'UNION DU CANADA

## A Legacy for the Future is up to You

*A legacy in your will to the Diocese of New Westminster or your parish is your ultimate act of stewardship. It is a tangible expression of your trust in God and the future of the church. Consider titling the value of your estate to support our growing Children & Youth & Family ministry.*

For Assistance contact:

Glen Mitchell, Director, Stewardship & Gift Planning

Call: (604) 684-6306, Ext. 218;

Email: [gmitchell@vancouver.anglican.ca](mailto:gmitchell@vancouver.anglican.ca)