

# PASTORAL CARE MESSENGER

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa, January 2024

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When we are young, with hubris and idealism, we believe we can change the world and fix the mistakes of our forbears. As we age, disillusionment sets in as the realities of human sinfulness and the intransigence of systems stronger than we are break our optimism. Through it all the gospel whispers its voice of invitation. The Spirit whispers, “You are not the saviour but you are called to bring what you can in this moment of time and place with your gifts and opportunities before you,”—and that is enough.

So as we enter this new year of 2024, feeling the weight of the sorrows and pain of the world, the endlessness of war and the fears for our planet, let us hold firm to the hope of the gospel with faith and trust in God’s infinite love and mercy and—like Mary—respond with a continuing ‘yes’ to God’s call.

*From Archbishop Linda Nicholls’ New Year’s Day sermon at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa*

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May the hope of a New Year fill your hearts with peace, joy, and love.

Canon Doug



Lord, You make all things new. Thank you for this new year and for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us the fire of your love so that we may see your wonders and live forever to praise you. Amen

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*If you need to speak with one of the clergy, please don’t hesitate to contact Canon Doug Richards at 613-236-9149 ext. 19.*