

From the Bishop's Desk...

Earth Day: A Beautiful, Fragile Lifeboat

At the beginning of April, many of us watched with great interest the Artemis II mission as they travelled 252,756 km away from the earth, something never done before. Just for context, the circumference of the earth is 40,075 km around the equator. Their task was to circle the moon, and to observe and photograph the back side of the moon and carry out various experiments.

As the crew travelled through space, they were sending incredible images back to us, not only of the moon, but also the earth. "The Artemis II astronauts described Earth as a beautiful, fragile "lifeboat" against the overwhelming blackness of space, fostering a deep sense of unity and perspective. They described the view as a unifying, "spectacular" sight that highlighted the entire globe, making them feel bonded as 'one people'". www.space.com

There experience of seeing earth from outer space was not unique. Virtually every astronaut before them has returned with a deep appreciation for the wonder and beauty of our world. They were forever changed.

As we celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd, it makes me wonder what will it take for humanity to fully grasp the wonder and gift of this beloved planet that we have been entrusted to steward and care for? Very few people will get the opportunity to experience what these astronauts experienced, and yet their message is worth paying attention to.

They saw a unified, beautiful globe that was holding all of creation, all of humanity in one amazing place. Perhaps we were given an out-of-world perspective to bring us back to earth, to remind us that we need each other, and we need to work together to protect and guard what God has created.

So, let's not forget to celebrate and honour this beautiful planet! Take some time to go outside. Breathe in deeply, smell the air. Look up to the sky, look down at your feet. Feel the earth beneath. Take it all in and then offer a prayer of gratitude to the One who breathed life into all things.

Happy Earth Day!

In Christ's Service,

+Clara

Bishop's Schedule May/June

May

May 3 – North Thompson Ecumenical Shared Ministry Parish Visit – Clearwater
May 5-8 – Provincial School for Congregational Development – Terrace BC
May 9 - 10 – St. Peter's Williams Lake – Parish Visit – 100th Anniversary
May 12 – VST Convocation – Vancouver BC
May 14 – Provincial House of Bishops (Zoom)
May 19th – Clericus (Zoom)
May 29 – 31 – Assembly – Quesnel BC

June

June 6 – Funeral for the Rev. (Deacon) Margot Rose – St. John the Divine, Quesnel
June 7 – St. Timothy's Parish Visit – 100 Mile House
June 10 – 15 – CoGS June Meeting – Mississauga – Queen of Apostles Retreat Centre
June 18-20 – Consecration of Bishop-Elect Vincent Fenga, Whitehorse – Diocese of Yukon

Prayer Corner



- * We pray for our neighbours, families, and friends that they may experience the love of Christ in and through us.
- * We pray for our Pastoral Elders: Ursula Drynock, Amy Charlie, Pauline, and Ernie Michell.
- * We pray for our upcoming Assembly May 29-31st in Quesnel, our delegates and guests.
- * We pray for Bishop-elect Vincent Fenga, his family, and the Diocese of

Yukon as they prepare for his consecration on June 19th.

- * We pray for the Council of the North dioceses and their bishops.
- * We pray for leaders around the globe as they seek to work for the common good.
- * We pray for all who are confined by illness or isolation, praying they may find peace and strength in the love and care they receive from others. We pray for caregivers, for strength and encouragement.
- * We pray for places in need of peace, especially in the Middle East: Palestine, Israel, Iran, Syria, for Ukraine, Russia, South Sudan, Myanmar.
- * We pray for those who suffer through environmental disasters such as earthquakes, fire, floods and cyclones.
- * We pray for those who are nearing death or have died, and for those who mourn.

News Around the Territory

REMINDER!! A Call to Pray – Thy Kingdom Come 2026 – God With Us

As we prepare for Assembly 2026, Bishop Clara invites us to participate in a call to pray for the 11 days beginning Ascension Day – May 14 to Pentecost Sunday, May 24th.

Thy Kingdom Come is a prayer movement started in 2016 by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in the Church of England and has since grown to be a world-wide ecumenical initiative to pray for more people to come to know Jesus.

From the www.thykingdomcome.global website:

“The God who is with us in the everyday – in the joys and sorrows of life (and everything in between) and the One who, through His spirit, longs to reveal Himself to those who do not yet know Him.

From the story of Ruth to the story of Gideon, from the story of Elijah to the story of the early church who waited for the promised Holy Spirit to come- over the 11 days we will explore a different Bible story each day, which demonstrates God’s transformative presence, power and love at work in the lives of people and places.

Our hope is that as we pray for our five people, they will also experience the life-changing love of God and choose to follow Him.”

Check their website out for various resources, videos and prayers.



Prayer for Assembly
*Almighty and everliving God,
give wisdom and understanding,
to the members of the Assembly of this Territory.
Teach them in all things
to seek first your honour and glory.
May they perceive what is right
have courage to pursue it
and grace to accomplish it,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Based on A Prayer Book for Australia)*

Other News

Learning Opportunities from Vancouver School of theology this Summer – both in person and online!
www.vst.edu Check it out!



Around the Territory



For more news check our website out at <https://www.territoryofthepeople.ca/>