Jan's Journal



This Sunday is Remembrance Sunday/Peace Sunday. As we honour those who have died while serving Canada during wars and conflicts, we also focus on the futility of war and our need to continually work for peace in the world. This year, the Royal Canadian Legion celebrates its 100th Anniversary.

Every year since 1936, The Royal Canadian Legion has appointed a "Silver Cross Mother." This is the mother of a person who has served in the Canadian military and died while serving. The "Silver Cross Mother" represents the sacrifice of Canadian parents and families who have experienced the death of a son or daughter in the line of service. She places a wreath at the National War Memorial in Ottawa during the Remembrance Day service on November 11th. The Silver Cross Mother for 2026 is Virginia Hicks from Frankford, Ontario.

November 8th is Indigenous Veteran's Day. On this day, Canadians commemorate the military service, bravery, and sacrifice of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people. This day originated in Winnipeg in 1994 to address the historic exclusion of Indigenous service members from mainstream Remembrance Day activities. Indigenous soldiers have fought alongside others in defence of Canada since the War of 1812. More than 12,000 Indigenous individuals served during World War 1, World War 2, and the Korean War. Despite fighting overseas for freedom and democracy, many Indigenous veterans returned to systemic discrimination and exclusion from Royal Canadian Legion halls. They were denied the same benefits, (such as land grants, educational funding, and reintegration support) which were available to non-Indigenous veterans.

As I write this Journal, many of you are busy at the church setting up and preparing for the **51st Annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale**. By the time you read this, it will all be over! Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this event so successful. It is said that it "takes a village to raise a child." Similarly, it takes a whole congregation plus family and friends to manage this huge event. Whether your role was a large one or a small one, **Thank You!**

Halton Faith Network Advocating For the Unhoused is conducting a Warm Winter Clothing Drive again this year. You may recall that East Plains participated last year. Donations of coats, hats, gloves, mitts and scarves plus warm wool socks are needed for those living on the streets to be warm this winter. Donations can be made directly at Port Nelson United Church or we could collect donations here and deliver them to Port Nelson in one load. I believe that was the decision last year. Please check your closets for anyitems you may be able to donate. The clothing is required by November 21st.

The week of November 13th to 19th is observed annually as Transgender Awareness Week. It leads to the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20th. This is a day to remember victims of transphobic violence.

Christmas is coming!! Advent Candle lighters will be needed for the four Sundays in Advent plus Christmas Eve. Please prayerfully consider whether this is something you would like to volunteer to do.

Mark your Calendar

Sunday, November 8, 2026:	Remembrance/Peace Sunday
Sunday, November 15, 2026:	Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost
November 13-19th:	Transgender Awareness Week
November 20th:	Transgender Day of Remembrance
Sunday, November 22, 2026:	Reign of Christ Sunday (with Communion)
Sunday, November 29, 2026:	First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 6, 2026	Second Sunday in Asvent
Sunday, December 13, 2026	Third Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 20, 2026	Fourth Sunday in Advent
Thursday, December 24, 2026	Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.
Sunday, December 27, 2026	First Sunday After Christmas
	Final Sunday in 2026

If you have any questions or concerns about anything you have read here, you can reach me at: revjanmcc@gmail.com or on my cell phone: 905-630-8202.

Blessings,

Reverend Jan