

# Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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May 25 2018 No. 23

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## EASTER 2018

### Anglican Church of Canada: News from General Synod

#### **Two new suffragan bishop positions created for northern Manitoba and Ontario**

By Matt Gardner

In the Diocese of Brandon, files in the office of Bishop William Cliff dating back to 1965 note discussions and requests for an Indigenous bishop who could provide spiritual leadership for residents of northern Manitoba.

Forty years later at the 2005 Sacred Circle in Pinawa, Man., elders called not only for a National Indigenous Anglican Bishop—a position later filled by Bishop Mark MacDonald—but for 15 Indigenous bishops in areas with significant Indigenous ministries.

That dream of the elders took another stride forward in May 2018, when the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land voted at its provincial synod to create two new suffragan bishop positions, one each for northern Manitoba and northern Ontario. The installation of the two new bishops will bring the total number of active Indigenous Anglican bishops to eight.

"I think it shows a lot of faith in our ministry, in that it's about self-determination, and that we are capable of providing leadership to take care of our own folks in our diocese and to build a ministry that God is calling us to do," Indigenous Ministries coordinator Ginny Doctor said. "And I think people are finally beginning to realize that we can take it on, so that's significant."

"We've actually come a long way and [are] beginning to make good progress towards the 15 that the elders called for," she added. "But I think the elders had the wisdom to

see that Indigenous bishops can minister to Indigenous people, and that says a lot, I think, about who we are as a people in our call to self-determination.”

Both suffragan bishops will be considered part of the Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweseh. However, the bishop for northern Manitoba will also have responsibilities related to the northern part of the Diocese of Brandon—particularly the Deanery of The Pas—and likely parts of the Diocese of Saskatchewan.

The Diocese of Brandon has committed \$56,000 over the next four years to help Mishamikoweesh finance the new bishop position.

“Mishamikoweesh and Brandon share northern Manitoba, but those boundaries are really colonial holdovers,” Bishop Cliff said. “They’re diocesan boundaries from old days, and [for] the folks in the north of Manitoba, especially the Cree folks, those boundaries don’t mean a lot.”

The idea for Indigenous area bishops serving northern Manitoba and Ontario was documented at a gathering of elders near The Pas in 2011, by Anglican Video in the short feature *Pitching Our Tents*.

Meeting at the Church of the Redeemer in Opaskwayak Cree Nation, the elders resolved to begin the process of selecting and ordaining an area bishop. Momentum slowed in the following years, but gained renewed strength after the 2017 Road to Warm Springs consultation in Pinawa.

Archbishop Greg Kerr-Wilson, Metropolitan of Rupert’s Land, said the recent push to create the two new bishop positions reflected wider changes in the church regarding attitudes towards Indigenous self-determination.

“I think in this case, the right factors came into play, the right people in the right context, and ... heightened awareness amongst the broader province of the importance and significance of Indigenous self-determination in the life of the church, and the ability to have a self-determining church within the Anglican Church of Canada,” the archbishop said.

“A big piece of that is to be able to provide that kind of episcopal leadership that can take the actions needed to create leadership in local communities, and to take care of the pastoral concerns that need to be looked after.”

### Benefits for Indigenous communities

National Indigenous Anglican Bishop Mark MacDonald called the creation of the new bishop positions “a huge shot in the arm, in multiple ways” for Indigenous ministry within the church and self-determination, noting that it would provide Indigenous bishops with a higher profile in the national House of Bishops as well as a stronger voice in the various councils of the church.

One of its most important impacts will be the ability of the Indigenous bishops to communicate in the local language of the people. Bishop MacDonald said that the bishop for northern Manitoba will “undoubtedly” speak one of the region’s three main dialects of Cree, while the bishop for northern Ontario will be able to speak Oji-Cree.

“We still have elders who are not comfortable speaking in English, and it is also a very important thing to reinforce the language learning of young people,” he said. “This will help a great deal on both of those levels.”

Another benefit of the suffragan bishops will be their ability to provide direct pastoral care to remote communities and to preside over ceremonies such as baptisms, confirmations, and weddings—providing valuable support to area clergy, many of whom are non-stipendiary.

Many congregations in northern communities are growing due to a high birth rate, but available resources for ministry are often stretched thin. A significant number of communities do not have any clergy at all.

“When events come up in communities, either celebrations or tragedies, the presence and involvement of a local bishop is absolutely essential,” Bishop MacDonald said.

He hoped that the new bishops would address the encroaching threat of what he called “a crisis in terms of the development of leadership” by becoming “directly involved with people who are in some stages of leadership development, and who might be encouraged to move forward in the life of the church.”

Doctor, meanwhile, saw potential for a general growth in ministry and in specific areas such as stewardship.

“That’s kind of a hard call right now,” she said. “But just from what I’ve seen in the past happen, in communities that have their own ministers, it’s really had a positive effect on that ministry.”

### **Praying for the right candidates**

Following the provincial synod, a working group met to discuss the details of filling the new bishop positions.

In the case of northern Manitoba, the working group hopes to assemble a group of elders as soon as possible—ideally within the next month—to act as a search committee for finding suitable candidates. A tentative date has been set in early September for the election and consecration of the new bishop, but could change depending on how the process unfolds.

A key concern going forward will be making sure that the new bishops are financially sustainable. Though a budget has been set for the next few years, funding will require an increase in contributions from local congregations. Bishop MacDonald, however,

said that “there is quite a bit of confidence that [congregations] will respond generously to the increasing pastoral care that this position will allow.”

Despite all the challenges, Archbishop Kerr-Wilson—who with Bishop MacDonald will be overseeing the election and consecration of the bishops—expressed excitement over the progress being made, and for those who have long championed the cause of installing area bishops in the north.

“I’m very pleased that they’ve been able to after all these years been able to get to this place,” he said. “And I would ask for the church broadly to be praying for the support and the strength of the Spirit as they move forward in this new ministry.”

## **Using CLAY as a framework for youth ministry**

By Matt Gardner

A slam poetry homily. Drumming at worship. An Advent project centred on the right to water.

These are just some of the visible signs of the impact the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) gathering has had on the life of the church in the Parish of St. James Manotick, located in the Diocese of Ottawa. Over the last eight years, parish youth have regularly attended the biennial event, a national gathering of young Christians, which this year will be taking place from August 15-19 in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Returning from CLAY to their home parishes, participants bring with them a range of ideas that—in cases such as the Parish of St. James Manotick—have provided a major boost to youth ministry and new approaches to worship.

“CLAY is an incredible experience for our young people. It’s a mountaintop experience,” said Donna Rourke, coordinator of youth ministries for the parish as well as the diocesan Youth Internship Program.

“Our youth come back exhausted, but pumped—pumped about their faith, pumped that they’re in an environment where it’s cool to be Christian. ... [T]hat doesn’t happen to them very often ... Because of that, it is easier as a youth leader to incorporate things that youth learned at CLAY into the programs that we develop.”

Leslie Giddings, child, youth, and adult learning facilitator for the Diocese of Ottawa, said that Anglican participation in CLAY has increased over the last several years, particularly among members of her own diocese.

“We sent a really large group last time, the largest we’ve ever sent,” Giddings said. “And part of our ability to mobilize people was explaining that actually, CLAY could be used as the foundation for their youth ministry for the next two years, until the next CLAY came along.”

## **Experience of St. James Manotick**

Worship is a major area where young parishioners incorporate their experiences from CLAY. Every two years upon returning from the event, the congregation would hold a service where youth could showcase what they had learned.

Examples include incorporating Godly Play into the gospel reading, or performing on drums and bringing new songs into worship. The slam poetry homily was the creation of one talented youth who wrote and performed an original poem, inspired by the similar use of poetry at CLAY.

The experience of CLAY has also affected initiatives outside of worship. Over the last four years, youth programming at St. James Manotick has incorporated the theme of Right to Water, the focus of the National Youth Project from 2012-2016 which sought to highlight water rights in Indigenous communities across Canada.

Two years ago, the parish's annual Advent project focused on encouraging youth to be mindful of all the water they used during the Advent season by giving each participant a bag of jellybeans and a jar.

"Each time they used water—to brush their teeth, to go to the washroom, to wash their hands, to have a shower, whatever—they would take a jellybean from the bag and put it in the jar," Rourke said. "And every time they filled up the jar, they went to talk to their folks about donating some money to the National Youth Project."

"We ended up raising like \$200 for that," she added. "We would talk about how we use water without even thinking, and [that] we have people still in Canada that don't have water."

To help raise money to attend CLAY, youth also organized fundraisers, such as a car wash during the summer and a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday. One-quarter of the cost for youth to attend CLAY is subsidized by the parish.

### **'Something to rally around'**

Giddings said that the Diocese of Ottawa decided this year to invest more in increasing its participation in CLAY, rather than organizing diocesan events that could compete for focus and participation.

"It's so valuable to get people together in church to do something, but we have to think about all the ways we can connect to them before they come and connect with them after they're there, because that's where the payoff and the connections and the growth happen," Giddings said.

"Getting people together is important and it's one of our core pieces of Christian community ... that fellowship in coming together. But if we don't think about all the

ways that could also be a learning opportunity or an opportunity for service, then we're missing the depths of how we can connect."

Sheilagh McGlynn, national youth animator for the Anglican Church of Canada, said she believed that using CLAY as a model for youth ministry had potential to be used in other areas of the country.

"I think it is a great way to answer the question of 'We don't know what to do with our young people,' because I think there are a lot of people out there who care about young people and want to offer something for them," McGlynn said. "They just don't have the skills or the expertise, [or] they don't have any training in youth ministry. [...] This offers something to rally around and to have a theme."

Registration is still open for CLAY 2018 in Thunder Bay. The upcoming gathering is based around the theme Threads and will feature the Rev. Steve Greene as its official Storyweaver.

### **Register now for CLAY 2018.**

[https://events.ely.com/CLAY2018?utm\\_source=Anglican+Church+of+Canada&utm\\_campaign=d272599008-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_05\\_23&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_6285aca377-d272599008-243900825](https://events.ely.com/CLAY2018?utm_source=Anglican+Church+of+Canada&utm_campaign=d272599008-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_05_23&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6285aca377-d272599008-243900825)

### **News and Events:**

#### **1. Deanery Council News:**

##### **a. CAMP MANITOU Season 2018**

Camp Manitou is opening soon for 2018. Each congregation in the Deanery is asked to please add this Diocesan Camp to your prayer list for great team leadership in each camp and that God will lead children and families. And keep praying from now to first week of September and beyond as the Board of Directors then evaluates and starts working toward summer 2019. There are still some volunteers needed - contact Shari Blasutti at [blasuts59@gmail.com](mailto:blasuts59@gmail.com) or Trevor Marshall at [marshall.trevor@gmail.com](mailto:marshall.trevor@gmail.com) Camp opens in late June with a Work Camp, followed in July by 1 week camps for senior girls, junior girls, senior boys and junior boys and in August by nature camp, and three family camps with a close-up work week in early September. All registrations can be completed online at the website below. If any of you are interested in volunteering in any way or interested in providing bursaries for campers or donating your time talent and money in any way, please go to the camp website: [www.manitoucamp.org](http://www.manitoucamp.org)

- b. **From the Diocesan Office:**  
i. **Prayers requested for Donna Bos**  
Posted: May 4, 2018

Many in the Diocese of Algoma will remember Donna Bos who worked in the Synod Office as office receptionist, William McMurray manager and overall "good feeling" coordinator. Donna is undergoing surgery on May 29th to remove a malignant growth on her lung. She has requested prayers from her Diocesan family.

From St. Augustine's Prayer Book:

'Good Jesus, physician of souls and bodies, in your mercy tend to those who are burdened with illness; soothe with your presence each ache and pain; because you have known the weakness and pain of our mortal bodies, teach us to unite our sufferings with yours and give us patience to endure our own pain and tender sympathy for the pain of others, that in all things we may grow in knowledge of you and in all circumstances may accomplish your good purposes. Amen'

We ask God for guidance and wisdom for her surgeon, compassion for her caregivers, and support for her family. We also ask that Donna be relieved of any anxiety as she awaits her surgery date.

- ii. **Algoma [News](#): Thorneloe University News**  
The Rev. Dr. Bob Derrenbacker heading "Down Under"  
Posted: May 16, 2018

Bishop Anne joins with Thorneloe University in wishing the Rev. Dr. Robert Derrenbacker every success and happiness in his new appointment as Dean of the Trinity College Theological School on the campus of Melbourne University in Australia - an appointment he assumes on January 1st, 2019.

Fr. Bob, as he is affectionately known in the Diocese of Algoma, will be greatly missed by the Thorneloe community which he has served with distinction these last ten years.

He will also be missed by the Church of the Ascension where he has served as their Honourary Associate for nine years and for a time in 2017 as their Interim Incumbent. One of the important aspects of his ministry was as a teacher, particularly of liturgy. Fr. Bob has also generously given of his time and gifts to the Diocese of Algoma by serving as the Bishop's appointee on the Executive Committee and as the Bishop's appointee on the Muskoka Ministry Transition Team. With his keen interest in theological education and the

discernment of vocations Fr. Bob is an integral part of the Postulancy Commission for the Diocese.

In 2016 and again in 2018 Fr. Bob, along with Bishop Stephen led a pilgrimage to the Holy Land where his passion for the New Testament was evident as he offered daily teaching at the places where the group visited.

As Fr. Bob and Cindy begin preparations for their move to Australia, we pray that our Lord will bless them richly and offer prayers for a smooth transition. Good wishes from all of us in Algoma!

2. **Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively**

Sunday **June 10** will be Parish joint service at 10 am held in the Kinsman Hall, Lively and will include a baptism and Eucharist with a guest celebrant and preacher, Bishop Anne Germond. This will be followed by a catered lunch.

3. **Diocese of Algoma:**

Bishop announces upcoming ordination – Patti Brace

Bishop Anne Germond is pleased to announce the upcoming ordination of Patti Brace, God willing, as a deacon in the church of God. The service is scheduled for **Saturday, June 9th, 2018** commencing at 1 p.m. at Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury. The Rev. Dr. Bob Derrenbacher, Provost of Thorneloe University and Honourary Associate at Church of the Ascension, will be the preacher. A reception, hosted by churches within the Sudbury-Manitoulin Deanery where Patti has served, will follow the service. All are welcome!

4. **Future Events to Mark on Your Calendars:**

a. **Church of the Ascension**

Wednesday Eucharist and Bible Study

Eucharist and Bible Study are available every Wednesday. This week we will be starting a new book – Genesis. You do not want to miss this exciting study! All Welcome!

b. **Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively**

New Website: our new Website is up and running:

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

Messy Church at St. John the Divine June 5 2018:

The four churches of Copper Cliff developed and sponsor Messy Church every second month on the first Tuesday from 4:45-7:00 PM. Although children come with a parent, it is designed for those families in Sudbury's Gatchell, Copper Cliff and Lively areas who have little or no contact with Jesus or church. There is registration, worship, meal and craft times. The planning committee also arranges for Messy Church in the fall.

Annual Yard Sale and Strawberry Social June 9 2018:

Held at St. John the Divine. Yard sale begins at 8 AM; Social begins at 11 AM. Bake Table from 8 AM to sell out. Tickets for Strawberry Social Tea \$8.00. The Yard Sale event is in conjunction with the Copper Cliff CAN community Yard Sale. The Strawberry Social has been an annual event for approximately 100 years. We have been getting help from Christ Church Lively and many other volunteers. More details to come. See attached poster.

c. **Parish of St. Alban's Capreol**

Prayer Request:

Nora, a member of our St. Alban's flock, was born nearly four years ago with a serious heart defect. On May 9, she will undergo open-heart surgery at Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. We ask that God will guide the surgeons and all entrusted to Nora's care, that the surgery will be without complications, and that her recovery will result in her being able to live a full and healthy life. We ask, also, that her family will be strengthened and encouraged by God's presence and the peace that comes from knowing they are not alone. We know that God answers prayers and we at St. Alban's ask you to add to ours your individual and collective prayers for Nora and her family, now and as she recovers. (See attached poster)

d. **St. Paul's Anglican, Manitouwaning**

Annual Fish Fry: June 5, 2018

e. **Diocese of Algoma ACW Annual Meeting:**

**Tues. May 29th to Thurs. May 31<sup>st</sup>**

See separate attachment.

f. **Deanery Daily Vacation Bible Schools**

July 2-6 2018 St. John's Copper Cliff - 9AM -12 PM

Aug 13-17 2018 The Church of the Ascension - 9 AM -12 PM.

This is also an opportunity for this Deanery to sponsor a child (suggested donation of \$20 per child covers materials and snacks) which can be forwarded to Linda Goodale at 1386 Sunnyside Road

Sudbury ON P3G 1J1. If you would like to volunteer to help also contact Linda at 705-522-1639

**We are sending the Deanery Digest weekly on Fridays, usually before 10 PM.**

Feel free to send me and Allison Cline (our Webmaster) any and all events and news. Articles are also very welcome. You can use either my personal email as above or the Deanery email address above.

**We would like to receive items by the Wednesday evening before Friday.** Some items may be repeated due the date of the event. If you have some news and/or articles and miss the Sunday cut off, please send directly to either personal e-mail address above. We will gladly include parish events, special events, and worship times. Please make sure all info is as accurate as possible, and any poster type submissions are as camera ready as possible to be included as **PDF attachments** to the Digest.

Improvements: suggestions are always welcome.

Safe Unsubscribe lives here. If you want us to remove your name from our newsletter list, just send us an e-mail.

Dave Stamp, Council Secretary