

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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Dec 17 2021 No.4

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[Editor's Notes: Improvements: If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding our editorial policies, please feel free to send them to me. Most information is from the Anglican Church of Canada's News from General Synod and Algoma News web pages.]

Advent 4 and Christmas

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord
has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

—Isaiah 61:1

1. News and Events

a. News events:

i. Christmas Services

(1) Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively

Fri. Dec 24 4 PM at St. John the Divine, Copper Cliff

Fri. Dec 24 7 PM at Christ Anglican Church, Lively

(*Registration required call Ven. Glen Miller at 705-561-0450*)

(*Taped and uploaded to YouTube and Facebook*)

Sat. Dec 25 10 AM Meadowbrook Village (possibly
depending on their COVID protocols)

Sun. Dec 26 9 AM in Copper Cliff

11 AM in Lively

(2) Church of the Ascension

Christmas Eve 4.00 pm, Holy Eucharist; Rev Jeff
officiating (* livestreamed *).

Christmas Eve 7.00 pm, Holy Eucharist; Canon John
officiating.

(Those planning to attend Christmas Eve service
in-person are asked to email or call the Church, or
contact one of the Wardens, to indicate which service
they will be attending, in order that we might ensure
adequate seating)

There are no services scheduled for Christmas Day. Sunday, December 26, 10.00 am, Feast of St Stephen the Martyr, Holy Eucharist; Canon John officiating (* livestreamed *) (Sunday Dec 26 will be Canon John's last service with us as our interim Incumbent)

(3) Christmas at The Epiphany

Christmas Worship Celebrations at the Church of the Epiphany:

Christmas Eve – At present two Christmas Eve services, 7pm and 9pm, will be offered on December 24th. In order for us to ensure everyone's health and safety, reserved seating is required for Christmas Eve. We are able to seat no more than **60** people in the congregation, and we encourage everyone who wishes to attend to be fully vaccinated.

Please note that Annet will be open to take your Christmas Eve Worship Reservations beginning Monday, December 6th. If the 7pm and 9pm services fill up quickly, a third service will be offered at 5pm on Christmas Eve, December 24th.

Christmas Morning – On December 25th we gather for worship at 10am, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Boxing Day – There will only be one service offered at 10:30am on Sunday December 26th.

ii. **CLAY 2022 - Ashes & Embers Postponed to 2023**

After talking to church leaders, youth groups, and parents, the planning committee for the Canadian Lutheran and Anglican Youth gathering has heard a lot of uncertainty around gathering in 2022. As a result, the planning committee has announced that the 2022 CLAY gathering will be postponed. Link to video at:

<https://claygathering.ca/>

See also Anglican Journal article Building with CLAY at:

<https://www.anglicanjournal.com/building-with-clay/>

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iii. Liturgy Resources

(1) **REMINDER** Lessons & Carols: From Coast to Coast to Coast

(a) Is now Available at:

<https://www.anglican.ca/lessonsandcarols/> or on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/anne.germond.5/videos/287999379799148/>

(b) December 23, 4pm AT (3 PM ET) to December 26, 11pm AT (10 PM ET) (online): A Chorister's Christmas 2021, video broadcast presented by Capella Regalis

Men & Boys Choir (Halifax). Link to video at:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/capella-regalis-a-choristers-christmas-2021-online-broadcast-tickets-222612779817>

- (c) Holy Trinity presents: The Annotated Christmas Song Book
Holy Trinity Anglican Church (Diocese of Edmonton) continues to release episodes of their Annotated Christmas Song Book. New episodes are released daily on popular podcast platforms as well as YouTube, continuing through this Advent season. Link to video/Podcast at:
<http://holytrinity.ab.ca/the-annotated-christmas-song-book/>
- (d) Blue Christmas Services
- (i) The Church of the Epiphany: Blue Christmas Service Dec 18 at 4 PM in person at the church. Article at:
<https://www.sudbury.com/local-news/church-of-the-epiphany-hosting-blue-christmas-service-dec-18-4876712>
- (ii) Memory tree to mark loss and grief at Wilmot church services on longest night of the year
via the Waterloo Region Record
Reverend Margaret Walker, rector of St. George's Anglican Church in New Hamburg (Diocese of Huron), says that when the day is so dark, it can add to people's grief. The program airs Christmas Eve on **99.3 FM Radio** also streams online across Canada and around the globe at www.993CountyFM.ca. Celebrate Christmas airs exclusively on 99.3 County FM on Friday, Dec. 24 at 8 pm and will repeat on Saturday, Dec. 25 at noon.
- (iii) "Make Time to Mourn – Make Time to Grieve"
via Soulistry.com
"This is the time of the year when many expect to feel happy and joyful, but cannot because of loss", writes June Maffin. She offers a self-directed resource to help individuals heal when experiencing grief from loss. Article at:

<https://www.soulistry.com/make-time-to-mourn-make-time-to-grieve>

- (2) Requests for prayer
 - (a) Anglican-Lutheran Prayers for the next 2 weeks
 - (b) Anglican archbishop, other heads of churches and patriarchs issue statement on the current threat Holy Land Christians face via Episcopal News Service
The Most Rev. Hosam E. Naoum, the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, joined other heads of churches and patriarchs in Jerusalem on Dec. 14 in issuing a statement on the current threat to the Christian presence in the Holy Land. Story at:
<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2021/12/14/anglican-archbishop-other-heads-of-churches-and-patriarchs-issue-statement-on-the-current-threat-holy-land-christians-face/>

iv. Latest News from the Diocese of Algoma
None this week

v. Reflections

- (1) Christmas and the seed of our hope via Anglican Journal
In her latest column, Archbishop Linda Nicholls, primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, examines the place of Christmas in the liturgical calendar and its vision of healing. Link to article at (December issue Page 5):
https://www.anglicanjournal.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/aj-dec2021_web.pdf
- (2) People, Look East! (But not the priest.) via Ministry Matters
Did you know that church buildings have been traditionally oriented so that the altar is at the east end of the building? Inspired by the Advent hymn "People, Look East", the Rev. Canon David Harrison writes about this aspect of our worship life. Reflection at:
<https://medium.com/ministrymatters/people-look-east-but-not-the-priest-deaea0b789e0>
- (3) Flying the Millennium Falcon: Church leadership, post-pandemic
Montreal Dio principal Jesse Zink Lorem looks at how church leadership these days is a lot like flying the Millennium Falcon. Article at:

<https://jessezink.medium.com/flying-the-millennium-falcon-church-leadership-post-pandemic-af06b54c1eeb>

(4) From The Society of St. John the Divine (SSJE)

(a) **Harmony**

As Christians, we wait not so much for Christmas, as for the day when God will reorder all creation, so that predator and prey will live in harmony, and the most vulnerable will live in peace and security. This is the vision of Isaiah, and the hope of Advent. It is the work of Jesus, and the prayer of the faithful.

–Br. James Koester

(b) **Prelude**

The divine love seeks always to draw us back into the light and union we have refused. When we find ourselves in seasons of blindness to God's presence in our lives, do not despair. In faith, you have named what you know you cannot see: and there God's prelude to fresh sight is prepared in you.

–Br. Sean Glenn

b. Justice

i. Truth and Reconciliation

Building bridges to bring reconciliation via CBC Saskatchewan

Treaty Six member and bishop, the Rt. Rev. Chris Harper (Diocese of Saskatoon) is collaborating with others in the diocese to bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together. Link to article at:
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/building-bridges-to-bring-about-reconciliation-1.6278570>

Listen also, via CBC Radio, "Two church leaders in Saskatchewan bring Indigenous education to their churches"...

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-66-the-morning-edition-sask>

ii. Honouring life's final stage via Anglican Journal

In the second instalment of a two-part series, the Journal asks if there is a role for Christian faith in the way we do long-term care. Link at:

<https://www.anglicanjournal.com/honouring-lifes-final-stage/>

See also part one, "Long-term care and 'the great revealer'"...

<https://www.anglicanjournal.com/long-term-care-and-the-great-revealer/>

iii. Bishop's statement regarding opioid overdose deaths in British Columbia

"In our rightful preoccupation with preventing overdose deaths, we have at the same time neglected to offer anything close to adequate care for those who seek treatment and recovery from addiction. We must do both," writes Bishop John Stephens (Diocese of New Westminster). [Remember that Sudbury and District has one of the highest opioid death due to overdoses from illicit drugs in the country and this article applies here.] Link to article at: <https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/news/statement-from-the-right-reverend-john-stephens-bishop-of-the-diocese-of-new-westminster-regarding-opioid-overdose-deaths-in-british-columbia>

- iv. **Beginning Monday, January 10** (online) via Canadian Council of Churches: Engage Difference! Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry, a 12-week online course via the Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning. Check out outlines and registration at:
<https://www.interculturalleadership.ca/duimonline>:
or at:
<https://www.wycliffecollege.ca/programs-and-courses/courses/Intercultural-leadership-and-learning-engaging-ministry-diverse-0>

c. Resources

i. Advent Resources

The Christmas Story: Kids Perspective

via Orange/The reThink Group

Hearing the story of Christmas you can always expect a twist to it, but seeing and hearing it through the eyes of a child is extra special. Watch and List at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-s56Xa_C54I

- 2. Parishes who are creating online services
See attached document
- 3. List of Parishes
See attached document (Updated Dec 17 2021)
- 4. Deanery of Sudbury–Manitoulin Council
 Website: <http://www.deanerysudbury-manitoulin.org>
- 5. Diocese of Algoma
 Website: <http://www.dioceseofalgoma.com>
- 6. Anglican Church of Canada
 Website: <http://www.anglican.ca>

7. Anglican Journal

Website: www.anglicanjournal.com

We send the Deanery Digest Fridays or Saturdays, usually before 10 PM.

Improvements: If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding our editorial policies, please feel free to send them to me.

Feel free to send me and Allison Cline-Dean (our Webmaster) any and all events and news. "Your Viewpoint" 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 Thursday evening before Friday. Some items may be repeated due to 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.

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Dave Stamp, Council Secretary/Digest Editor