

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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Dec 24 2021 No.5

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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.]

Season of Epiphany – 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:

b. **Latest News from the Diocese of Algoma**

(1) Covid Protocols – Christmas Update

Effective Dec 22 2021

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO OUR COVID PROTOCOLS.

Link to document at:

<https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Protocols-Xmas-Update-002.pdf>

(2) Archbishop Anne's Christmas Message – 2021

"Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign."

Archbishop Anne's message at:

<https://www.dioceseofalgoma.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Christmas-Message-2021.pdf>

(3) Gospel Based Discipleship – Season of Epiphany

Join in fellowship and discussion during the season of Epiphany. Archbishop Anne will be offering Gospel Based Discipleship on Wednesdays (January 5th, 19th, and 26th) at 7 p.m. to all who would like to participate. The Advent GBD sessions were well attended and enjoyed by all.

You are asked to connect with Archdeacon Larry Armstrong armstrong.larry6@gmail.com (Diocese of Moosonee) via e-mail to register and obtain the Zoom invitation links.

ii. 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.

iii. **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/>

iv. Requests for prayer
Anglican-Lutheran Prayer Cycles – see last week's edition of the Digest

v. Reflections

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

(a) Trust

Mary and Joseph's consent to the divine initiative was offered in the thick of public disapproval, private confusion, painful risk, and gathering scandal. Being human, they struggled. If they had not come undone – if they had not broken open, even just a little – the words of the angel would not have had room to land and to grow in their hearts. They offered their lives to this mystery, trusting in its power to do more for them than they could ask or imagine.

–Br. Keith Nelson

(b) Light

There are, to be sure, times when it is difficult to see light in the face of overwhelming darkness and evil, but as the Gospel of John assures us, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it". In the end, darkness cannot extinguish the light of God. People of faith know this to be true. We can face the future in hope because we know that God will never abandon us.

–Br. David Vryhof

(c) #MAGNIFY

When we magnify, we enlarge a thing, amplify it, no matter its original size. Magnification doesn't require smallness to begin. It requires love and faith to grow.

When God magnifies, God enlarges all things – regardless of original size. God miraculously, wonderfully, beautifully, and completely swells, widens, stretches, grows, deepens, exaggerates, heightens, intensifies... all of us. We, ourselves and our most inward desires, rest fully in God's careful, tender care. God, who grows the best in us and asks that we seek the best in one another for God's sake. Magnifying our goodness, wholeness, striving and care. Enlarging what may already be large, or small, through our attention. Magnifying notice and love.
—Emily Keniston

Taken from a daily devotional for advent:

<https://www.nhepiscopalnews.org/blog/2017/11/29/adventword-a-global-advent-calendar>

c. Justice

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>

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.

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/Digest Editor