

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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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.]

Epiphany – Baptism of our Lord

1. [News and Events](#)

a. From the leaders in the Diocese of Algoma

i. To the people of God in the Diocese of Algoma from Archbishop Anne Germond January 14, 2021

Dear people of God,

Grace and peace to you in this new year.

We are already half way through January and the world continues to be a fragile place, as Covid 19 and its variant strains continue to hold us in its grip. In Ontario today we have begun the second state of emergency in Ontario with a call to stay at home, except for essential reasons.

Over the last ten months as you have followed provincial, local and church guidelines and protocols with respect to Covid 19 I have observed you loving your neighbours and seeking the welfare of the towns and cities in which you live. Thank you for your vigilance and care. None of us imagined that with all the guidelines and protocols in place that numbers would have increased the way we are seeing today. Which is why I am urging us all to adhere to the new restrictions and to do all we can to stop the spread of Covid-19.

With respect to the Synod office, effective Thursday, January 14th, 2021, the office is officially closed to any visitors. If you have cheques or information of an urgent nature that requires you to attend at the office, please call in advance (705-256-5061) so you

may be met at the door upon arrival. Archbishop Anne Germond and Archdeacon Jay Koyle are working from home. Only essential workers (Jane Mesich, Liz Hamel, and Jennifer Baron) will be working within the office and are socially distanced within their own office spaces. The hours are reduced from 9–3 p.m. daily. They will be focusing on priority workload only. Delays should be expected with e-mail responses and telephone inquiries. Your patience and understanding during this time are greatly appreciated.

You remain daily in my prayers...we will get through this time.

+Anne The Most Rev. Anne Germond Archbishop of Algoma

ii. From Archdeacon Glen's Desk

Hello,

I hope that you are all coping with the various changes in our lives – at least to some degree. During a recent Bible Study in which I participated the group discussed the idea of balance – the balance between community involvement and a quiet time. I was reminded of the fact that a quiet time is God's idea – beginning with the idea of the Sabbath rest – and was seen in the life of Jesus on a regular basis. But community involvement was also a part of the life of Jesus and that aspect of life is what we are all missing to a great degree. While ZOOM meetings help us to stay in touch with one another our desire to be of service to one another has been affected in a negative way and this causes us stress. I have tried to deal with this stress in a variety of ways that keeps me in touch with members of the congregations I serve and this does help but only when our lives are freed from the restrictions that are being placed on us for the safety of others will the balance between community involvement and quiet reflection be able to be fully restored. In the meantime it is an opportunity for us to learn some things about some of the issues which affect those around us. Appropriate forms of advocacy and study of the underlying causes of issues such as homelessness may be a way to engage in community involvement while maintaining social distancing. It is not something that will come automatically but it is something in which God also walks alongside us. May we be strengthened and encouraged during this latest restriction and may we continue to see God at work in the world. Glen +

a prayer:

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: we humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit,

that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life we may never forget thee, but remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP. p. 731–2)

iii. Attention Lay Readers

The next Lay Readers Conference will be hosted by Sudbury Deanery Sept 24–25 2021. This will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM platform. Save the dates!

b. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan. 18–25

i. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is an annual ecumenical celebration. Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship. Find resources on the WPCU in Canada website, including a Bible study, an Order of the Ecumenical Celebration, activities for children, suggestions for campus ministry chaplains, tips for organizing your own WPCU event and more. Link:
<https://www.weekofprayer.ca/wpcu-canada>

ii. That all may be one

How are Christians called to interact with others who share our beliefs but express them differently? How are we called to interact with those who faithfully follow beliefs that are different to our own? With the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Interfaith Harmony Week approaching, dig into this interactive study (including videos, a guide book and more) with fellow Christians or on your own. Interactive study at:
<https://edmonton.anglican.ca/series/that-all-may-be-one>

iii. National office creates Week of Prayer for Christian Unity video series

A recorded ecumenical service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (aka WPCU, January 18–25) will be available for parish and diocesan use beginning on January 18. The service will be divided into a series of videos and will be free for church leaders to incorporate into streamed or in-person services. Those interested are invited to sign up online to receive an email notification when the video series becomes available – go to:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=2bd0c34382&e=23056c3f4c>

iv. Christians worldwide prepare to gather in prayer for unity— even if distanced

via World Council of Churches

At a time when public health concerns put a limit on physical gatherings, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity provides an opportunity for churches to come together by means of a typically Christian practice that long predates modern transport: prayer.

Article at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=716dc57ad2&e=23056c3f4c>

c. Anglican Journal January issue available online

Link to this Journal at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=f3d6f88bbb&e=23056c3f4c>

d. Events asking for submissions:

i. AFC seeks youth ages 8 to 14 for podcast on generosity

via Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC)

The AFC's latest children's book, *Generous People are Everywhere*, seeks to stimulate a nationwide conversation about generosity. A free copy of the book is being offered to the first 20 children and youth (ages 8 to 14) willing to read the book and take part in a podcast interview. Those interested may : contact email address at: foundation@anglicanfoundation.org

ii. Call for submissions: Mitchell Prize for Faith and Poetry

Image Journal is now accepting submissions for its biennially-awarded Mitchell Prize. The prize seeks to recognize Canadian poets (writers living in Canada or Canadians living abroad) whose work wrestles with the beauty and complexity of religious faith. Link at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=3bb2666b29&e=23056c3f4c>

iii. Seeking submissions for "With Love Before Us, We Are Walking"

Save the date—the next online and radio Gospel Jamboree will air on Saturday, February 13. With the Feast of St. Valentine happening the next day, the jamboree will focus on a central tenet of Jesus' teachings—love. Share your love by sending in a submission by January 31! Find out how online or by emailing gospeljam@national.anglican.ca or go to:

<https://www.anglican.ca/im/gospeljam/>

- e. Seeking Justice
 - i. Hildegard of Bingen via Anglican Journal page 3
St. Hildegard of Bingen displayed a formidable breadth of talents, combining mysticism and creativity with practical leadership at a time when opportunities for women were severely limited.
 - ii. Dismantling systemic racism in the Church
Writing as a Black person and member of the Anglican Church in the West Indies and in Canada, Camille Isaacs-Morell looks at the history and legacy of racism in the Anglican denomination and the steps that are being taken in the Diocese of Montreal to eradicate anti-Black systemic racism. Article at:
<https://glorymatters.wordpress.com/2021/01/14/dismantling-systemic-racism-in-the-church/>
- d. Covid Updates
 - i. UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS for Algoma Diocese
Please take note of the revised guidelines in place as a result of the Provincial State of Emergency – January 14th, 2021. See attached document or go to:
<https://gmail.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=79c76a26fba103d687b53b6b6&id=2aeacb0417&e=527bcc543c>
 - ii. ‘The Spirit has been present in new and exciting ways’
via Anglican Journal page 8
The Rev. Monique Stone, a member of the national church's Strategic Planning Working Group, shares a personal reflection on planning during a pandemic year.
 - iii. CoGS hears of ‘transformative change’ across church
via Anglican Journal pages 1 & 7
“We’re still in that very in-between moment.... We have the opportunity to make things new, as scary or as exciting as that may feel.”
 - iv. Journal seeks Anglicans who have been COVID-positive
Are you an Anglican who’s had COVID-19? Whether mild or severe, the Anglican Journal is interested in your story. Contact tfolkins@national.anglican.ca to share it.
 - v. Episcopal church pushes triennial meeting to 2022
via Anglican Journal page 11
Despite the arrival of vaccines, the 10,000 person gathering is unlikely to be safe, Episcopal church leaders say.

d. Prayers Requested

i. Anglican-Lutheran Weekly Prayer Cycle. See attached document.

ii. Prayers for the people of our Neighbours

(1) Americans need Canadian prayers. They also need Canadian action. via Anglican Journal

"America's most destitute and helpless people have nowhere to go. They have no means to leave. They are wanted nowhere."

<https://www.anglicanjournal.com/americans-need-canadian-prayers-they-also-need-canadian-action/>

(2) How House chaplain calmed tense hours in besieged Capitol with prayers for 'God's covering' via Religion News Service

As a mob overtook the U.S. Capitol last Wednesday and the work of lawmakers ground to a halt, the work of Rear Adm. Margaret Grun Kibben (chaplain to the U.S. House of Representatives) began in earnest. Link to story at:

<https://religionnews.com/2021/01/09/house-chaplain-siege/>

(3) WCC expresses solidarity with US churches as they raise "prophetic voices in the midst of this new and acute crisis"

via World Council of Churches

"You are called to be the shepherds of a deeply divided, distrusting and frightened flock, whose fears and differences have been played upon by those seeking to secure and maintain political power for themselves."

Link to story at:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/news/wcc-expresses-solidarity-with-us-churches-as-they-raise-prophetic-voices-in-the-midst-of-this-new-and-acute-crisis>

iii. Prayer Journey for the Next Lambeth Conference

(1) The Archbishop of Canterbury launches Lambeth Conference prayer journey via Lambeth Conference

The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a prayer journey, to mark the start of the Anglican community journeying together in the lead up to the Lambeth Conference. Prayers focusing on themes of hope, proclaiming good news, pandemic response, people, planet, peace, politics, justice and poverty, have been sent in from dioceses and nations from across the global Anglican Communion, including from Primate Linda Nicholls.

Link to story at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=f078997d5d&e=23056c3f4c>

- (2) Lambeth Conference Prayer Journey: Archbishop Anne Germond
Archbishop Anne (Diocese of Algoma, Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario) shares her prayer of hope. "May we... be strengthened by your Holy Spirit to be effective signs and servants of your kingdom this day and witnesses of your just love and peace." Watch at: <https://vimeo.com/498508215>
- iv. A Call to Prayer and Action for Ethiopia via Canadian Council of Churches
The Canadian Council of Churches invites you to include Ethiopia in your prayers:
 - (1) Pray for peace and healing and an end to conflict in the region.
 - (2) Pray for unity among Ethiopian diaspora communities in Canada who are concerned for their loved ones.
 - (3) Pray for a just peace and a generous humanitarian response that respects human rights and meets the needs of the people who have suffered and been displaced by the conflict.Read more at:
<https://www.councilofchurches.ca/news/a-call-to-prayer-and-action-for-ethiopia/>
- v. An ecumenical message for World Interfaith Harmony Week
Via The Anglican Church of Canada Website
The Primate and the National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop join the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada's National Bishop, Susan Johnson, in encouraging the observance of World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) from February 1–7. A list of resources and events are provided in the letter. Article at:
<https://www.anglican.ca/news/world-interfaith-harmony-week-february-1-7-2021/30031008/>
- vi. Seven-storey apartment, church to be built by Cara Community
via the Sault Star
Cara Community, formed in 1979 through Holy Trinity's congregation (Diocese of Algoma), is planning the development of a seven-storey apartment building and a place of worship, replacing an existing Anglican Church on the property. The development will include a number of units designated for affordable housing. Story at:
<https://www.saultstar.com/news/seven-storey-apartment-church-to-be-built-by-cara-community>

b. Resources

i. Intentional Discipleship resource hub via Anglican Communion
A number of resources supporting Christian life and formation are provided on the Anglican Communion website. Links at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=e452ccec67&e=23056c3f4c>

ii. Creative ideas for a COVID-19 Ash Wednesday

(1) via The Living Church

What will the day look like? Will churches be open? Will there be the imposition of ashes? Will there be restrictions? The Living Church tackles the questions surrounding February 17 and captures some of the sentiment emerging from those left unanswered. Article at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=be8425f17d&e=23056c3f4c>

(2) Ash Wednesday resources

via Building Faith, a Ministry of Virginia Theological Seminary

With Lent arriving in about one month, Building Faith shares ideas and activities for the start of the Lenten journey, Ash Wednesday. The list even includes a creative way to observe Ash Wednesday at home. Check them out at:

<https://buildfaith.org/ash-Wednesday/>

iii. Resources for the Gospel of Mark and the Good Book Club

via Montreal Dio

Whether or not you attended Montreal Dio's webinar introducing the Gospel of Mark as part of the Good Book Club reading initiative for Epiphanytide, you can now access all of the resources online, including a recording of the webinar and the slides used. Check them out at:

<https://montrealdio.ca/gospel-of-mark-good-book-club/>

e. Reflections

i. Celebrity break-ups & the Body of Christ via Ministry Matters

The Rev. Canon Martha Tatarnic writes of how our reactions to celebrity culture can serve as an emotional buffer to the myriad things we face on a much more personal level. "In a weird way, I find that the church can act as a similar emotional buffer, even as it ultimately seeks to dismantle any barriers we put up around our hearts." Link article at:

<https://medium.com/ministrymatters/celebrity-break-ups-the-body-of-christ-6e87152ce493>

- ii. A spirit invasion: the baptism of Jesus and the Capitol Hill insurrection via Montreal Dio
Dio College Principal Jesse Zink points out how "the baptism of Jesus is described with words like 'torn apart' and 'invade.' They are words that could be used to describe last Wednesday's events as well." Link to reflection at:
<https://montrealdio.ca/a-spirit-invasion-the-baptism-of-jesus-and-the-capitol-hill-insurrection/>
- iii. The Church in transition via Rupert's Land News
The Rev. Dr. Heather McCance writes, "In this time-between, there is confusion and lament to work through. Yet there is also return to a deeper understanding of the group's core values—that which makes us who we are—and out of those values an openness to re-imagining what might be." Link at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=d3d0863332&e=23056c3f4c>
- iv. 'New ways of being church are emerging'
via Anglican Journal page 9
The Journal asked members of the Council of General Synod (CoGS) for their thoughts on the national church's strategic planning process. Here's what they told us.
- v. 'Be still and know that I am God': Hope in the year ahead, no matter what The Anglican Journal pages 1 & 4
God is telling us, in the face of pandemic helplessness and hopelessness, to calm down and see what he can do for us, writes Naomi Beaver.
- vi. Make church an essential service: Vernon council
via the Vernon Morning Star
With mental health crises on the rise, a Vernon city councillor says places of worship need to reopen to support those struggling. All Saints' (Diocese of Kootenay) the Rev. Canon Chris Harwood-Jones said the church had never taken the position that "in-person gatherings are 'essential' to Christian faith practice." Story at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=fe97c71737&e=23056c3f4c>
- vii. A brief encounter: a reflection on I Kings 17: 8-24
The Rev. Canon Dr. Herbert O'Driscoll offers a reflection on "Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath." Read more at:
<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/blog/a-brief-encounter>

- f. Deanery Parishes Continue producing Services online due to Current Lock Down
- i. Churches of Manitoulin Island
Virtual services are usually up late Saturday night on YouTube. Best way to access the services is to simply Goggle: Doug Prebble YouTube. The videos are dated, choose and enjoy!
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQDMLTd18dMsO8hW9Tpzp3A>
- ii. Church of the Epiphany
(1) <http://epiphanysudbury.org/news> Streamed on Video available anytime after Saturday afternoon.
(2) Online 'Godly Play' for the children.
With thanks to Fr. Aidan and the children's ministry of the Church of the Ascension, we are posting their weekly online 'Godly Play Storytime' on the Church of the Epiphany's Facebook Page:
(<https://www.facebook.com/EpiphanySudbury/>)
Parents are encouraged to check it out and share with their children.
- iii. Church of the Ascension
Online service and Godly Play Storytime on their FACEBOOK PAGE @ASCENSIONSUDBURY
- iv. Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively
<https://www.thelivelyanglican.ca/news> Morning Prayer service in Word documents; Also beginning to produce services using video on Facebook and You Tube
- v. St. Alban's Capreol
www.facebook.com/alban.church – they have posted the readings from the Revised Common Lectionary and many other very vaulable pieces of hope in various posts.
- vi. All Saints Coniston
<https://allsaintsangcon.weebly.com/sunday-service-bulletins.html>
The full service is printed there with a couple of video's embedded.
- vii. St. Georges Espanola
Check out their online services on facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/1657007827882930/videos/1148115742201139/>

2. Deanery of Sudbury–Manitoulin Council
Website: <http://www.deanerysudbury-manitoulin.org>
3. Diocese of Algoma
Website: <http://www.dioceseofalgoma.com>
4. Anglican Church of Canada
Website: <http://www.anglican.ca>

We send the Deanery Digest most 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