

The Anglican Church of the Ascension
1476 Sparks Street,
Sudbury, Ont.
December 8th, 2010

To all Clergy, Wardens, Synod delegates and Deanery Officials,

This comes with my best wishes to you all for a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and a New Year full of joy. Thank you for all the ways in which you serve Christ in the church and make it the vibrant life giving place that it is. This has been a challenging year for many parishes in the Deanery and I continue to uphold you in prayer as you work through your particular circumstances.

By now you will have received a package from the Synod Office with all the information you need to complete your annual return to the Diocese. There are some aspects of the returns that need to be sent to myself as the Archdeacon and Rev. Paul Walmsley as the Regional Dean so please make sure that you read the instructions completely before sending them off. Everything must be completed – this includes the Screening in Faith return which is essential for our Insurance Policies to remain valid.

Also, please note that 2011 is a Synod year so elections for delegates must take place at your Annual meeting. Please budget for your delegates to attend Synod.

The Regional Dean, Lay Stewards and myself will be starting to inspect the Church properties and rectories early in the New Year. Gilles Tessier and myself will take care of the Sudbury properties and Dorothy and Rev. Paul the Island ones. Expect a call from us and we look forward to meeting with you. We will also be taking a look at your vestry books and record keeping in regards to meetings and financial statements.

I would like to draw your attention to some important dates for 2011 and ask that you make a note of them now as you look ahead to your own parish planning for the New Year. Parishes are asked not to plan big fundraisers or special events on the dates that there are Deanery meetings.

1. Saturday February 26th: **Deanery Council Meeting** in Espanola.

2. **Annual Returns** to the Synod office by the end of February.

3. Ash Wednesday March 9th.

4. **Lenten Study** for the Deanery of Sudbury/Manitoulin on N.T. Wright's book "*Surprised by Hope*". The theme of the study is Resurrection, Heaven and the Mission of the Church. The study will take place at the Church of the Ascension every Wednesday evening starting on March 16th. The Rev. Dr. Bob Derrenbacker will be leading these six sessions. Participants will be asked to purchase the Study Guide for \$10 and we have the DVD that goes with it. We chose the Ascension as a venue as it is more central for the

churches in the north end of the city. Please call me at 566-2790 to register. There will be a Eucharist at 7pm each week before the study. If you wish to read the book ahead of time please do, but you will have sufficient each week with the Study Guide and DVD.

5. **Holy Week** starts on Sunday 17th April (Palm/ Passion); Easter Sunday is April 24th.

6. **Clergy Lenten Quiet** day is Tuesday April 19th.

7..**Diocesan Synod** in Sault Ste. Marie Thursday May 5th -7th. Registration is on Wednesday May 4th at St. Luke's Cathedral.

8.. **ACW Annual meeting** in Sudbury: May 30th, 31st and June 1st.

9. **Clergy Education Week** for all clergy in Sudbury/Manitoulin: June 13th – 17th at Thorneloe University. (This is Education leave, not vacation time.)

10.. October 1st and 2nd **Layreaders Conference**.

It seems as if 2011 is shaping up to be a full year! Please remember that your Deanery and Diocesan Officials are only a phone call or an email away and are willing to assist you in whatever way we can.

With God's richest blessings to you all,

Anne

The Ven. Anne Germond
(Archdeacon/ Sudbury Manitoulin)