

Wycliffe College Spring 2019 Convocation

Presentation of the Right Reverend Susan Bell by the Reverend Canon Dr. Judy Paulsen to receive the degree of Doctor of Divinity, jure dignitatus.

Principal Andrews, distinguished guests, members of convocation, Susan is a Wycliffe alumna who, on May 5th, 2018, was consecrated the Bishop of the Diocese of Niagara.

Her history includes surprising *contrasts* that *coexist* quite happily:

- She has lead retreats for *low-church evangelical parishes*, while serving for 20 years in her much loved *Anglo-Catholic parish* of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
- Her childhood roots were in the *United Church of Canada*, and she has been a keynote speaker at the *Society of Catholic Priests*.
- She has served on the Board of a *historic Toronto girls school* and on the Board of *Fresh Expressions Canada*
- She has helped Christians *share* their faith, as Missioner for the Diocese of Toronto, and has helped students *learn the faith*, as Chaplain of Havergal College
- She dresses up to narrate an annual Christmas pageant and is also a *scholar in the literary works of George Herbert*.
- She loves to belt out ABBA in her car and also studied vocal performance in both London and Oxford

In short, Susan Bell is someone in whom many traditions of the Christian family can find a friend. This is principally because her love for our Lord Jesus Christ is the tie that binds all of it together.

Susan's relationship with Wycliffe College is a long one. Besides completing her Master of Divinity here, she has, at various times, served as a TA, a guest lecturer, a chaplain and a co-author of two educational resources produced by Wycliffe.

She is a wife to her beloved Tom, and a devoted mother to Emily, Nicholas, Andrew and Olivia.

Finally, Susan is a trusted friend, colleague, and sister in the faith, who also once saved my life in front of Lambeth Palace when I looked the wrong way while crossing a very busy London street.

For that, and for all that she is, I give great thanks, and pray that God will bless her episcopacy with faithfulness, wisdom, and fortitude.

I now present The Right Reverend Susan Bell to receive the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *jure dignitatus*.