

MAY NEWSLETTER

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

Celebrating Anglo-Catholic worship and mission since 1870

Volume One, No 4

May, 2017



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF NIAGARA

Easter Sunday
April 16, 2017

TO THE PEOPLE OF ST. BARNABAS, ST. CATHARINES
TO BE READ AT ALL SERVICES ON SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017

Dear Friends:

I greet you in the name of our risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and I wish each and every one of you a happy and wonderful Easter Day!

I want to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to all who have worked so hard over these past many months as we have discerned the future of this parish together. On behalf of us all, I want to express my gratitude to Canon Ian Chadwick, Canon Bill Thomas and Father Bill Steinman for the gift of their leadership and mentorship. Above all, however, I want to thank the leaders and people of this congregation for the faithful and diligent work you have engaged in to meet the benchmarks I set many months ago and for developing a realistic and exciting plan for the days ahead.

It is with great delight, therefore, that I announce to you today that I am now prepared to recommend to Synod Council that St. Barnabas Church be restored to parish status and I am in the process of seeking out a candidate that I will appoint as Priest in Charge. The material that you have produced during the discernment process will provide a comprehensive profile that will be of tremendous help as we seek out ordained leadership for the future. I will update the Leadership Team as this work progresses and I will be communicating with you directly once again, as soon as I am able, to outline more of the details of how all this will unfold.

There will be many things to work out, a number of key positions to fill and we will need to encourage every member of the congregation to continue to exercise their baptismal ministries as we begin to set in motion the inspiring plan that you have discerned. It is also my sincere hope that over the next few months we will be able to renew our relationship, as congregation, Bishop and Diocese. I have thoroughly enjoyed the conversations I have had with so many of you at the meetings that have been held and I hope to have an occasion to be together again soon, so that I may thank you once again in person. Please know that I and our Synod Office staff will continue to be here for you and will walk with you every step of the way.

You will continue to be in my prayers and I wish you every blessing in this Easter season as you experience the gift of resurrection joy.

Yours in the love of Christ

+ Michael Bird

Bishop of Niagara

/mag

Copies to: The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick, Diocesan Administrator
The Reverend Canon William Thomas, Chaplain and Ministry Consultant
The Venerable Max Woolaver, Archdeacon of Lincoln
Canon Christyn Perkons, Director, Congregational Support and Development
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell, Secretary of Synod

The Right Reverend Michael A. Bird

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Email: bishop@niagaraanglican.ca

Spread the Word

If you have a Facebook page, website or use Twitter, we ask for your help in spreading the word about St. Barnabas: about our special services and the many events we host every month over the year. The next time you reply or put a comment on social media, say something nice about our church.

The Mission team impresses us with their projects...

Innovation and a spirit of co-operation came together as the Mission Team, working with St. John's, Port Dalhousie, St. Columba and the YWCA Life Skills department, all agreed to join forces and help *Start Me Up Niagara* (SMUN) with their project to supply kits of free personal care products to the needy in this area.

During two meetings with the Rectors of both churches, the YWCA Life Skills director, and Susan Vendetti, Executive Director of SMUN, it was agreed that St. Barnabas would become the depot where personal care products are warehoused and distributed, on a scheduled basis, to the needy of our area. All groups would supply help to manage and operate this project. As of this writing, shelves have been assembled and erected in our basement. The shelving was donated. In addition, two lockable tote boxes have been donated for the storage of these products, but we'll need a few more. Can you help? Shortly, all participants will start collecting personal care products for distribution, items such as; toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, shampoo, hairbrushes, combs, soap-bar and liquid, razors and shaving cream, body lotion and every other product imaginable to help keep your body clean and healthy.



The Mission Team, as part of its mandate, has been evaluating various ways to further enhance its mission within the Greater St. Catharines Group and community, and as a result it is planning a Community Garden out back (behind the old rectory) with homeless and needy locals growing both flowers and vegetables for their use. And further it is working closely with SMUN, to use **our** kitchen for training and certification of locals in food handling, as well as starting basic cooking classes for the untrained.

Watch for more information in future newsletters on the startup of these fabulous projects that are all now in the initial planning stages with the Mission Team.

Thought for the Month

The first of a regular monthly feature as suggested by one of our members.

In divine providence, nothing comes a moment too soon or too late, everything comes in its own complete time. God's clock is never too slow. We only need to learn to wait in patience for Him.

Farewell to Fr. Wm. Thomas, Chaplain and Consultant

While Easter Sunday was a glorious day with the Bishop's announcement of our coming off diocesan administration, it was also a sad day as we said goodbye to Fr. Thomas.

He has been with us for the last six months, guiding us through six Town Hall meetings, identifying benchmarks for the Discernment Process, setting up operating committees for the renewal of our church, coaxing and pushing us to identify and work on areas of need for a growing and smooth running St. Barnabas for when we come off diocesan administration. And it all came together, when with Fr. Chadwick's approval, he *recommended* to Bishop Michael Bird that we continue worshipping in the Anglo-Catholic tradition and that we keep our doors open!

Thanks Fr. Thomas for all your work, and please remember that our door is always open for your return as a visiting clergy, to do a Mass or just to stop by and say hello.

Doors Open St. Catharines

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of Ontario and Canada, the City of St. Catharines will be participating in Doors Open Ontario, a provincial event organized and promoted by Ontario Heritage Trust. We were invited, by the city's host organization, The St. Catharines Museum & Welland Canals Centre, to participate in this city wide event on Saturday, June 24, 2017. Of course, **we agreed to join this community program** in which all participating locations will be open to the public free of charge. The Doors Open St. Catharines special day showcases buildings, infrastructure, culture centres and open spaces that have defined our community.

Our Communications Committee is now in the planning stages working on how to present our church in its "best light" as hundreds of visitors will pass through our historical building.

See more detailed information on our planned open house activities in the next newsletter.



FIVE THINGS TO QUIT RIGHT NOW!

1. Trying to please everyone.
2. Fearing change.
3. Living in the past.
4. Putting yourself down.
5. Overthinking.

St. John's Port Dalhousie Special Concert

St. John's Port Dalhousie is hosting the Dofasco Male Chorus in a special concert on Monday, May 15, at 7:30 pm at Bethany Community Church, 1388 Third Street, St. Catharines.

The concert is to raise money for a refugee family St. John's is matched with, and because the family is not from Syria, they do not qualify for many of the local and federal government grants and allowances. Please support this worthwhile event and enjoy an evening of vocal entertainment, Tickets are \$12.00, and available at the door.

Editor's Note:

Suggestions for subjects for our monthly newsletter and material both humorous and informative are always welcome. See me personally, send me an email or leave material in the church office.

Our traditional closing prayer

Glory to God;

Whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Glory to God;

From generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen

ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Masses – 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM, Wednesday Mass – 9:30 AM

The Rev'd Canon Ian Chadwick
Chaplain and Parish Administrator

The Rev'd Wm. Steinman
Honorary Assistant Curate

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