

# MARCH NEWSLETTER

## St. Barnabas Anglican Church

Celebrating Anglo-Catholic worship and mission since 1870

Volume One, No 2

March, 2017

With the activities taking place in the month of February, I had to increase the number of pages in this newsletter to report them all. I hope you enjoy the extra articles.

### The Mission to Seafarers

After reading about this ministry in the January, 2017 issue of the *Anglican Journal*, Sonia Whetung suggested it would be a good information piece for our newsletter.



The Mission to Seafarers was founded in 1856 as a worldwide **Anglican outreach ministry**, and serves 200 ports around the world with ten stations in Canada. We have stations in Great Lakes ports and on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

A typical Mission to Seafarers station consists of a chaplain(s), either full or part-time, who visit ships in port and speak to crew members offering prayer, material support and advocacy.

Occasionally a shipping company will go bankrupt, and suddenly leave the crew stranded in a foreign country – without food, necessities or their pay! Earlier last fall Rev. Maggie Whittingham-Lamont, chaplain at the Halifax station, visited one such vessel in Cape Breton, to find unpaid crew members on board who were cold and hungry. She and a colleague supplied them with food and warm clothes. In another similar situations a few years ago, she and her colleagues were able to amass donated airline travel miles to send eight stranded crew members home to Honduras and Guatemala.

If you have travel Air Miles that you may not be using, the Port of Hamilton Mission would love to have them for their outreach work, make your donation to Rev. Ronda Ploughman, [rondaploughman@gmail.com](mailto:rondaploughman@gmail.com) she is one of the part-time Chaplains working out of the Port of Hamilton and who also assists crews travelling the Welland Canal.

### We celebrated two baptisms on the same day in late January

On Sunday, January 29, we welcomed into Christ's flock, eight year old Evelyn Grace Rose Stephanie Whetung, and four year old Zahra Maddylynn Mann who were baptized by Fr. Chadwick at our 10:30 a.m. service.



### **Candlemas celebration on Sunday, February 05**

Many Christians believe that Jesus' mother Mary presented Him to God at the temple in Jerusalem after observing the 40 day period of purification following his birth. According to the Gospel of Luke 2:32, there was a good God-fearing man named Simeon who held the baby in his arms (in the temple) and said to the Lord that he is, " a light to reveal your will to the gentiles." It is for this reason that the event is called Candlemas, and why we process at the beginning of the service holding a lit candle that symbolizes that Christ is the "Light of the World."

### **March to the Mosque, by Jessie Reid**

On the evening of January 31, to demonstrate sympathy and support to the local Muslim community, following the killings at a mosque in Quebec City, a group of seven hardy souls from St. Barnabas led by Fr. Chadwick, joined 500 people including St. Catharines mayor Walter Sendzik. The group we joined mid-way had started their walk from City Hall, to attend a candlelight vigil at the Masjid An-Noor mosque on Geneva Street.

It was a chilly night but everyone was dressed warmly. While it was a sad occasion, hopefully the Muslim community was comforted by the love, sympathy and support they received from the people of Niagara that night.

### **Stewardship Team meeting, a WOW meeting...**

Eleven Barnabites were present as Lisa DiVeto gave a fabulous two hour presentation on fundraising.

At the meeting on February 09, Lisa, who is the Diocesan Stewardship Consultant, impressed us with her eighteen years of fundraising experience, and the homework she had done on our church operating costs and fund raising activities.

While our fund raising efforts have been successful, she said " compared to other Anglican churches in the Golden Horseshoe, we can earn many, many more dollars through grants from; private family foundations, St. Catharines Registered Charities, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the federal New Horizons for Seniors Program, the provincial Seniors Community Grant, and Estate Giving. "

Ms. DiVeto also made the point that some of our renters receive generous grants from government agencies and can well afford a rent increase from the \$25.00 or \$30.00 they now pay us for four evenings a month. Lisa went on to say, "It costs us \$350.00 a day to keep our doors open!"

A suggestion that hit home with committee members was that we should have a "donate button" on our Facebook page and Web site; plus, we should accept credit card donations which become payable to the diocese and from which we receive the given amount less the credit card transaction fee.

When the meeting closed at 5:00 p.m. there was a hearty round of applause for the presenter.

At the Town Hall meeting the following Sunday, Fr. Thomas reported that a St. Catharines church regularly receives upwards of \$150,000.00 annually in grants!

### **E-mail addresses**

We are updating our parish e-mail list to save on postal costs for notification of parish announcements and events. If you have changed your carrier, or acquired an e-mail address, please let the church office know so we can keep you posted on church activities.

### **Canada Flag Day celebration and Town Hall Meeting Number Five**

The combined Canada Flag Day Luncheon and Town Hall Meeting Number Five, on Sunday, February 12, got off to a "delicious" start as we all enjoyed a roast beef lunch with cherry cheesecake for

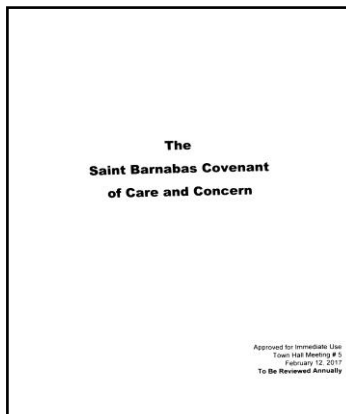
dessert. Thanks Annie, and the Special Events ladies, for that wonderful meal. As it was Canada Flag Day, (and the Great Hall was decorated accordingly), a question for all history and trivia buffs: “In what year was our new Canadian flag officially inaugurated and who was the Prime Minister?” (See end of newsletter for answer)

As the meal finished, Fr. Thomas started the Town Hall meeting by giving us a Discernment Process update. He said; “the Leadership, Communications, Property, Covenant and Stewardship Teams are all up and running. One team, the Life Skills/YMCA team will not be initiated, and its members invited to join other teams.”

He also said, “there’s lots of activity, energy, and a positive vision of the future among the team members. However now the hard part starts, and that is developing priorities within a budget, and keeping strategies within the recommendations of the diocese’s Greater St. Catharines Plan.”

After many questions and answers, Fr. Thomas concluded with the group’s approval of *The Saint Barnabas Covenant of Care and Concern*. He advised us, that as a member of the Greater St. Catharines Plan, we are in a growing relationship with the other Anglican churches in the Central Cluster... Grace, St. George’s and St. Thomas, and that further we must recognize the importance of how we behave and live together with everyone in our community.

Copies of our “Covenant,” which is now in effect, have been sent to the Diocese and e-mailed to all Barnabites for whom we have addresses. Hard copies were available to be picked up after the Sunday, February 26, service. It will also be available in the following weeks for those who missed the February 26 pickup.



### **Congratulations on their wedding**

Saturday, February 18, saw the celebration and blessing of the marriage of Tania Lalonde and Cameron Biggar, joined together in holy matrimony by Fr. Chadwick.

### **Wednesday morning Bible Study class, by Father Ted Hales**

Prayer and study helps us grow in faith, understanding and commitment to the Gospel.

With this in mind, last fall a Bible Study class started up on Wednesday’s after the 9:30 a.m. service. In the class, the previous Sunday’s scripture reading (and homily) were chosen as the focus in preparing the attendees for the coming celebrating of the birth of Jesus. After the Christmas holiday break we began meeting again in early January, 2017.



The month of January was spent exploring the timely events of Epiphany and the Baptism of Jesus, and the traditions of the visit of the magi: then asking ourselves what do these events mean in our lives today? In February we returned to studying the Sunday scriptures and what they say to Christians in the twenty-first century.

This Lent, we'll be following a study course entitled **5 Marks of Love** created by the brothers of the Society of St John the Evangelist. This study, that individuals can download and use in their Lenten devotions is an on-line, six week video series featuring a short daily presentation on one of the five Anglican Communion's *Marks of Mission* – **tell, teach, tend, transform, and treasure** – and a question of the day to serve as a guide through the days of Lent. A workbook can also be downloaded as an aid in your reflection and prayer. All materials and videos are free on-line...subscribe to the video series at [www.5marksoflove.org](http://www.5marksoflove.org). The series began Sunday, February 26. The Bible Study group will be following the *5 Marks of Love* series during Lent. You are welcome to join us.

### Victoria's Quilts Canada



Congratulations to our Wednesday morning church quilting group who have now made SEVENTEEN quilts of various sizes for individuals in Canada with cancer.

The mission statement of Victoria's Quilts Canada is: "To provide handmade quilts to people with cancer. By providing these quilts, we hope to bring them physical comfort as well as spiritual comfort in knowing they are not alone in their struggle."

The quilts consist of a cotton top, a thin layer of batting for warmth, and a flannelette backing for softness. Sadly, the demand for quilts is continually increasing, and cost of material for producing the quilts is also rising. While we receive donations of cotton fabric from local stores, and from individuals who may be downsizing or culling their stash of fabrics, we must often supplement our inventory by purchasing cotton, batting and flannelette. Any help you can give, to offset these rising costs would be greatly appreciated. To request a free quilt for someone with cancer, complete and mail the Victoria's Quilts Canada request form posted on the church bulletin board.



### **Baptism of Benjamin (Ben) Cobb**

Ben, a student at Brock University, received the sacrament of Baptism, February 22, with his mother and a close friend as witnesses. Twenty-two parishioners then welcomed him as he was received into a life of Christ.

### **Prayers for Healing Service**

The inclusion of prayers for healing in our Wednesday, 9:30 am low mass service was renewed. It now takes place on the third Wednesday of every month. No special arrangements have to be made for attending.

When at the service just present yourself at the communion rail during (or just after) the Eucharist, but do not leave after receiving the host. The priest will then bless you and personally say a prayer to help with your healing.

As usual, everyone, regardless of their chosen faith, are welcome to our church for this special service. Invite your family, friends, relatives and neighbours.

### **Saint Patrick's Day**



As we will be remembering St. Patrick at our Mass on Wednesday, March 15, perhaps a little background on this saint would be helpful. Much of which is known about St. Patrick comes from the *Declaration* which was allegedly written by Patrick himself. He was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Roman-British family. His father was a Deacon and his grandfather a priest in the Christian Church.

At age sixteen, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. There he spent six years working as a shepherd and during that time he “found God”. It also says that God told him to flee to the coast where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After getting back home, he went on to become a priest and then a Bishop.

Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. The *Declaration* says that he spent 30 years evangelizing, established churches and monasteries, and converted thousands. He died on March 17, 461 and was buried at Downpatrick. St. Patrick's Day (the anniversary of his death) was made an official Christian Feast day in the early seventeenth century and still is observed by the Catholic Church, The Anglican Communion, the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Lutheran Church. Over the following centuries many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint. On St. Patrick's Day it is customary to wear shamrocks, green clothing or green accessories, “the wearing of the green” as it is affectionately called.

An interesting historical fact about the Toronto Maple Leafs is that the hockey team was known as the Toronto St. Patrick's from 1919 to 1927 and wore green jerseys.

*(The image of Saint Patrick depicted in a stained glass window is from Saint Benin's Church, Ireland)*

### **LENT – A Brief Glance, by Father Bill Steinman**

Lent is the six-week period just before Easter. The word comes from the Middle English “Lenten” meaning “Spring,” but the Latin equivalent is *Quadragesima*, meaning “forty,” ... and clearly refers to the length of the fast (forty days) by which Christians prepare themselves for the feast of Easter. The origins of Lent are particularly obscure. It seems likely, however, that there was from very early times in some parts of Canada, a feast of forty days in commemoration of Christ’s forty days in the wilderness following his baptism by John.

The forty days attached to Easter began to appear in Rome and elsewhere shortly after the Council of Nicea in A.D. 325. Although no reference is made to what passes for the Acts of this Council to the establishment of such a fast, it is possible that it was ordered by the Bishops gathered at Nicea. For a long time there was no agreement as to when the fast should begin or end. In Rome, for example, there was no fasting on Saturdays or Sundays, so in order to accommodate forty days, the fast extended backwards from the first Sunday in Quadragesima to what is now known as Ash Wednesday. In other places the fast ended before the beginning of Holy Week, and the Saturday and Sunday before Easter were observed as the festival of the raising of Lazarus, and as Palm Sunday. The practice of baptizing new members of the church at Easter was in force in Rome and North Africa in the third century and throughout the Church by the fourth century. The Lenten season became the appropriate opportunity for final baptismal instruction and preparation. The candidates were expected to fast before their baptism, and the early document known as the *Didache* recommends that all Christians keep the fast with them, which no doubt gave added impetus to the penitential aspect of Lent.

In modern times the Lenten fast has been alleviated, and Lent is now normally observed as a time of penance by abstaining from festivities, by alms giving, and devoting more than the usual time to religious exercises.

### **Special Events Committee caters at Mountainview United Church, by Marion Tulk**

The special Events Committee has a special connection with Mountainview United Church in St. Catharines. In the past we catered a Scottish Night for their parishioners, they regularly buy our meat pies, and on Tuesday, February, 28th, members of The Committee catered a dinner for the United Church Presbytery at Mountainview. Thirty-two dinners were served...definitely enjoyed and much appreciated by their guests.

### **A billion is a large number...**

A billion is a large number to comprehend, but an advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into perspective in one of its recent releases.

If you have one billion dollars and stand on a street corner handing out one Loonie per second, for twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, you would **not** have handed out one billion dollars after 31 years!

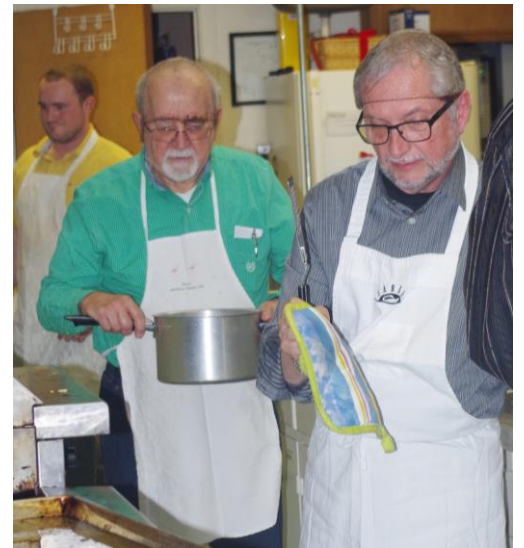
The following time periods are estimated backwards from December 31, 2016:-

\*A billion *days* ago no-one walked on earth on two feet.

\*A billion *hours* ago our ancestors were living in the Stone Age.

\*A billion *minutes* ago Jesus was alive.

Pancake Supper, February 28 ... a picture gallery!



## Vanishing Sounds

An email from a friend of one of our parishioners.

Who knew that some mechanical sounds would eventually disappear in our lifetime and depending on their age your children and grandchildren may only have heard these sounds in old movies. Can you recall?

- Rotary dial telephone
- Manual typewriter
- Coffee percolator
- Flash cube
- Music from a record player
- Gas station driveway bell
- Cash register
- Film projector
- Channel selector on the front of a television.

### ***Trivia question answer.***

*It was February 15, 1965, and our Prime Minister was Lester Pearson.*

### **Our traditional closing prayer**

Glory to God;

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

Glory to God;

from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus.

For ever and ever, Amen

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### **ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH**

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### **CHURCH SERVICES**

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

Rev'd Canon Ian Chadwick  
Chaplain & Parish Admin'tr

Rev'd Canon Bill Thomas  
Chaplain & Consultant

Rev'd Wm. Steinman  
Hon. Ass't. Curate

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