

ALL SAINTS' ALIVE
THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
COLLINGWOOD, ONTARIO
AUGUST 3, 2023

Welcome back to a new month! We hope your summer is going well. Lots of information to report. It has been a busy summer and much more is still to happen before we reconvene in the fall, for "Back to Church Sunday".

Father Michael and Joy have returned from a much needed and well deserved, vacation in Ireland and Wales! Reverend Sharon will now have a chance to take a much needed and well deserved, vacation with her new husband, Bryce!

Last Sunday was a wonderful day at All Saints'. Our photo gallery showcases the special fellowship and the amazing friendships within our Parish.



Our longtime friend and parishioner, Nancy Milner, was recognized for all her contributions to All Saints' over the years. She has contributed in so many ways and has touched the hearts of all who have had the privilege of meeting her. Nancy has decided to move closer to her family.....all the way to Paris!!! Ontario!!! So not as far away as the other Paris! We can still visit her in a day!!

Also last Sunday, we celebrated the 40 Anniversary of Moira and Doug Southwell, two more longtime parishioners at the church. Our photo gallery has captured the cake cutting, (photo thanks to Penny Bourne), and other photos of our friends enjoying the fellowship of the morning.





And last, and also so special, we also recognized the birthday of Joyce Atkinson, another wonderful parishioner.

Our Parish is thriving with so many great things happening. All Saints' is truly blessed with a strong and vibrant clergy, our wardens and staff, and the incredible volunteers and parishioners. Feel free to spread the word to family and friends....we don't mind sharing these great times with others who would like to join us!! And I believe God would like this as well!

Father Michael has shared with us, a report and photos of he and Joy's holiday....

From Cork to York: A Pilgrim's Progress

My wife Joy and I have just returned from two weeks in Ireland and England, during which we were blessed to visit and worship in some grand and ancient churches. (Joy and I are church geeks, visiting churches is how we do holidays). We came away with many thoughts and impressions about what we saw, and some ideas about how some of what we saw might be applicable to our ministry here at All Saints, Collingwood.

Our trip began in Dublin, where we had coffee with a friend, the Rev. Dr. Paul Arbuthnot, rector of St. Ann's, Dawson Street (Anglican, Church of Ireland). St. Ann's is a gracious, 18th century church near Trinity College in the heart of Dublin. Since it lacks a stable, regular congregation, Rev Paul has worked hard in his first year there to make the church open and inviting to tourists. Most mornings the church is open to visitors with volunteer greeters at the door and brochures for self-guided tours. (Fun fact: Bram Stoker, the author of Dracula, was married there).

When we got there, Rev Paul and his staff were discussing how to deal with a woman who had pitched a tent in front of St. Ann's. This woman was well known to them since Paul, a visible neighbourhood character in his clericals, frequents a nearby cafe where he buys coffee and sandwiches for the local poor. As he said to us, church isn't just for the wealthy and for the tourists.



After Dublin, we visited two Irish cathedrals, St. Finn Barre's in Cork and St. Mary's in Limerick. People have worshipped at these sites since Christianity came to Ireland, but they became Anglican churches when the Church of Ireland was established by the English in the 1500s. Since Ireland won independence in the 1920s, the Church of Ireland has waned, the church of a protestant minority in an increasingly secular Ireland, so these are places that struggle to survive.

St Finn Barre's is stunningly beautiful, as the entire church was rebuilt in the 1800s as a three spire Gothic cathedral. We were there for Eucharist on July 23rd, with about a hundred in attendance, and were warmly greeted by the Dean and ushers. As we left, the first tourists of the day were waiting outside. The space was beautiful, but had a faint air of neglect and could have had better signage for visitors.

St Mary's in Limerick is and feels ancient. The great Romanesque door was originally part of the 11th century palace of the kings of the ancient realm of Munster, and inside you can sit on a misericord, a kind of seat to allow weary clerics to sit while appearing to stand, as one did during the whole service, as they did in those days. The Limerick misericords are thought to be the oldest wooden church furnishings in all of Ireland. At St Mary's we joined a tiny group for Morning Prayer, faithfully led every morning by one of the cathedral lay readers.

From Ireland we hopped over by ferry to Wales and then by train to Liverpool, where we joined tourists wandering through the holy bulk of Liverpool Cathedral. While it's one of the largest in the world, it is one of the newest in England, built over sixty years during the last century. The cathedral recognizes very well that it is a public space, so it offers art installations, a cafe, and gift shop to its many visitors, but I also noticed signage inviting visitors to learn about the Christian faith as well as the church itself.

We finished our holiday in York, where the ancient and gorgeous York Minster took our breath away. The Minister is very much a worshipping church as well as a tourist attraction, so of course after choral matins and eucharist on Sunday we returned on Monday for Evensong, all services led by visiting choirs. York Minister also knows that its lifeblood is tourism, but if you go for worship you will be graciously welcomed (and managed) by the staff.

As an ancient city, York boasts many other old churches, some of which have had their day. One has sadly become a nightclub throbbing with music, and another a cultural and concert space. But in the labyrinth of old streets I found a namesake church to ours, All Saints North Street, an Anglo Catholic parish which uses the old English Missal, a place radiant with prayer and holy with incense. Not far away I found another Anglican church, St. Denys Walmgate, empty but unlocked, with signage inviting the visitor to stay, explore and pray. To set foot in such a medieval church, and to be alone there with the saints of old, was a wonderful experience.

So what did we learn from our trip, and what if anything is applicable to All Saints, Collingwood?

First, Joy and I learned a new appreciation for buildings. In church land we tend to downplay our attachment to physical spaces, using phrases like "It's the people, not the steeple" but tourists flock to these old churches because their history and their grandeur, the old stone soaked with the prayers of generations, are doors into the sacred. Our church isn't medieval, but it's older than some of the places I've described above, and in its own way is just as beautiful.



Secondly, we learned a new appreciation for being open and invitational. Most of the places we visited had fixed hours when they opened their doors, had welcoming signage, and some even had tap points where visitors could make a small donation by credit card. Certainly for the Irish cathedrals in particular, tourism is their lifeblood and they could not operate without its revenue. While Collingwood doesn't get the crowds of tourists that York or Liverpool attract, we do get visitors and I understand that we once opened All Saints during the weekday. I would like to revisit that practice.

Finally, we learned that churches cease to be churches if they simply become museums. All the churches we visited in England and Ireland were places of active prayer and worship, from the hundreds of worshippers at York to a small handful for matins at Limerick. Yes, invite visitors to see a sacred and peaceful space, but also invite them to learn the meaning of the sacred. I'd like to see All Saints offer more regular service times for morning and evening prayer, and that's something the clergy team will be discussing and seeing your help with come the fall.

Joy with St. Ann's, Dawson Street, in the background:



The Victorian era spires of St. Finn Barre's Cathedral, Cork:



St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick:



Joy demonstrates how to sit in a misericord, St. Mary's, Cork:



The massive bulk of Liverpool



Happy pilgrims outside York Minister:



Warden Catherine Raaflaub reminds us that the “Doors Open” event is coming to Collingwood on Saturday, August 25th, and All Saints Church and Rectory are part of this wonderful and historical tour. Catherine still requires volunteers to assist. Her report follows.

Thanks to all who have responded to our request to serve as volunteer guides for Doors Open. We still have a few spots to fill so please email warden Catherine Raaflaub at caraaflaub@gmail.com if you can spare some time to show off our lovely church, parish hall and rectory on August 25th 10-4

The All Saints’ Food Ministry Programme continues in August. On Wednesday 50 meals of ham, salad, buns and dessert were delivered to the “Five Loaves” recipients. Next Wednesday, August 9th, is the Community Friendship Dinner. Warden Penny Bournes tells us how we can assist in this important outreach ministry.

**FRIENDSHIP DINNER
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9th**

Our August Community Friendship Dinner will be on Wednesday August 9th, and we shall be serving sausage on a bun, salads, veggies, deserts and fresh fruit.

If you are able to help with this important ministry, please sign the sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall, or send me an email at penny-bourne2@gmail.com We need help in the kitchen as well as providing and serving food.

Monetary donations are also welcome! Please make sure to mark it for the Food Ministry and put your name and address on it so that we may send you a tax receipt.

We are still planning a meeting for those who have expressed interest in helping with the organization, but with many on holiday, we will wait till September.

Thank you for any help you can give,

**Community Friendship Dinner
Wednesday August 9th, 2023
Dinner Begins at 5pm**

BBQ'd Chicken Sausage on a bun
Choice of Salads
Dessert and Fruit

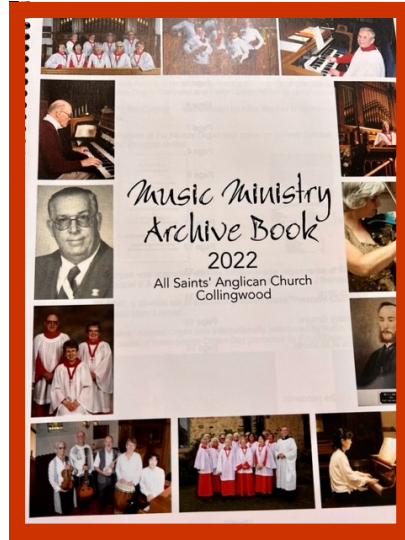


We cannot guarantee that the donated food at our dinners is free from allergens

In 2022, our previous Director of Music, Keiko Yoden-Kuepfer, organized, research and published the “Music Ministry Archive Book”. This book reflects on the history and the musicians who have contributed to the wonderful musical heritage of our church. Information on how you can purchase a copy follows....



All Saints' Music Ministry Book Copies of a book prepared by our previous music director, Keiko, are available for order. This colour, spiral-bound book tells the story of the musicians and choirs that have led worship here since the founding of All Saints'. A copy is currently in the church library for you to examine and to help you decide whether you would like one. Individual Copies are \$20 each, with proceeds going to help our music budget. You can contact Nancy at the church office to order your copy, or leave an envelope with \$20 (cheque or cash) in the collection plate with a note saying that you would like a copy. The deadline for orders



In addition to Joyce Atkinson's birthday, our newsletter also extends birthday greetings to Katherine Hycke, who celebrated her birthday earlier this week. We hope you had a great day, Katherine!



In your prayers this week, please remember those whose names are on our Parish Prayer List. We pray for their caregivers and for all who assist others in need. We pray for our families, our friends and for all who call All Saints, "their spiritual home".

"Please pray for these people during the week" - Ayako Yoden, Brenda Teeter, Bob Teeter, Sandra Girdle, Mary Ratensperger, Bev Baxter, Ann Bye, Paul Reid, Eric Vignola, Wolf, Marnie Potter, SSN, Irene McVeigh, Robert W, Brian, John, Gail, Penny, Barb, Loraine, Janice, Carolyn, BAM.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS RESIDES ON THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE ANISHNAABE AND WENDAT PEOPLES. THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REMINDS US OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THESE ANCESTRAL LANDS ON WHICH WE LIVE, SHARE, LEARN AND PRAY.

