

ALL SAINTS ALIVE
THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
COLLINGWOOD
APRIL 4, 2024

Welcome back to our church newsletter---a new month and a new beginning in our churchboth from a spiritual viewpoint and, as you will see a bit later in this newsletter, many new changes at our church! Wonderful things are taking place at All Saints....especially at Easter Sunday when over 120 individuals came in person, and more on-line, to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. It was ‘almost’, standing room only at the 9:30 service! And what a special celebration of our Anglican faith...Father Michael, Reverend Sharon and Canon Gordon all took part in leading us through the Easter liturgy, while Barry and our church choir provided the wonderful music. We also thank Nancy in our church office for the extra hours it took to prepare for, not just for Easter Sunday, but all the uploading and paperwork for the special services during Holy Week and throughout Lent. Thanks also go out to our technical team of Doug and Moira Southwell for making it possible for everyone to see and read the proceedings of the service, in the church and at home, to our staff, wardens and to all the volunteers, especially to the members of our chancel guild who worked so hard during Holy Week. We are truly blessed for so many caring and giving individuals in our Parish! We thank you all!!!

Father Michael, in his report, shares information regarding the final result of “Lenten Madness”, and gives insight about the recipient of the ‘Golden Halo’. As well, he shares with us, information regarding an All Saints’ take on Sense and Sensibility. Michael cleverly has called this, “Scents and Sensitivity”!

Julian of Norwich, Winner of the Golden Halo

Another Lent Madness competition is in the books, and I hope that this Lenten exercise helped you to meet some of the heroes of our faith who “competed” in this year’s competition. Lent Madness is at its heart a bit silly, as who can possibly rank saints by their piety, miracles, or holiness? Furthermore, as I greet you every Sunday, all of us are saints in the sight of God. So really, Lent Madness is simply an enjoyable learning opportunity.

This year’s winner, Julian of Norwich, is one of a surprising number of women mystics who flourished in the later middle ages. Julian had a recognized role in church society as an anchoress, a single person who withdrew from the world to live as a hermit, but who maintained a connection with the world via a church. People would seek out anchorites to seek their spiritual advice or to ask for their prayer. Julian, like other anchorites, had a small cell or living place attached to her parish, in her case St. Julian’s, in Norwich, England, and visitors there can still see her cell today. Last summer Fr Michael visited another All Saints, in York, that also had a medieval anchoress, so such persons were not uncommon. Anchorites disappeared with the Reformation.



[Julian of Norwich](#) depicted in an interior window in the church

In 1373 Julian received a series of visions, which she called showings (“shewings” in Middle English) which she wrote down in a book which has come to be known as *Revelations of Divine Love*. She is known for describing a motherly, nurturing side to Jesus, and for stressing the love of God in Christ that sustains all of creation. In one famous passage, she describes God showing her “a little thing, the size of a hazel-nut”, and when she asked what it was, she was told that “It is all that is made”. Julian wrote:

“In this little thing I saw three properties: the first is that God made it, the second is that God loves it, the third is that God cares for it. But what the maker, the carer and the lover really is to me, I cannot tell; for until I become one substance with him, I can never have complete rest or true happiness; that is to say, until I am so bound to him that there is no created thing between my God and me.”

Julian is considered today to be one of the richest and most accessible of the medieval mystics. Fr. Michael is considering offering a book study on Julian; please reach out to him if you’re interested. In the meantime, a search on Amazon for “Julian of Norwich” will reveal dozens of titles on and by her for those interested in exploring the thoughts and prayers of this remarkable soul.

Scents and Sensitivity

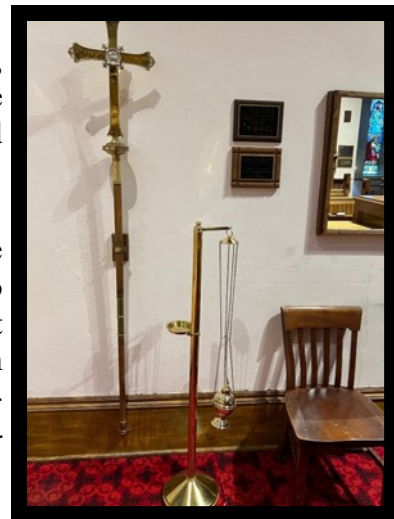
As some of you noticed to your discomfort on Easter Sunday, we attempted to use incense to celebrate the importance of the day and to enhance our worship. First, a bit of a “why”, and then a few comments on what we learned.

First, the why. Incense has long been a part of worship in the “Anglo-Catholic” side of our church (irreverently referred to as “smells and bells”), and the burning of incense has ancient roots in Judaism. In Exodus, God instructs the priest Aaron to make “a regular incense offering before the Lord throughout your generations” (Ex 30:7-8) and the psalmist likens incense to prayer:

“May my prayer be counted as incense before You; / The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering” (Ps 141:2).

Frankincense is of course one of the gifts of the Magi to the Christ child (Mt 2.11).

Our worship is as much sensory as it is spiritual: we taste bread and wine, we see rich colours in the vestments and altar hangings, we hear music, the bells announce climactic moments in the Eucharist, we place our bodies in different positions, we speak and we sing. We can also smell. The fragrance of incense can add beauty and reverence to our worship, underscores the mystery of the Eucharist, and fits into the kind of high church worship that makes All Saints unique in this part of the diocese. We may even become a “destination church” for those seeking a more formal and yet still joyous style of worship where people can also clap and laugh.



So, the lessons learned. Going forward, the hope of the clergy team is to use incense *sparingly* on certain high holy days and on some of the evening services that we have been observing, such as Candlemas. A parishioner has gifted our church with a new censer (thurible, to use the fancy word) and our supplier has helped us select a frankincense blend that is not allergenic. We do realize that not everyone will welcome this development, but we hope that more will. We will give notice of those services where small amounts of incense will be.

HISTORY BITES....from our church archivist, Mary Lou Dunn....

Ever wonder about those church collection envelopes? The 1866 Vestry minutes provides an idea of when they came into use. "The system of Sunday contributions to pay the minister and meet the expenses of the Church, was abandoned and what is known as the 'envelope system', was ordered to be tried for three months!"

UPCOMING EVENTS...Reminder to church women...the Women's Breakfast group will meet this Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Quite a few individuals have signed up for this event. Please contact the church for more information.

The Community Friendship Dinner takes place next Wednesday, April 10th at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for various jobs. Please see the sign up sheets in the Parish Hall.

A reminder that our church services for the next two weeks will be held in the Parish Hall due to the renovations taking place in the church.

Our Five Loaves Food Ministry programme delivered over 100 meals to The Busby Centre, The Mobile Soup Kitchen and to people in the community last evening. The meal of 'pulled pork on a bun, salad and dessert' was prepared by the team of volunteers, coordinated by Sharon Goldsworthy and Gill Elias. Thank you to all who assisted in this outreach event.



All Saints would like to express its sincere thanks to Blue Ridge Meats, who every month, donate 5 pounds of meat to our Five Loaves programme so that we can provide meals to the Busby Centre. Next time you are at Blue Ridge, perhaps you could thank them for their generosity!





Do you know what this photo is? It is a small ‘snapshot’ of the carpet that once was on our church floor.....I will tell you a bit more about this photo later in the newsletter.

You might be wondering why I said ‘that was once on our church floor?’ Well, attached are more photos of the transformation taking place in our church. Many new things will be done in the church during the next couple of weeks. Warden Catherine Raaflaub and Penny Bourne have been coordinating the renovations which will include trenching in the floor to hide all the wires and boiler pipes. A new carpet will be laid after that and then the new a/v equipment will be installed.....thank you everyone who has been involved in the project and who has made a donation!

Now, about that photo above....

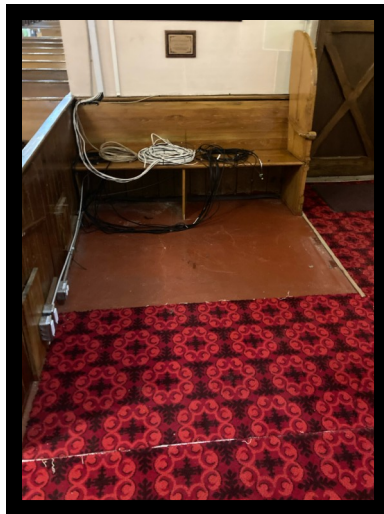
The ‘snapshot’ is a section of the design on the old carpet that was removed. That carpet was installed over 60 years ago, donated by parishioners Arlene and Clare Trott. For those of you who have attended All Saints for many years, you will know that Arlene and Clare, were the second generation of the Trott’s Furniture Store family, a landmark Collingwood business for most of the town’s history. If you look closely at the design, you will notice the crosses in the centre of the circular design. There were thousands of crosses on the floor, certainly fitting for a church carpet!!! You probably didn’t realize that every time you came to church, you were ‘closer to the cross’ than you thought. When this was first pointed out to me, close to forty years ago, the opening line of an old hymn came to mind. I took the liberty of changing the words.

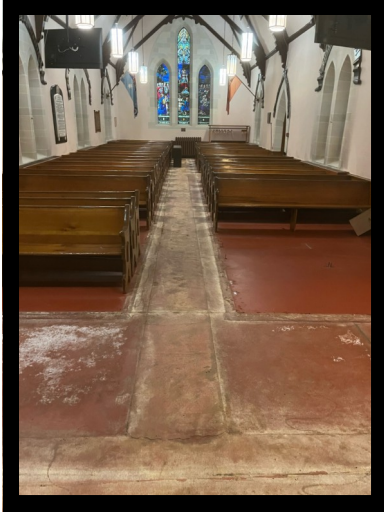
“And did those feet in ancient time, walk upon All Saints sacred floor?”

And was the holy Lamb of God seen on Collingwood’s noble shore?”

I do apologize to William Blake who wrote the original words to ‘Jerusalem’ back in the early 1800’s.

At times, I can imagine the thousands and thousands of feet of people who have walked the floor of All

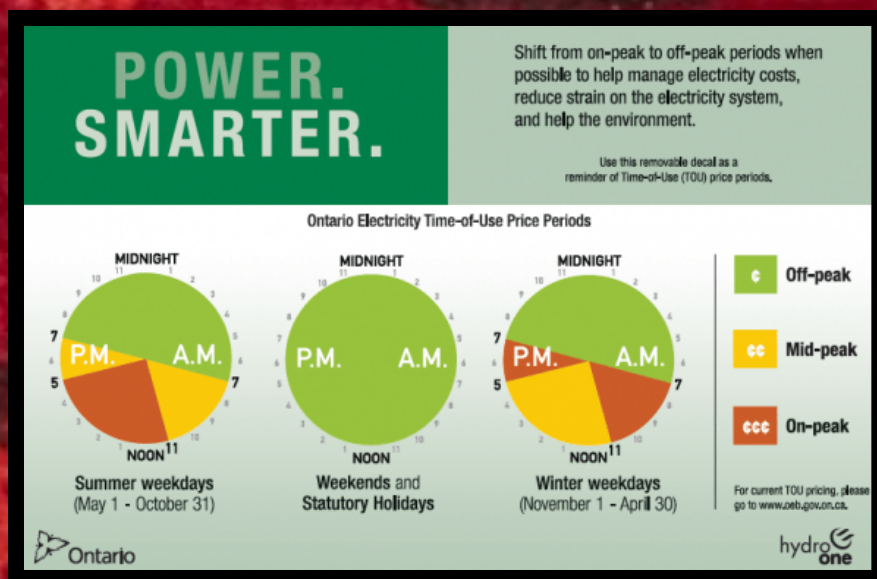




In your prayers this week, please remember those whose names are found on our Parish Prayer List. We pray for their caregivers and for all who help others in need.

“Please pray for these people during the week” - Brenda Teeter, Bob Teeter, Sandra Girdle, Mary Ratensperger, Bev Baxter, Paul Reid, Eric Vignola, Wolf, SSN, Irene McVeigh, Brian, John, Gail, Penny, Barb, Loraine, Janice, Dimi Ntantoulis, Sean, Dorothy, Nancy.

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 AND OUR RELATIONSHIPS TO THE ANCESTRAL LANDS ON WHICH WE LIVE, SHARE, LEARN AND PRAY.



*All Saints
Women's Breakfast*



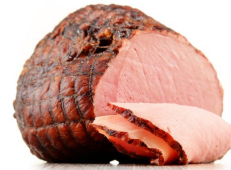
Saturday April 6th 2024
9:30am – 11:00am
Parish Hall

Sign-up Sheet in the Parish Hall

Email: cheri.kelly0522@gmail.com

**Community Friendship Dinner
Wednesday April 10th 2024
Dinner Begins at 5pm**

Ham
Scalloped Potatoes
Salad
Dinner Roll
Dessert



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

Due To Construction Work in the Church,
our Services will be held in The Parish
Hall.

Please enter through the double doors on
Elgin Street or Via the Parking Lot Ramp.