

**ALL SAINTS ALIVE
THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
COLLINGWOOD
JANUARY 16, 2025**

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Thank you, Lord for giving me, the brand new year ahead
Help me live the way I should, as each new day I tread.

Give me the gentle wisdom that I might help a friend
Give me the strength and courage, so a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things.
Each new day filled with joy and the happiness it brings.

Please give the leaders of our world, a courage born of peace
That they might lead us gently and all the fighting cease.

Please give to all upon this earth, a heart that's filled with love
A gently, happy way to live, with your blessings from above.

By Charlotte Anselmo

Happy New Year everyone. All Saints Alive hope you had a wonderful Christmas season and we wish you the very best for 2025.

A short while ago we observed 'Epiphany', celebrated in the Christian tradition on January 6th. Mary Lou Dunn, our church archivist and historian, shares with us, "What Epiphany means in simple terms".

EPIPHANY- What does epiphany mean in simple terms?

"A sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by some simple, homely, or commonplace occurrence or experience. a literary work or section of a work presenting, usually symbolically, such a moment of revelation and insight."

Epiphany, (from Greek epiphaneia, "manifestation"), Christian holiday commemorating the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of his divinity, as it occurred at his baptism in the Jordan River and at his first miracle, at Cana in Galilee. Epiphany is one of the three principal and oldest festival days of the Christian church (the other two are Easter and Christmas). Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, and other Western churches observe the feast on January 6, while some Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate Theophany on January 19, since their Christmas Eve falls on January 6.

What are the 12 days of Christmas?

The 12 days of Christmas is the period in Christian theology that marks the span between the birth of Christ and the coming of the Magi, the three wise men. It begins on December 25 (Christmas) and runs through January 6 (the Epiphany, sometimes also called Three Kings' Day).

In the West the evening preceding Epiphany is called Twelfth Night. The time between December 25 and January 6 is known as the Twelve Days of Christmas.

As we enter a new year, our Diocese gives us a new direction for “social justice”. In 2025, our Diocesan focus this year is on saving lives. Father Michael shares with us the motion that Bishop Andrew has endorsed and what we will be considering at our Annual Vestry Meeting on March 2nd. It is also important to note that Bishop Andrew will be joining us at All Saints this weekend, both for the Après Ski Service on Saturday and the church service on Sunday morning.

2025 Diocesan Social Justice Motion Focuses on Saving Lives

Each year, our diocese asks parishes to pass a motion that addresses some aspect of bringing the kingdom of God to our earthly politics and practices, as part of our Social Justice initiatives. The motion by itself does not change reality, but sufficient parishes passing the motion at their vestries allows our bishops to speak with a strong and prophetic voice to our elected leaders.

This year’s social justice motion comes out of a letter that our Bishop Andrew and other Ontario faith leaders wrote to our provincial government, calling on them to reconsider the closure of ten of seventeen safe consumption/overdose prevention sites in our province.

The linkages between homelessness, addiction and mental illness are well known, and can even be seen in our community. Safe consumption sites can decrease the number of fatal overdoses, and bring people into contact with health care and social work professionals who can get them on the road to recovery.

Our Social Justice Vestry Motion for 2025, “Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario,” calls on the province to reverse its decision on the planned closure of safe consumption sites and to lift the ban on the creation of new sites, in order to expand life-saving harm reduction services to Ontarians.

The motion will be considered at our vestry meeting on March 2nd. You can read more about it here:

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/social-justice-advocacy/social-justice-vestry-motion/?lang=en>



On December 29th, All Saints hosted a regional ministry service of ‘Lessons and Carols’. Parishioners from our 4 regional Anglican Churches attended and took part in a wonderful service of Christmas Carols and Readings. Afterwards, everyone shared lunch and fellowship. Thank you to Barry and the choir for the music and to all the readers and those involved in the lunch. It was also special to reconnect with Father Doug Michael and Vanessa and Rev. Wendy Moore. (Photos next page)

Lesson and Carols



This Saturday at 4:00 p.m. is the first “Après Ski Service” for 2025. Father Michael informs us that this year’s services will focus on the Holy Family....

Après Ski 2025

Focus on the Holy Family

This year our focus for our Après Ski worship will be on the Holy Family: Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. Often only considered during the Christmas season, the Holy Family shows God’s decision in Christ to enter into and dwell among the most intimate relationships that humans know. The family is where we, like the infant Jesus, know protection and love, and yet the place we, like the child Jesus in the Temple, start to outgrow as we find our own maturity and place in the world. For those whose own memories of family are of brokenness and pain, the Holy Family can offer



the solace of God’s love and repair as we are offered adoption into the Family of God of which the Holy Family is an image and forerunner.

During each of our Après Ski services, members of our clergy team will offer short (five minute) meditations on various aspects of the Holy Family and how they can enrich our faith. Hope to see you at some of these services.

Michael+

David Penhale is All Saints representative for the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund. He shares with us an update about the PWRDF.



PWRDF Corner by David Penhale

Network news brings us the big stories: the rise and fall of governments, the comings and goings of celebrities, the climate catastrophes and natural disasters. The small but equally important stories: the struggle for respect and dignity, the quest for clean water and wholesome food, the determined effort to give children a better life, are not the stuff of headlines. The media spotlight illuminates a corner of the world and then switches to cover another sensation. For ordinary people, life goes on. The gospels teach us that God’s love is unconditional. The Good Samaritan asks no questions. He simply reaches out to the man lying in the road. Jesus does not judge people in need. He heals all who come to him for help. The daily challenges faced by individuals are all too easy to overlook. Cuba is a case in point. The Cuban people are facing economic hardship and political uncertainty. The PWRDF is there to lend a hand. “In rural communities in Cuba, where poverty, hunger and inequality are a daily reality, the Episcopal Church of Cuba’s Integral Development Program (PDM) is bringing hope and transformation. By addressing the root causes of these issues, PDM is empowering individuals and communities to break free from the cycles of poverty and injustice.” “Modernized water purification systems are now bringing clean water to more than 5,000 people daily. Additionally, 21 food security projects are promoting sustainable agricultural practices and ensuring communities have access to nutritious food.” “In 2008 the Cuban government opened a window of opportunity for citizens to acquire assets. Five remote communities of approximately 1,200 people desperately needed help with their farming work. The villages also lacked public transportation and decent roads. The purchase of a tractor was the obvious choice. With the financial support of PWRDF through the Cuban Council of Churches, Pastor Roberto Rodrigues and his community bought a Russian-made tractor.” (Quotes taken from <https://pwrdf.org/>) PWRDF supports similar initiatives all over the world. Would you like to support this important work? <https://pwrdf.org/give-today/>

Our Food Ministries continued their outreach into our community in early January. Five Loaves once again, delivered 100 meals to Mobile Soup Kitchen, Out of the Cold Busby Centre and to individuals. Thanks to Sharon Goldsworthy and Gill Elias and all the other volunteers who made this happen. On January 8th, the Community Friendship Dinner served its monthly dinner to many of our community friends...Penny Bourne's report on the dinner follows.

FRIENDSHIP DINNER - Wednesday January 8th, 2025

Wednesday was the coldest and snowiest evening of the winter so far! Or that's the way it seemed at the time. We were not sure how many people would show up for the Community Dinner that night. How much to cook and prepare? Paulette and I decided that everything should be prepared as usual, hoping for a crowd!

Thankfully, about 60 guests did make it through the snow and thoroughly enjoyed a large, hot dinner of lasagna, beans, salads, garlic bread, desserts and fruit. All the prepared food was eaten and it allowed for seconds and take home packages for another meal.

Amazingly, 20 wonderful volunteers braved the cold and came to help set up, serve and clean up afterwards. A huge Thank You to everyone! You made it possible to have our monthly dinner as planned. There are many people in the community who come for not just food (for which we have a very good reputation) but also for warmth and friendship.

Our next dinner will be our Valentine's special on Wednesday February 12th. So watch for the emails!

Thank you for your help,
Penny and Paulette

In addition to the two outreach dinners that All Saints does each month, our Food Ministry also offers the 'Food Pantry Box' for anyone in need of a light snack or meal. The pantry is located outside on the east side of the church (Elgin Street), near the ramp at the parking lot. Penny Bourne coordinates this ministry and has shared with us an update.

FOOD PANTRY BOX

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Food Pantry. The box is on Elgin Street and it provides help to those in need of food, for themselves or their family. We stock the pantry twice a week and people can just come, day or night, and take what they need.

However, as the winter is now in full swing we are not able to provide cans or anything that might freeze as it might be there over night. So I am now asking for donations of such foods as

Breakfast cereal,

Snacks such as granola bars, pop-tarts, cookies

Cup-a-soup

Noodle bowls

Kraft dinner (pkg or individual bowls)

Or anything else that you can find that will not freeze outside

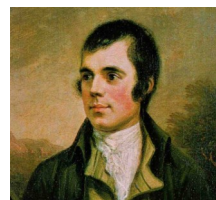
Please leave items in the food bins provided at each church door, not in the pantry.

Thank you for your help.
Penny Bourne

‘The sweeping blast, the sky o’ercast,
 The joyless winter day
 Let others fear, to me more dear
 Than all the pride of May:
 The tempest’s howl, it soothes my soul,
 My griefs it seems to join;
 The leafless trees my fancy please,
 Their fate resembles mine!

I’m sure there are a few who read this, will know the author of those words. Hint, it is not one of the Crazy Canucks from skiing history, nor those who are passionate skiers, snowshoe enthusiasts, or winter lovers AND definitely not Robert Service’s, Sam McGee.....no, the author of these words will be in All Saints Parish Hall on Friday, January 24th. (in spirit only!)

All Saints Church presents the “Robbie Burns Celebration Evening”. A few tickets are still available until Sunday, January 19th. You may phone Nancy in the church office or purchase them at the service on Sunday morning. This will be a fun time!!! Will ye be tempted by a wee piece of Haggis? See Poster attached!



**Please Join us For a Scottish
 Robbie Burns Celebration Night
 at All Saints Anglican Church
 Collingwood Friday January 24
 2025 5pm Piper will welcome
 guests until 5:15pm**

Tickets \$25

Meat Pie Dinner accompanied with
 Neeps (Turnips) Tatties (Mashed potatoes)
 Scottish dessert coffee and tea
 Cash needed for 50/50 tickets

Contact the office for tickets or purchase tickets at coffee hour following church services
 Starting December 29 up until January 18
 Wear your Plaids

Once again, All Saints Parishioners reached out to Reverend Sharon’s request in support of Pine Villa Retirement and Nursing Home in Collingwood. We thank Rev. Sharon and her team and all those who donated items for the Christmas bags for the residents....photos attached....



Marg Thompson and her assistants did a wonderful job in decorating the church and Parish Hall for our Christmas season. We thank Marg and team for all their work! Photos attached...



Our wardens remind you of the church appeal for funds for the boiler replacement. If you wish to make a donation to the 'Boiler Fund' there is still time to do this. The wardens wish to thank those who have already made donations.



A Frozen Church! Could This Happen Here?

All Saints leadership is faced with the difficult decision of having to replace our old furnace boiler, which is now perilously near the end of its life. We're asking for your help in making a donation of any amount to help us manage the considerable cost.

In the spirit of the season, Father Michael was inspired to write a new Christmas carol, based on an old tune.

An Appeal for Help With Our Boiler Replacement

With apologies to Christina Georgina Rossetti

In the bleak midwinter, should our boiler go,
We'd soon be all a shiver, ice from head to toe;
Snow would fall, snow on snow, it would be no fun,
in the bleak midwinter, if our heat won't run.

Our boiler's gotten ancient, it may not us sustain,
The poor old thing has done its best, it is not to blame.
In the bleak midwinter, its heat might not suffice.
Time's come to replace it, lest we all turn to ice.

Angels and archangels may hover in the air,
But our dear parishioners, it's to you we make our prayer.
A new boiler's pricey, we say that to you plain,
Hoping that your kindness will ease our fiscal pain.

What can you give, to help us in this jam?
Anything would help, but please don't bring a lamb!
Any large or small amount, if you could play your part,
Would keep us warm and toasty, and gladden all our hearts.

Birthdays!!! Over the holiday season, two of our parishioners celebrated a birthday on the same day....in fact, they were both born in the General and Marine Hospital...All Saints Alive sends belated birthday greetings to Connie Fawcett and Sandra Girdle!



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

“Please pray for these people during the week” - Brenda Teeter, Sandra Girdle, Mary Ratenesperger, Eric Vignola, Wolf, SSN, Irene McVeigh, Brian, John, Gail, Penny, Sean, Terry, Ann Pope, Patricia, Faith.

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

