

ALL SAINTS ALIVE
THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH COLLINGWOOD
FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Welcome back to our newsletter. It is hard to believe we are two months into this new year. Perhaps we have been too occupied with snow and wind, and snow and wind and snow and wind and....! February has been “a lion all month”, but hopefully March will come in as a lamb as the saying goes. As we approach our season of Lent, there is so much going on in our Parish and our Regional Ministry. In our newsletter today, we will share with you most of what is ahead of us in March. But first, we share with you some inspirational thoughts, written by Bonnie Mohr.

LIFE IS NOT A RACE

Life is not a race but a journey
Be honest, work hard, be choosy.
Say ‘Thank you, I love you and great job’
To someone each day.
Go to church, take time for prayer
The Lord giveth and taketh.
Let your handshake mean more than pen and paper.
Love your life and what you have been given.
Dreaming does matter—it allows you to become that which you aspire to be.
Laugh often and appreciate the little things in life and enjoy them.
And don’t worry, less wrinkles are more becoming.
Forgive, it frees the soul--live for today and enjoy the moment.

Our annual Vestry meeting will be held after the church service on Sunday morning. The Vestry Reports are available in the church. We hope to see a great turnout for this important Parish meeting.

Next Tuesday, everyone is welcome to the Pancake Dinner. There is no cost but a freewill offering will be taken, with proceeds going to the ‘Boiler Fund’.

Also next week, our Ash Wednesday church services will take place at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Our Five Loaves Food Ministry is also on Wednesday. March 6th marks the start of Lent Madness (more information can be found on page 7). On Friday, March 7th, the Ecumenical World Day of Prayer will take place at Heritage Community Church. (more information can be found in Sharon Goldsworthy’s report on page 3).

Please mark on your calendars, the Lenten Lunch Series which starts on Tuesday, March 11th. This year the theme is “Live Lent: God’s Story, Our Story. These short reflections start each Tuesday at 12 noon in the church and a light lunch follows in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

All Saints Food Ministry continues on March 12th with the monthly Community Friendship Dinner.

Father Michael shares with us, information on the ‘Season of Spiritual Renewal’.

Season of Spiritual Renewal Services Across the Diocese - As part of the Season of Spiritual Renewal that Bishop Andrew has called our Diocese to, there will be a series of special services across the Diocese, featuring excellent preaching, joyous music, and a chance for us to gather and ask the Holy Spirit to bring new life and hope to us. There are two services in March, both at 2pm on a Saturday: March 22 at St James Cathedral in Toronto and March 29 at Trinity Church, Streetsville.

Fr. Michael has been on the planning committee for these services and is quite excited about them. He and Joy have a few seats in their car if you’d like to go with them, and it would be terrific if other folks from our parish were to drive down and offer rides.

For more information, go to <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/season-of-spiritual-renewal/>

LIFT UP OUR HEARTS

Saturday afternoons at 2 p.m.

MARCH 22	St. James Cathedral The Rev. Molly Finlay, preacher
MARCH 29	Trinity Church Streetsville The Rev. Canon Stephanie Douglas, preacher
MAY 31	All Saints, Whitby The Rev. Gerlyn Henry, preacher
SEPT 27	St. James, Orillia The Rev. Dr. Rob Hurkmans, preacher
OCT 25	St. Paul's Bloor Street The Rev. Dr. Alvarado Adderley, preacher

Each year at Vestry, we are asked to consider a Diocesan motion dealing with social justice in Ontario. Father Michael gives us some background on this year's motion and some 'Myths and Facts' (attached in the email) that help us understand the importance of this motion.

Background On This Year's Vestry Social Justice Motion and Supervised Consumption of Drugs in Ontario

On Sunday, March 2nd, as part of our vestry meeting, we will be asked to vote on this year's Diocesan Social Justice Motion, calling on our provincial government to reverse its opposition to and closer of Supervised Consumption Sites across the province. The motion reads as follows:\

We, the parish of All Saints, Collingwood, in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the Province of Ontario to reverse the planned closure of safe consumption sites in Ontario, and to lift the ban on the creation of new sites, in order to expand life-saving harm reduction services to Ontarians.

A fact sheet on the motion is included in this edition of All Saints Alive. A link to a video by the Rev. Elin Goulden, our Diocesan Social Justice Coordinator, can be found on our parish Facebook page.

For me, the basic question boils down to this: we as Christians and as Ontarians are not okay with people dying if their deaths are preventable. If we don't want them dying of hunger and exposure on the street or in homeless encampments, then we don't want them dying of overdoses.

The premise of the Supervised Consumption Site program has always been to offer spaces that provide a wide spectrum of health and medical attention. For some users, they function as community clinics, offering a path away from addiction and back to wellness. They bring drug users and care professionals together and offer hope for healing, and they make neighbourhoods safer.

Here are some comments that the Social Justice Committee has gathered:

Rebecca is another parent whose child attends school near a supervised consumption site, the Kensington Market Overdose Prevention Site. She says, *"As a parent, I value safe consumption sites. Amidst the opioid crisis that has claimed thousands of lives in Ontario, safe consumption sites are saving lives, and making our communities safer. I am sympathetic to people who are concerned for their safety; however, as research points out, overdose prevention centres do not increase local crime, but instead help reduce drug use in public spaces and reduce the disposal of syringes in public spaces, such as parks and school yards."*

Zach, who lives in a homeless encampment in Toronto, goes to a nearby SCS for harm reduction supplies. He says, *"I don't use these as much myself, but other people come here [to my tent] and get this stuff. I often go three times a day to refresh the supplies."* He adds that people who are addicted *"gotta do it somewhere. It's better people know what you're doing and how you are doing it, so you don't do it in the bathroom. That's how people die."*

We might decide that Safe Consumption Sites are a Toronto problem, but we'd be wrong. Health advocates in Barrie and Orillia have been trying in vain to establish sites in their communities, and we know that drug use happens in small communities, where there are even fewer places to turn for help. I hope that you will look at the materials that our Diocese has made available on this subject and that you will decide to support this year's motion.

The clergy team hopes that when all four parishes in our region have voted to support the motion, we can write a joint letter to the newly elected MLA for Grey Simcoe, calling on that person to consider the concerns that we have raised as Christians and as citizens. Better yet if we could present the letter in person and have a discussion. Please support the motion so we can do that.

Blessings,
Fr. Michael

Mary Lou Dunn tells us the history of an old Easter custom--‘Hot Cross Buns’. With Easter still weeks away, it gives us lots of time to assemble the ingredients and plan on when to make them!! Thanks Mary Lou

The Hot Cross Bun marks the end of the season of Lent and different elements of the hot cross bun each have a specific meaning, such as the cross representing the crucifixion of Jesus, the spices inside signifying the spices used to embalm him and sometimes also orange peel reflecting the bitterness of his time on the cross.[\[6\]\[7\]](#)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Hot Cross Buns was an English street cry, later perpetuated as a nursery rhyme and an aid in musical education. It refers to the spiced English confection known as a hot cross bun, which is associated with the end of Lent and is eaten on Good Friday in various countries. The song has the Roud Folk Song Index number of 13029.

The most common modern version is quoted as

Hot cross buns!

Hot cross buns!

One a penny, two a penny,

Hot cross buns!

If you have no daughters,

Give them to your sons.

One a penny, two a penny,

Hot cross buns![\[1\]](#)

As mention above in upcoming events, the World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, March 7th. Sharon Goldsworthy shares more information about this service.

Ecumenical World Day of Prayer 2025 in Collingwood


When: Friday March 7, 2025 at 11am **Where:** Hosted by the Heritage Community Church, Collingwood. (310 Seventh St.) **Theme:** "I Made You Wonderful" prepared by the women of the Cook Islands. (This is a group of 15 islands in the South Pacific Ocean. They have a rich and colourful Māori heritage and a deep connection to nature.)

Please join us for a time of global connection as people of faith.

Service followed by a time of light refreshments.

PWRDF Corner - Recent events in the United States have reminded us of our love for Canada, the



great country we are privileged to call our home and native land. As followers of Jesus, that love must be unsentimental and clear-eyed. As members of The Anglican Church of Canada, we acknowledge our nation's history, good and bad. Canada is committed to international justice. Our armed forces fought alongside our allies in many conflicts, including two world wars, and have often served as peacekeepers. We offer support to those in need, most recently to the State of California, sending firefighting equipment to battle the devastating wildfires. Our history with our Indigenous people, however, is troubled. Did you know that the PWRDF is active in Canada, reaching out in partnership to Indigenous communities? 

“Indigenous peoples in Canada have faced centuries of colonization, dispossession of land, cultural assimilation, and systemic discrimination. Supporting Indigenous programs is a way to acknowledge these historical injustices and work towards meaningful reconciliation between Indigenous peoples and settlers. PWRDF supports and accompanies Indigenous communities and organizations through our Indigenous Partnership Program.

“The PWRDF Indigenous Partnership Program promotes partnerships based on recognition, respect and support for the rights and well-being of the Indigenous partners. The Indigenous Partnership Program responds to:

- The needs and priorities identified by Indigenous partners and by the 1996 Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP) report;
- The 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);
- The Recommendations of the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action.

“The Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund was created in 2021 in consultation with our Indigenous Program Advisory Committee (IPAC). Indigenous-led communities or organizations are invited to apply for one-year grants of between \$5,000 and \$15,000. The goal of this Fund is to respond quickly to funding needs and priorities identified by Indigenous communities and organizations, and to support stand alone and pilot projects for longer-term programming that benefit Indigenous communities.” (All quotes from the PWRDF website.)

Would you like to support this important work? <https://pwrdf.org/give-today/>

Ladies...this is your last chance to sign up for this year's AWARE Conference. For more information, please contact Moira Southwell at the church.

AWARE (All Women Alive, Renewed and Enriched) Is Back!

This is the annual women's retreat held at Elim Lodge May 2, 3, and 4, 2025 offering spiritual refreshment, challenge and a lot of fun too!

The theme this year is “30 years of shining his light!” Celebrating the milestone of 30 years of AWARE!

The weekend will offer talks by the speaker, small group discussions, worshipful music, a variety of workshops, amazing food and fellowship as well as blissful solitude by sitting by the lake listening to the loons!

Our speaker for the weekend is Robynn Bliss. Robynn is a certified Spiritual Director and for many years a missionary in India

The Chaplain for the weekend is our very own Fr. Sharon Sangster!

For more info or questions contact Moira Southwell or Sharon Goldsworthy.

There are also information sheets on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If we register together we can possibly room together with friends. There are lots of cottages that sleep anywhere from 4-8 people.

Hope you can join us!

The February Community Friendship Dinner was held on a snowy, blustery night but Penny Bourne reports that the atmosphere inside was warm and friendly and everyone enjoyed a hearty meal prepared by the many volunteers.

**FRIENDSHIP DINNER
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12th**

As I sit watching yet more snow coming down, I want to say "thank you" to everyone who came out on Wednesday to help with our Friendship Dinner. I hope you all got home safely before the worst of the storm.

There was a big storm forecast for that evening and this affected our numbers a bit. However, we welcomed about 60 guests and 18 volunteers, serving about 69 meals. The Valentine's menu was boneless pork chops in a maple butter sauce, roasted potatoes, mixed veggies, salads and buttered rolls. There were lovely desserts, heart shaped cookies and we had two large celebration cakes. Plenty for take home meals, too.

Again, thank you to all the volunteers and food providers for helping us to bring these dinners to the community each month. Without your help it would not happen! Thanks also to M&M Foods for discounting the price of the delicious pork and to Sobeys for their artful cake decoration.

Our next Friendship Dinner will be on March 12th, watch for the email.

I hope to see you then!

Penny



Jim Cunningham, Chairperson of the All Saints Foundation, has shared the committee's annual report that will be presented at Vestry. Please see below. Jim is a busy man around the church. He also is chair of the International Dinner Committee and reports that the "Robbie Burns Dinner, held at the end of January, was a tremendous success. Seventy parishioners and friends did what many people around the world have done for the last 225 years—celebrated the life of Scotland's favourite poet. The meal included haggis as is the tradition and we were fortunate to have been led through the evening by our own Brian Raaflaub playing the bagpipes. Thanks to the donations of many of the committee members, the event raised \$1500 for the church's boiler fund. A big thank you goes out to Jim and all the members of the International Dinner Committee!

**All Saints Anglican Foundation Collingwood
Report to Vestry
(March 2025)**

Foundation's Objectives

All Saints Anglican Foundation Collingwood (the "Foundation") was incorporated as a non-profit charitable corporation in 2006 to seek bequests and endowments for the long-term benefit of All Saints' Anglican Church Collingwood.

Financial Affairs

As at December 31, 2024, the Foundation had \$521,621 in our investment portfolio, and \$1050 in our bank account.

Canada Revenue Agency requires that charitable foundations distribute at least 3.5 % of their capital each year for charitable purposes. In keeping with that guideline, the Foundation delivered \$ 21,650 to the Church last year. The church can expect to receive slightly less than that this year.

Last year (2024) was a more stable year for investments than the previous three years. Ongoing problems caused by the wars in Ukraine and Palestine, continued to affect global economies and investments, but not nearly as much. Nevertheless, our return on investments for the year was a respectable 8.4%. We expect that falling interest rates, and the possibility of very disruptive measures likely to be imposed by the American President, are going to result in lower returns this year. We are confident that our investment policy will insulate us from any serious losses.

Protocol

From time to time the Church receives bequests in its own name as opposed to the Foundation.

The Rector and Wardens have indicated in the past that they wish to set some of those bequests aside, rather than have them form part of the Church's general revenue. To this end, such bequests are pooled with funds administered by the Foundation and invested in the same manner as the Foundation's assets.

The Rector and Wardens and the Foundation have signed a protocol to give effect to this request. The essence of the protocol declares that bequests turned over to the Foundation remain the Church's property and can be reclaimed at any time upon reasonable notice. The protocol also acknowledges that the Church's funds are to be pooled with the Foundation's and invested in accordance with the Foundation's investment policy.

In 2024, the Church withdrew \$125,750 from their portion of the portfolio, in order to pay for various costly church maintenance projects.

Investment Policy:

The Foundation's Directors have adopted a prudent and conservative investment strategy designed to preserve capital first, and also to grow the portfolio. To this end, the portfolio at year end consisted of slightly more fixed income investments than equities. All equity investments are in very high grade companies, all of which yield dividends.

Every time the Directors meet (2 or 3 times annually), the investment policy is reviewed, and possibly amended.

Directors

The following were elected as Directors for the coming year at the Foundation's annual meeting: Jim Cunningham (president), Jim Scott (treasurer), Gill Elias (secretary), David Trafford (vice president), Migs Baker, Anthony Bourne, and Ron Emo, and Jake Johnston.

Support Your Foundation

It is gratifying that parishioners continue to indicate that they already have, or plan to make bequests or donations to the Foundation.

Please consider a bequest to the Foundation in your estate plan. It is easy to do and means so much.

There are substantial tax savings to be gained by leaving stocks to the Foundation, rather than to your estate. If you have a question, speak to a Director or direct your question through Nancy in the Church office.

As a closing note, the Foundation invites parishioners to become members, at a modest fee of \$5.00 per person for a lifetime membership. There are no obligations of membership except to learn what the Foundation is doing for our Church. Becoming a member does not mean that you are expected to donate or leave a bequest to the Foundation.

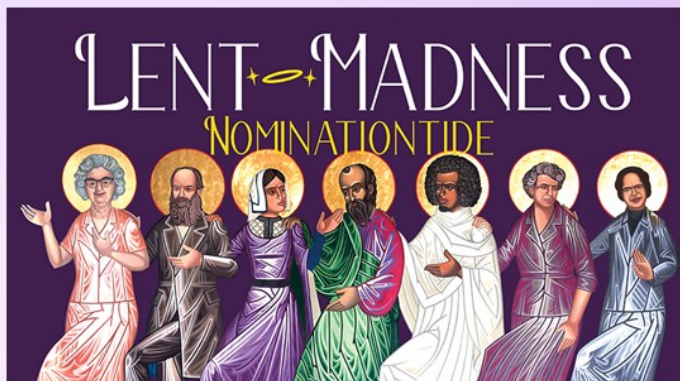
Members may cast votes at the Annual General Meeting on any matters requiring a vote, and are eligible to possibly become Directors.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors,
Jim Cunningham
President

As we approach the month of March, that means that..... “Lent Madness” is back! Father Michael reports that this wonderful learning activity starts on March 6th. Booklets will be available at the church or you can learn more on-line <https://www.lentmadness.org/>

Lent is Coming, and That Means It Will Soon be Time to Play Lent Madness Again!

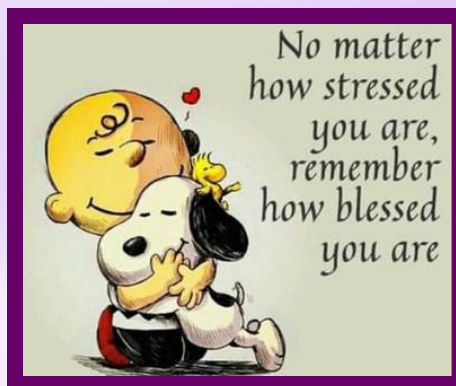
Our friends at Forward Movement are gearing up for another season of Lent Madness, a fun online way to learn more about the saints and heroes of our faith. This year’s contest begins on March 6th and features saints from the Bible, from church history, and some modern folks we should know better. We will have booklets available for free for those who want them, but if you don’t get a booklet, everything you need to play is online at <https://www.lentmadness.org/>



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

“Please pray for these people during the week” - Brenda Teeter, Sandra Girdle, Mary Ratensperger, Eric Vignola, Wolf, SSN, Irene McVeigh, Brian, John, Gail, Penny, Sean, Terry, Ann Pope, Patricia, Faith, Marilyn Knowles, Rickey Lemire, Meryl White, Francis Bonwick, John Thomas.

We pray for the repose of the souls of Mark Ralston and for his family.



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.

Photo Directory - In March All Saints and the three other congregations in our Regional Ministry will be producing a photo directory with the help of Universal Portrait Studios.

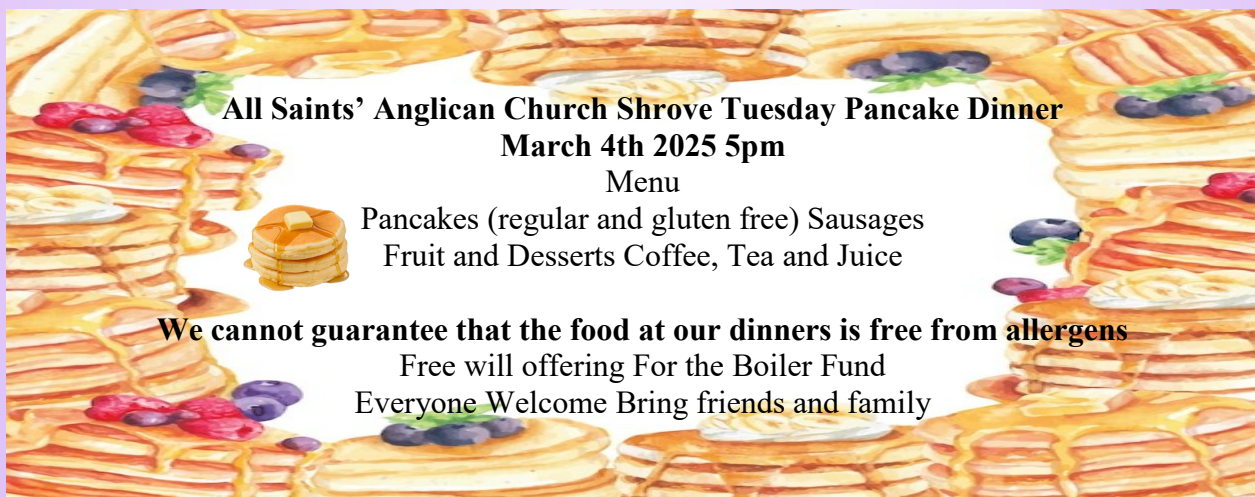
There hasn't been an All Saints photo directory done since 2014, so it's time for a new one as some of us are new and many of us have gotten better looking over time.

The dates for our photo sessions are March 13-15 at the church. There is no cost for your photo to be taken and included in the directory, the only cost to you is if you decide to order your own photos.

To register for your photo session, please go to: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/73x5j3rg/> and select "Collingwood, All Saints Anglican" from the drop-down menu on the left, select your photo sitting day, and then enter your information.

If you need help registering, please call the church office and we can help you.

The end result will be a booklet that has all the members of all four of our churches.

An advertisement for a pancake dinner. The background is a collage of various pancakes, some with fruit like blueberries and raspberries, and some with toppings like sausages. The text is centered over this background.

All Saints' Anglican Church Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
March 4th 2025 5pm
Menu
Pancakes (regular and gluten free) Sausages
Fruit and Desserts Coffee, Tea and Juice

We cannot guarantee that the food at our dinners is free from allergens
Free will offering For the Boiler Fund
Everyone Welcome Bring friends and family

An advertisement for Ash Wednesday services. The background is a close-up of a person's forehead with a large, dark, cross-shaped mark of ash. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

All Saints Anglican Church
Collingwood

Ash
Wednesday

Services
March 5th 2025
10am and 5pm