

# Regional Newsletter

APRIL 30 2026



**ALL SAINTS'**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH  
COLLINGWOOD

All Saints' Collingwood  
Good Shepherd Stayner  
Prince of Peace Wasaga Beach  
St Luke's Creemore

IN GOD'S SERVICE  
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE REGIONAL ANGLICAN MINISTRY OF  
SOUTH GEORGIAN BAY

## IN THIS EDITION

Welcome

Message from  
Father Michael

Donna Whiteside

Warden  
Catherine Raaflaub

Reverend Sharon

News and Updates

Upcoming Events

Prayer Requests

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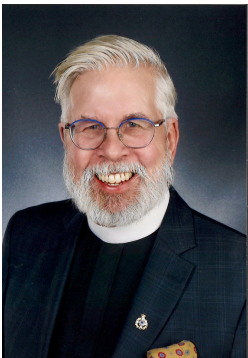
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Wow!! Another month has flown by...just seems like yesterday we were packing away Christmas decorations, gradually moving through Epiphany, deciding what to give up for Lent, preparing for Holy Week....and now, a new month, a new retiree, a new deacon in training, another church celebrating a significant birthday...and my zinnias and tomato plants are growing madly!!  
Happy May!

**As Father Michael shares in his newsletter message, we have an opportunity to reflect on how fortunate we are for the many blessing in our community of churches.**

## MESSAGE FROM FATHER MICHAEL



Dear friends in Christ:

It's wonderful to have another opportunity to reflect on where we are in our community of churches that we call the Regional Ministry of South Georgian Bay. Just like our gardens are full of life and new growth, so are things around our region.

If you took part in the photo shoots last year, then you will be receiving or have already received our Regional Ministry Photo Directory. I'm pleased that it has smiling faces from all four of our churches, as well as a goodly number of dogs!

I'm looking forward to our next regional service on Sunday, May 31st at 10:30am at Prince of Peace when Bishop Riscylla will join us to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Anglican church in Wasaga Beach. Rev Amy has written a fascinating piece in this newsletter on the history of Prince of Peace and how it is intertwined with the history of Good Shepherd, Stayner. Please note that this May 31st service will be the only service offered in our region on that Sunday, and plan to join us for lunch at the Legion in Klondike Park.

On Saturday, June 6th, you are invited to come to All Saints between 2 and 4pm for a reception to honour the retirement of the Rev. Sharon Sangster. Our beloved and irrepressible Rev Sharon is retiring, but she and her husband Rev. Bryce will remain part of our Regional Ministry clergy team and we are grateful that she is resting but not departing.

Between now and June, our region welcomes Donna Whiteside, who is in formation to become a vocational deacon at St George's, Clarksburg. Donna will be doing a training placement with us and we look forward to getting to know her. Donna has written a short piece about herself which you will find in this issue.

I look forward to catching up with you all over the weeks to come.

Blessings,

Father Michael

## As Father Michael mentioned, Donna Whiteside has shared a few words about herself and what she is looking forward to in the next few months.



### Dear Members of the Regional Ministry of Southern Georgian Bay:

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for allowing me the opportunity to join all of you in worship and community activities for the next few weeks.

My name is Donna Whiteside, a member of St. George's Anglican Church in Clarksburg, working toward becoming a vocational deacon. With a placement at All Saints to the end of June, I look forward to an amazing learning experience through the proficient Ministerial Team lead by The Rev. Dr. Michael Peterson.

During this internship of training and discernment, it will give me great pleasure to become acquainted with the congregation of All Saints and the Regional Ministry that it supports at Prince of Peace, Wasaga Beach; Good Shepherd, Stayner and St. Luke's, Creemore. Your church and Regional Ministry is highly regarded for kindness and compassion, within the walls of your sacred space and in the community itself. This I can confirm from the way I have been welcomed over the past couple of weeks by the congregations and the special guidance received through Rev. Sharon Sangster.

I look forward to the fundamental teaching all of you can offer me during my stay with you.

Again, thank you for your kindness.

Blessings

Donna Whiteside

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## Warden Catherine Raaflaub shares with us special words about a very special person...."Happy Retirement Reverend Sharon!!!

### Happy Retirement to Reverend Sharon Sangster !

What began in the fall of 2016 when Father Doug invited Sharon to share the load of the ministry work in our parish, has grown into nearly a decade of faithful, joyful ministry.— none of us could have imagined the gift we were receiving.

Over these almost ten years, Reverend Sharon has woven herself into the heart of our community and those of our sister churches in our Regional Ministry. We have treasured her humor, her wisdom, and her remarkable gift for bringing the joy of Jesus to life through her sermons, her daily acts of service, her compassionate work with hospice, and her dedicated presence in our nursing homes – she has touched more lives than we can count.

At the end of May, Reverend Sharon will be retiring — and while we will miss her dearly, she is not really leaving! We are so glad that she and her husband Father Bryce will remain on the clergy team of the South Georgian Bay's Ministry.

On behalf of all of us, we wish to thank Reverend Sharon for her years of faithful service.

We hope to see you at an open house in her honor: 📅 Saturday, June 6th All Saints, Church, Parish Hall 2-4 pm

Come celebrate this remarkable woman and the ministry she has poured her heart into. Rev Sharon, we love you and we are so grateful for your ministry.



**ALL SAINTS'**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH  
COLLINGWOOD

**IT'S AN OPEN HOUSE**

— IN HONOUR OF —

*Reverend Sharon Sangster*

*Retirement*

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SATURDAY JUNE 6 2026 | 2PM - 4PM

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32 Elgin Street Collingwood ON L9Y 4V2  
705-445-3841 [admin@allsaintscollingwood.com](mailto:admin@allsaintscollingwood.com)




**Reverend Sharon celebrates “Volunteers”!**

**Hats Off To Our Volunteers!!!!**

April is a month where volunteering is highlighted throughout our community. Different organizations rely on volunteers for programs and day to day running of the administration for them. In our world, so concerned with individuality and self-promotion, volunteering offers the chance to bring a greater joy than financial reward ever could. The sharing of time, kindness, mercy, service, and talents takes us beyond ourselves and the tendency toward selfishness.



In the Book of Acts, we have one of the most famous sayings of Jesus – “It is more blessed to give than receive” (Acts 20:35). Until we give freely of ourselves, this quote may not make much sense. But for those who volunteer, this has been proved to be true many times over. When we freely give, we are blessed indeed. It moves us beyond fleeting happiness, to a sense of fulfillment and inner joy.

If we consider the life of our four churches, we would not be able to offer our services of worship or any programs if we didn't have such an amazing core of volunteers. Making coffee, setting the altar, reading lessons, catering funeral luncheons, singing in the choir, or giving a drive to someone so they are able to attend church, all offers of service enrich our communities of faith. And this does not remain within the walls of our churches, for every time we are involved in other agencies, we bring our faith, our skills and talents, and our concern for the wider community. What you do as a volunteer matters! What you do makes a difference. By offering skills and talents you enrich our common life.

Hats off to you! Thank you!!!!!!!!!! And bless you!!!!!!!!!!

Sharon+

## NEWS AND UPDATES

### 2026 is a very special year in Wasaga Beach, especially at Prince of Peace Church Article "75 Years of Prince of Peace: History and Anniversary Celebrations"

#### 75 Years of Prince of Peace: History & Anniversary Celebrations

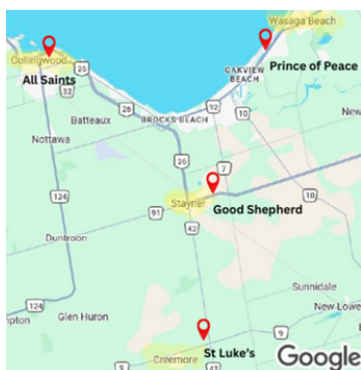
In 2026, the community of Prince of Peace Anglican Church in Wasaga Beach celebrates 75 years since its first worship service, held in our church basement in January 1951.

That small beginning was made possible through the vision and dedication of Rev Arthur J. Patstone, then incumbent of Good Shepherd, Stayner. Without compensation, he travelled to Wasaga Beach on Sunday evenings to lead worship, nurturing a new community of faith from the ground up. He helped gather people, form a building committee, and guide the creation of what would become Prince of Peace, including helping to choose its name in 1945.



Planting a church is never easy work. It requires patience, faith, and a willingness to tend the soil long before growth is visible. The early years of Prince of Peace reflect that kind of steady, faithful labour.

Over the decades, the parish has become a place of prayer, pastoral care, and community life. Generations have marked life's milestones here, and the church has continued to serve its neighbours with quiet faithfulness.



Today, Prince of Peace is part of the South Georgian Bay Regional Ministry, alongside Good Shepherd, Stayner; All Saints', Collingwood; and St. Luke's, Creemore. Each community has its own story, and each has faced its own challenges and blessings. Yet increasingly, we are discovering that we are stronger together.

In many ways, this regional ministry is a new season of tending the soil, working collaboratively, sharing, and discerning how God is calling us forward. Plans are underway to deepen this communal life, helping us to grow not just individually, but as one interconnected parish across four distinct church communities.

What makes Prince of Peace special, both then and now, is its spirit of welcome, its resilience, and its deep care for others. That same spirit continues to shape its future.

We invite you to join us as we give thanks for the past and look ahead with hope.

#### 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Prince of Peace: Sunday, May 31, 2026

##### Regional service, 10:30 AM, with Bishop Riscylla Shaw

This service will include a confirmation and the renewal of baptismal vows, marking both the Church's history and its ongoing life in Christ. **Celebratory luncheon, 12:30 PM will be held at the Wasaga Beach Legion (1888 Klondike Park Rd.).**



**You're invited:** current and former members of Prince of Peace, the Regional Churches of South Georgian Bay, friends, and neighbours. All are warmly welcome as we celebrate 75 years of ministry together!

**RSVP for lunch by May 21:** [PrinceofPeaceChurchWB@gmail.com](mailto:PrinceofPeaceChurchWB@gmail.com)

# NEWS AND UPDATES

## News from Church of the Good Shepherd, Stayner

Good Shepherd parishioners continue to enjoy the rotation of clergy coming each Sunday to officiate and celebrate Eucharist.



They also enjoy the 'Band' that plays at various services.



We continue to hold a potluck luncheon on the first Sunday of each month,

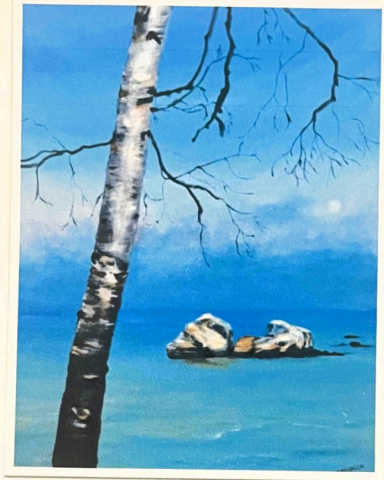


We recently took possession of our new defibrillator. Once it has been installed on the wall in our narthex we will be holding an open session with the paramedics who will show us how to use it properly.



## From All Saints Collingwood

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, ladies from All Saints gathered in the Parish Hall for their monthly Ladies Breakfast. Mary Asbil was the guest speaker. She is the wife of Bishop Andrew. In appreciation for her inspiring address, Mary was presented with a painting from All Saints parishioner and Collingwood artist, Yvonne Gibson. The painting is entitled "The Sisters". Years ago, Yvonne and her sister would swim out to the two rocks featured in the painting. Also noted in one of the photos, are 'bishop hat' napkins, created and folded by Cheri Kelly.



**THE SISTERS (Oil)**  
Meaford Memorial Park



Yvonne Gibson has lived in the Georgian Bay area her entire life. Raised in Meaford, she married Garry Gibson in 1968 and moved to Collingwood, which she has proudly called home for the past 58 years. Following a 26-year career with CIBC, she retired and devoted herself fully to her lifelong passion for art.

A self-taught artist, Yvonne is well known for her whimsical Santas and her exploration of a wide range of artistic mediums. She works in oil and acrylic to capture local scenery and has completed more than 300 commissioned dog portraits in watercolour.

Yvonne has also been deeply committed to supporting the arts in her community. Her leadership roles include:

- Past Chair (3 years), Board Member (5 years) – Georgian Bay Arts & Crafts Association (GBAC)
- Past Chair (22 years), Board Member (27 years) – Collingwood Arts & Music Festival (CAMF)
- Past Chair (3 years), Board Member (7 years) – Blue Mountain Foundation for the Arts (BMFA)

# NEWS AND UPDATES

## From All Saints Collingwood continued

**Our Food Ministries** are gearing up for May. Next Wednesday, the volunteers for "Five Loaves" will be preparing 100 take out dinners, to be delivered to the Busby Centre, the Mobile Soup Kitchen and to approximately 50 households in the community. On May 13<sup>th</sup>, the Community Friendship Dinner team will welcome another 100 guests to a sit-down dinner in the Parish Hall.



**The church and Parish Hall were transformed into a fashion centre on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks to the incredible work by Elaine Cunningham, the Parish Hall was 'filled to the rafters' as women from the Parish and the community viewed the wonderful apparel being modelled by parishioners. The ladies were served by a number of servers and greeters. Also, it was of note to see a special appearance of super model, 'Roberta' ... (photo attached). Thanks to Elaine and her fabulous team, thousands of dollars were raised for the All Saints "Boiler Fund".



## NEWS AND UPDATES

**Recently, Parishioners Reverend Carol and Reverend Murray Bateman had the opportunity to visit the United Kingdom. While there, they visited many churches in both England and Scotland and we are fortunate that Carol has shared many of those highlights with us....**

On a recent trip to the UK, Murray and I visited many C of E and Church of Scotland churches and cathedrals. I thought I would share some of the unique highlights of these holy places.

Our trip began in London, where a visit to both Westminster Abbey and St Martin in the Field were in order. Beyond the grandeur of the Abbey, the uniqueness of the resting places of “Bloody” Queen Mary and “Virgin” Queen Elizabeth being in the same hall, and Stephen Hawking buried at the feet of Sir Isaac Newton, was an interesting sculpture of death coming for us all. The statue is a dramatic monument to Lady Elizabeth Nightingale, located in St Michael’s Chapel. Created in 1761, it shows a skeletal figure emerging from a door, aiming a spear at Lady Elizabeth while her husband tries to ward it off. Lady Elizabeth died in 1731 from premature childbirth brought on by a sudden lightning strike. (1)

Outside St Martins in the Field, found on the corner of Trafalgar Square, there is a hunk of stone out of which a baby is being born. The words around the stone come from the Gospel of St John “In the beginning was the Word- and the Word became flesh and lived among us” John 1:1,14 (2)

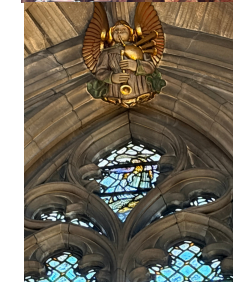
In a small town of Kirkby Melham, we found the church of St Michael the Archangel. It is thought that the church originated no later than the 9th century, and possibly as early as the 7th century. There are box pews dating from the 17th and early 18th centuries, and Jacobean box pews in the Chantry. St Michael’s boasts a ring of eight bells, with the oldest cast in 1602 and 1617 by William Oldfield of York. A group of bell ringers play the bells every Sunday morning. The baptistry contains a font dating from the 11th century. (3)

Another unique experience was chancing upon the Knitted Bible display at a Methodist Church in Melham. This is a travelling exhibit of knitted figures telling Bible stories from Adam and Eve to the day of Pentecost. A group of knitters worked at it during the Pandemic and now churches can have it shipped to them and use funds donated by visitors for their local charitable work. (4)

Colours, which are the standards of military units which have been brought into battle, have long been reposed in Churches or Cathedrals. The tradition is to leave the Colours until they dissolve. In many places in the UK, the Colours are now grouped in one area vice being hung throughout the church. They can be held together with an almost cheesecloth type fabric to help extend their lives – as seen here from the Cathedral in Newcastle. (5)

In St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh stands the Chapel of the Order of the Thistle. The Most Ancient and Most Noble Order was instigated in 1687 by King James VII. A Service celebrating the Order is held once a year, but only in the Chapel if the Sovereign is present, if not the service is held in the main Cathedral. You will find over 267 armorial devices and symbolic designs in the Chapel crafted from stone, wood, glass, enamel, fabric and bronze. If you look closely at the ceiling toward the altar end of the chapel, you will find the Angel playing the Bagpipe. (6)

So many churches – and castles – and only a month to see them. It may be that we should host an afternoon tea to share some of the sites and stories of these amazing, faith-story-filled, places.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Compline Services on Zoom

Sun May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> – 8pm

Wed May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> – 8pm

Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and look for Meeting ID 892 0793 0062 or email Fr.

Michael at [madpadre@gmail.com](mailto:madpadre@gmail.com)

All welcome

Five Loaves - Wed May 6<sup>th</sup> – All day

CO3 – Thurs May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> – 10am

Choir Practice – Thurs May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> – 7pm

Community Friendship Dinner – Wed May 13<sup>th</sup> – 5pm

Women's Group – Wed May 20<sup>th</sup> – 7pm

Yard Sale - Sat May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 8am – 2pm

Men's Breakfast – Thurs May 28<sup>th</sup> – 8am

## PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYERS--In your prayers this week, please remember those whose names are found on our church Pray List. We also pray for their caregivers and for all who assist others in need.

## Holy Communion

**LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2PM**

This service is open for anyone in the congregation. If you missed the Sunday service, this is a great opportunity to celebrate the eucharist. Rides are available by phoning the church office 705-445-3841 by the Wednesday before the service. There is also a time to socialize over light refreshments after the service.

## Please pray for these people during the week:

Eric Vignola

SSN

Irene McVeigh

John

Gail

Sean

Terry

Patricia

Rickey Lemire

Stephanie Plewes Howard

Lindsay

Jim Cunningham

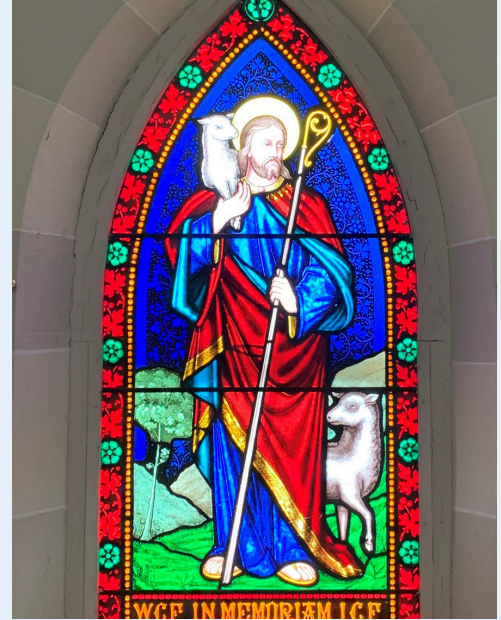
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## Land Acknowledgement

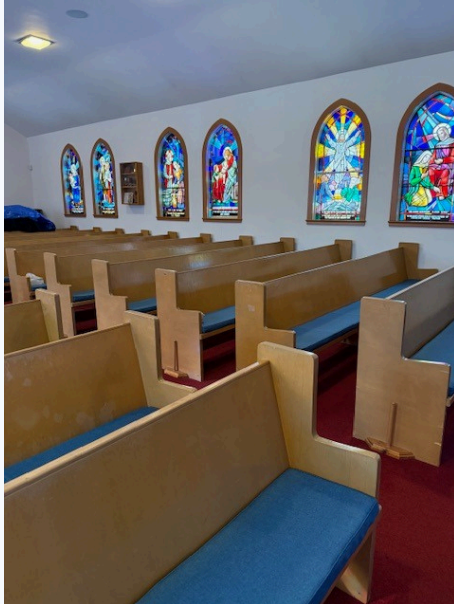
We acknowledge that the parish of All Saints resides on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabe and Wendt Peoples. This acknowledgement reminds us of our responsibility to the ancestral lands on which we live, share, learn and pray.



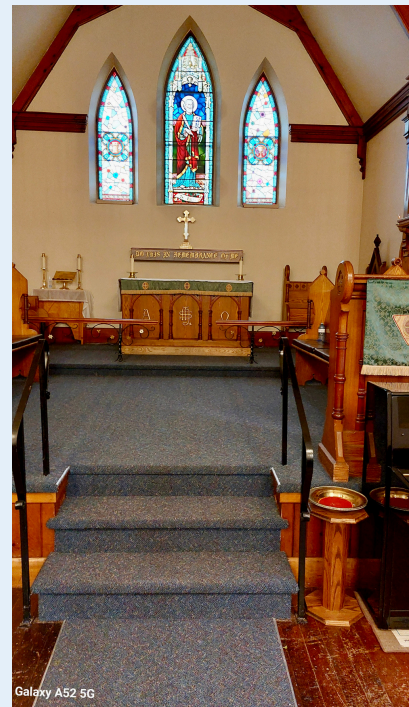
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