

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

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Rev. Andrew
Wilson:

**Happy New
Year!**

One of the
“traditions” for
many is to make a
new year’s

resolution. Sometimes they are light hearted, others are serious and meant to be life changing. A few may get fulfilled, but many don’t – which makes for much humour in the first weeks of the season.

We Anglicans have our own version of the “new year’s resolution” – we call it *Annual Vestry*. It is a moment

when we reflect upon the year gone by, and look forward to the next 12 months, and even beyond. At Vestry we make resolutions, and *promises* to each other, about how we will live out Jesus’ mission in our communities, and how we will support it financially and through our volunteer work (of which there is a great deal!). It can be a critical moment in our life together and with God.

Will you participate in Vestry this year? I certainly hope so. This is a special time when you get your say – to comment, recommend, and to vote. Throughout his ministry, our Lord called people together into a community; and then he sent them out into the world, as a community of disciples. The church, from its earliest beginnings (eg. *Acts*, chapter 15) has held councils to discuss her mission and works, and to appoint leaders. We are all called and, I believe, expected by God, to enter into these meetings, and to do so prayerfully.

I look forward to seeing you all over the next month as we discuss the timely issues and needs of our parishes.

Blessings to you and all whom you love,

Andrew+



Father Robert
Porter:

Receive the Holy Spirit

The explosive
growth of the
early church

recorded in the book of Acts tells of the
apostles hearing;

Samaria had accepted the word of God
Acts 8:14.

The church responds to this fantastic
surprising news that those outside of
Israel are accepting God's word by
sending in their best, Peter and John to
investigate and specifically to pray.
What do Peter and John pray for if the
Samaritans have already accepted
God's word and have already been
baptized?

Sanctification: the inner working of the
Holy Spirit in a believer to bring their
lives more and more into alignment with
God's will and purpose. Peter and John
went to the new believers in Samaria to
"pray[ed] for them that they might
receive the Holy Spirit." What
happened?

Acts continues,

...and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:15-17.

The Holy Spirit, the third person of the
Holy Trinity, the One who is at work in
the believer's life constantly drawing us

closer to Jesus came upon those
believers through prayer.

On Epiphany we participated in a similar
practice to the early church in the
service of confirmation, reception, and
reaffirmation of thirteen believers from
across our region. We prayed for the
Holy Spirit to strengthen, empower, and
sustain.

The bishop prayed "Strength, O Lord,
your servant with your Holy Spirit;
empower them for your service; and
sustain them in all the days of their life.
Amen."

May we all be blessed by the Holy Spirit
with a deepening relationship with our
Lord Jesus. May we be empowered for
ministry and sustained all the days of
our life.

Amen.

Fr. Robert.



Vestry Dates:

Oxford (At Garretton):

Jan 27th.

Christ Church (Burritts Rapids) :

February 3rd.

St. James (Kemptville):

February 24th.

Holy Trinity (Merrickville):

March 3rd.



Getting the Vestry's Advice
(Cartoon by Dan Reynolds)

CURSILLO CORNER



**Make a friend,
Be a friend,
Bring a friend to Christ.**

Ultreya Dates:

- **Sunday Feb. 17th 7pm Holy Trinity Merrickville**
- **Sunday March 17th 7pm at pm St. James, Kemptville.**
- **Sunday May 19th 7pm Holy Trinity Merrickville**

If you have questions or are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend please speak to David Piercey or Dan Callaghan or one of the Priests.

Please send submissions for the newsletter to:

thenewsfromthepews@gmail.com

Outreach

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if
someone claims to have faith but has no deeds
can such faith save them?

James 2:14



On Dec 6th a group from the region
along with community volunteers
provided a hot meal for the House of
Lazarus.

HOL has numerous programs covering a
wide variety of needs.

Some programs are seasonal or
temporary, while others are permanent,
running all year long.

Currently, The programs include:

Advocacy Centre

Back-to-Work

Birthday Club

Christmas Programming

Community Garden

CRA Tax Return

Dinner On the House

Food with Friends

Green Food Box

Handyman Heroes

Healing Pathway

Heat for the Holidays

Information and Referrals

Linking Hands

Medical Supplies

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Project Warmth

School Supplies

Starting Over

Vouchers Program

Worship Schedule:

		Parish of Kemptville		Oxford Parish 9:00 AM		Parish of Merrickville	
Special Celebration	Date	8:00 St. James	10:30 St. James	Service	Location	9:00 am Burritts	10:30 Holy Trinity
	06-Jan	Regional Service		Confirmation Service with Bishop Michael St. James, 10:30am			
	13-Jan	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Richard	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
	20-Jan	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
	27-Jan	Richard	Richard	Rev. Andrew/Rob	Vestry 10:30 Gar.	Keith	Keith
	03-Feb	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew - Vest	Rob Peck
	10-Feb	Richard	Rev. Robert	Rev. Andrew	Garretton	Rev. Robert	Rev. Andrew
Ultreya 7pm H.T.	17-Feb	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew - Vestry
	24-Feb	cominded service		Rev. Robert	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	Donovan
	03-Mar	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
Ash Wed.	06-Mar		10 am Rev. Robert				7:00pm Rev. Andrew
Lent 1	10-Mar	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
Ultreya 7pm St. J.	17-Mar	Richard	Richard	Donovan	Oxford	Keith	Keith
Lent 3	24-Mar	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Pat	Garretton	Rob Peck	Rob Peck
Lent 4	31-Mar	Rev. Robert	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew	North Augusta	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert
	07-Apr	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
Lent 5	14-Apr	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Richard	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
Palm Sunday	18-Apr		7pm Rev. Robert				7 pm Rev. Andrew
Maundy Thursday	19-Apr		2pm Rev. Robert				11am Andrew
Good Friday							
Easter Vigil	20-Apr	Regional Service		Rev's Andrew & Robert North Augusta 6:00 pm			
Easter	21-Apr	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Rev. Robert	Oxford	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
	28-Apr	Regional Service 10:30 am		Rev. Robert - St. James, Kemptville			
	05-May	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Rev. Andrew	Oxford Station	Rob Peck	Rev. Andrew
	12-May	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Jan Staniforth
Ultreya 7pm H.T.	19-May	Richard	supply	supply	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
	26-May	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew	Pat	Garretton	supply	supply

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	02-Jun	Richard	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
Pentecost	09-Jun	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Jan Staniforth	Garretton	Keith Stanton	Rev. Jan Staniforth
Trinity Sunday	16-Jun	Richard	Rev. Anne Moore	Rev. Anne Moore	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew
	23-Jun	Rev. Andrew	Rev. Andrew	Pat	Garretton	Rev. Dr. Barbara	Rev. Dr. Barbara
	30-Jun	Rev. Dr. Barbara	Rev. Dr. Barbara	Rev. Andrew	North Augusta	Rob Peck	Rev. Andrew

		Parish of Kemptville July & August		Oxford Parish 9:00 AM		Parish of Merrickville July & August	
Summer Schedule		One 9:00 am service		Service	Location	One 10:30 service	
	07-Jul		Rev. Anne Moore	Rev. Andrew	Oxford Station	Rev. Andrew	
	14-Jul		Rev. Dr. Barbara	Pat	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	
	21-Jul	Regional Service		Burritts Rapids Locks			
	28-Jul		Rev. Dr. Barbara	Rev. Andrew	Garretton	Rev. Andrew	
	04-Aug		Richard 9:00	Rev. Anne Moore	Oxford Station		Rev. Anne Moore
	11-Aug		Rev. Dr. Barbara	Pat	Garretton		Rev. Dr. Barbara
	18-Aug		Rev. Anne Moore	Rob Peck	Oxford Station		Rev. Anne Moore
	25-Aug	Regional Service		North Augusta 10:30			

OUR FALL IN PICTURES:

2018 was a busy Fall and Winter for the region.

A group brought some early Christmas joy singing carols in KDH and local care homes

Holy Trinity Merrickville was involved in the Jazz festival.



St James took part in the literacy project book giveaway in association with the Salvation Army.



The start of January brought a regional service with the Bishop with 13 members of the region receiving: confirmation, reception and renewal of baptismal vows.

