

# Announcements

March 15, 2020

During Andrew's absence, please contact Rev. Robert Porter for any pastoral needs. 613 406 4427 [fr.robert.porter@gmail.com](mailto:fr.robert.porter@gmail.com)

Good news - Andrew will be returning effective March 16<sup>th</sup>

## PLEASE KNEEL TO PRAY

As you are able, during our services through the penitential Lenten period.

## Contemplative Prayer Group

Need a break from the noise around you? A quiet moment to empty yourself and connect with God? We have begun a contemplative prayer group which meets Monday mornings at Holy Trinity, at 10am. We begin with a short prayer, and then enter into 20 minutes of silence together. For more info., please talk to Nancy Johnston

**Lenten Study** - on the book **Saying Yes to Life** by Ruth Valerio, a theologian and environmental activist. Ruth Valerio imaginatively draws on the Days of Creation (Genesis 1) as she relates themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern. **Thursdays 7pm in the Guild Room.** If you are interested in joining this study group more information can be obtained by calling Keith 613-269-2150.

**Prayer and Praise evening** - Holy Trinity, March 15th, 7:00 pm. All are welcome to participate in this lay lead evening with contemporary worship music, discussion



## From the Bishop's office

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO  
The Anglican Church of Canada

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing today to discuss the diocesan protocol utilized when we face situations where the risk of infectious disease transmission is in a particularly elevated state. The current COVID-19 (Corona) virus spread has raised these concerns.

The following recommendations are to be utilized across the diocese during this time.

- Parishes should make hand sanitizer available throughout the church for parishioners to use.
- Clergy and communion assistants should wash their hands both before and after worship as well as sanitize their hands before administering communion.
- Clergy and pastoral care workers should take all precautions in personal hygiene before and after pastoral visits in hospital and homes.
- Parishioners who are ill, or suspect they may be, should be encouraged to stay at home to recover and to request a pastoral visit if desired.
- **Congregations should adopt a contact-free Exchange of the Peace, with a smile, brief word or slight bow to those nearby.**
- Clergy should greet parishioners at the end of services without physical contact.
- **While the use of the common cup is not prohibited at this time, parishioners who choose not to receive are requested to cross their arms over their chest as the cup passes.** Administrators of the chalice are asked to continue using the words of administration for which the communicant may respond "Amen" in giving thanks for the shed blood of Christ on our behalf. **The practice of intinction continues to be prohibited in the Diocese of Ontario.**
- Clergy are asked to review the use of the purificators with their chalice administrators to ensure good hygiene practise is being

observed, and further ensure that purificators are changed during the administration of communion should they become overly soiled. Thank you for your attention to these protocols, many of which continued to be observed throughout the diocese following the SARS outbreak a number of years ago. We continue to hold in prayer all those dealing with the current spread of COVID-19, those infected, their families and caregivers as well as those who serve on the front line of health care response both here and around the world. May the healing and comforting presence of the Spirit be with them.

Yours in Christ's Service,



Bishop Michael



## From the Bishop's office

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO  
The Anglican Church of Canada

Dear Friends,

I am writing today further to my communication regarding precautions to be taken over concerns around the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The World Health Organization has declared a pandemic and governments around the world are implementing their pandemic plans and setting aside resources to ensure that the spread of the virus is contained.

We also have our part to play in mitigating the spread of this disease and to that end I am issuing the following directives to be observed in the Diocese of Ontario until the situation is resolved. Please note that the best information indicates that the risk of transmission remains low in our area and my prayer is that it remains so. Even so, we need to be especially cognizant of the advice of the World Health Organization that if such a situation changes, it does so rapidly.

In addition to my previous communication to the diocese, I am now directing that the use of the common cup be discontinued until further notice. Priests will continue to consecrate in both kinds and consume the wine at the ablutions as per usual.

The passing of the offering plate will be suspended. Provision should be made for offerings to be received prior to worship commencing and then presented at the offertory as per usual.

It is a central aspect of our faith that we gather for common worship, prayer and mutual support as members of the Body of Christ. While we have not taken the step of suspending public gatherings, I would encourage clergy, parishes and congregations to consider ways in which those who choose not to attend worship might still have the benefit of participating in worship through the use of live streaming, video recording, Facebook live, etc.

Diocesan Committees and groups who wish to meet may also have the option of virtual meetings over Zoom, Go to Meeting, etc and diocesan staff will be happy to assist in setting up those platforms.

Pastoral Care teams and clergy who make home and hospital visits should be cognizant of and honour the policies of the institutions they visit. The bread of the Eucharist should be shared from the reserved sacrament and under no circumstances is any remaining bread to be returned for continued reservation. Anointing with oil should only be undertaken in situations where proper hygiene can be observed including hand washing or use of hand sanitizer before and after administration of the oil.

The Diocesan Influenza Pandemic Plan is now up on the website and you can make reference to it for the various, practical, liturgical and pastoral information contained within it, including links to other outside resources that may be of assistance to parish leadership.

Please be assured of my prayers as you faithfully respond to this unfolding situation. Please continue to hold in prayer all those who have been affected by COVID-19, their families, caregivers and front line health workers and especially those in research and

development who are working toward synthesizing an effective vaccine.

We have a critical role to play at this time within the life of our communities to respond in love, to mitigate unreasonable fear including the sad reality of prejudice and racism and to be responsible members of our wider society. We also have a duty to ensure that the most vulnerable within our communities are supported and protected.

We will continue to review the situation daily and be in touch should further directives become necessary. Should you have any questions of clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the diocesan office 613-544-4774.

Yours Faithfully,  
Bishop Michael



ANGLICAN  
PARISH of



merrickville

*Incumbent*

**Rev Andrew Wilson**

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**Sabbath Day Off: Fridays**

*Associate Priest*

**Rev Robert Porter**

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**Sabbath Day Off: Mondays**

*Christ Church Wardens:*

**Lynne Burchill** 613-269-4978

**Bob Parnell** 613-269-4260

**George Hawkins** 613-322-0756

*Holy Trinity Wardens:*

**Vicky Daniels** 613-882-4730

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**Are you receiving our weekly emails?** Don't miss out on the updates, information, service times, and some comic relief. Please fill out below and give to Andrew.

Name:

Email: