# **Anglican Fellowship** OF



# **PRAYER**

# Canada



AFP-C NEWSLETTER - Vol. 20, No. 1

**LENTEN/EASTER 2012** 



## WHERE DO YOU PRAY? HERBERT O'DRISCOLL

I was reading recently an article by Rodney Clapp in the Christian Century. He was telling his experience in Egypt a few years ago. He met some Coptic Christians and they asked him a question that threw him at first. They asked,

"Where do you pray?". He couldn't help thinking it a bit strange. After all, doesn't one pray in all sorts of places.

Then he got to thinking about the question. He realized that we in North America, if we do decide to ask someone about their faith, tend to ask "Where do you go to church?". He had been asked, "Where do you pray?".

He realized that "where do you go to church?" has a consumerist ring to it. Church is understood as a place that has certain products and programs that happen to appeal to you so you "go there".

"Where do you pray?" seemed to speak of a different relationship. You and I can go to church for a score of reasons, but "where do you pray?" suggests that wherever we go, we go there to worship and that's absolutely primary.

The other truth it points to is that we pray with others. Incidentally, Clapp points out that when Jesus taught the disciples to pray he taught them in a group.

As I write these few thoughts to you, three places come to mind. One is the small island of Lindisfarne, which, if you haven't had a chance to go there, I hope someday you will. The other name of Lindisfarne, just off the coast of Northumberland in the North Sea is Holy Island. Its long story gives us at least two spiritual giants, Aiden and Cuthbert.

The church there is small and simple but beautiful, and one element in its beauty is that people have come from all over the world just to be there and to say a prayer there. And when you do, you feel that you are anything but alone. You feel surrounded by generations of prayer. Try to go there someday. Try hard!

The other place you and I have chatted about before is Iona.
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# MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL DIRECTOR

THE RT. REV. GARY WOOLSEY

Dear Friends in Christ,

A few days ago, my wife, Marie, and I took our son, Todd, and his wife, Terri, to the Grand Canyon. Terri had never been there before and had this

on her 'bucket list'. What an awesome experience to see a spectacular part of God's creation but also to be with someone seeing this for the first time and living it though her eyes and emotions.

As we walked a section of the south rim, there were many information signs explaining the geological history of how the canyon has changed over millions of years, and the people, animals, and birds who have called this area home. And then we saw some plaques with quotations from the Psalms which spoke of the beauty and marvellous creation of God.

Nature has a wonderful way of touching the soul. As we walked with the hundreds of tourists along the rim, I was also aware of the age of technology in which we live. Cameras of every size, shape and make being used to capture the beauty of the canyon. Yet every image will never do justice to the actual experience. The pictures can only hope to trigger something inside of us that will draw us close to what we encountered on that day.

Jane Vennard, in her book 'A Praying Congregation', encourages us to renew our spirits by discovering "what is already an integral part of your life of prayer" and "to ask yourself what you do, even if not very often, to renew your spirit and nurture your soul." She says that another way to ask this question might be "What helps you connect to the presence of God?" Each of us will have different ways that have been part of our journey of faith and it can be enlightening to listen to our stories. For me, nature has been a powerful way of connecting with God. Yet I am also aware of those times when I 'rush' through God's world and do not allow myself the opportunity to 'be still' and allow God's creation to touch my soul.

-continued on page 2-

#### WHERE DO YOU PRAY?

- Continued from page 1-

For 14 centuries, in spite of lots of things that might have destroyed its sanctity - brutal Viking attacks, the brutality of a different kind by Henry VIII, then long time neglect, and then the onslaught of ceaseless tourism in recent years - Iona has remained a holy place where you feel you are part of a long line of prayer.

Last place. In Ireland, especially in the West, there are places called "Clockawns" (stony places), small beehive shaped churches hunkered down against the wind and the rain of the Atlantic. I crawled into one once and sat on the gravel floor. I was trying to make up my mind about something and I said a simple prayer for guidance. Somehow I felt a lot of people were listening, and that they understood what I was doing because they too had prayed there, and it was so good to be there even if only for a few minutes. I had been alone but never less alone, if you know what I mean.

So, think about it. Where do you pray?

# Thoughts on Prayer



Today I burned an incense cone. First a thin column of smoke arose, then it slowly twisted and curled around in delicate wisps. Gradually it dispersed, following the airflow, like miniature threads of clouds, until it could no longer be seen but merely sensed. Its scent gradually enveloped the whole room, even beyond.

So it is with prayer, wafting up to God. Sometimes the column of smoke rises high, unimpeded by draughts. Our prayers sometimes rise up quickly and directly to him who waits.

Sometimes currents buffet the column and it churns and billows and spreads before rising. Likewise sometimes our prayers are buffeted by the currents of daily life, before eventually rising and permeating our lives.

Long after the visible evidence of incense has gone the sweet smelling aroma of its presence is still with us. Long after our prayers the sweet smelling aroma of his presence is still with us.

From Penny Day's collection of thoughts.

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL DIRECTOR

-continued from page 1-

Maybe this new year will be a time to renew my soul by reminding myself of these words from Psalm 113:

"Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised."

Peace

+Gary

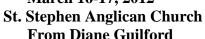
Bishop Gary Woolsey

AFP-Canada National Director

#### JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE

Walk the inner path on the Labyrinth and with Christian Meditation

Lenten Retreat – Diocese of Rupert's Land March 16-17, 2012





You are invited to attend this Lenten Retreat that offers teaching and experience on Christian Meditation and walking the labyrinth. Christian Meditation is a form of prayer that enables us to enter into an inner

silence where we can be in touch with the Spirit of Christ who dwells within us. Walking the labyrinth is a way of quieting the mind and is a safe place to explore and reflect on our spiritual journey.

The retreat leaders for this are the Rev. Canon Phil Barnett and the Rev. Barbara Barnett. Phil has been involved nationally and internationally in meditation and has given talks and led workshops across Canada and in the Caribbean. Barbara is a Certified Labyrinth Facilitator who has been instrumental in introducing the Labyrinth to this diocese.

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer is planning an evening and full day that will offer participants teaching on prayer, opportunities to pray, worship, plus great fellowship around good food.

<u>Cost:</u> \$40 Cheques payable to **The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.** 

Registration: Send to Mrs. Margaret Jones St. Mary Magdalene Church, 3 St. Vital Rd. Winnipeg, MB R2M 1Z2

Enquiries: Direct to the Rev. Diane Guilford St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 204-661-2432 ststephens@mts.net



## Report From the Chair Esther Jackson National Executive Chairperson

Our parish has had a Prayer Circle for many years. We have recently expanded this ministry to include a lady who is temporarily housebound. She is now an "Alongsider" part

of the Prayer Team. As we already have a list of prayer requests, it was easy to add her name to the list of those offering their time in prayer. The Alongsider ministry helps to keep those who are temporarily housebound for medical reasons, or those who are too frail to attend regular services, to stay involved in the life of the parish, and to feel that they are contributing of their time and gifts to parish life, in this healing ministry.

Some Alongsiders extend their ministry to include sending cards to those for whom they are praying. Some parishes provide additional information, to strengthen the contact, and make it more personal, by providing such things as pictures of the choir, rector, church School children and teachers. One might also include information about parish ministry to the Food Bank, Community Shelters, Church Council Meetings etc. Remember to include Thanksgivings for blessings received within the parish, and provide updated reports as circumstances change.

As Jesus reminded us in his teaching "keep on praying and never lose heart".

An Alongsider Kit which offers more information can be ordered from the Resource Centre, <a href="www.anglicanprayer.org">www.anglicanprayer.org</a>.

# Some of you have asked us to provide prayers. We will try to include in each newsletter some prayers for different times in our lives. Grace Prayers

Gracious God, thank You for the food before us, the friends around us, the love between us, and Your presence with us.

Our thanks to Thee for love that's shared. Our thanks to Thee for food prepared. Bless Thou the cup; bless Thou the bread. Thy blessing rest upon each head. Lord, bless us one and all, we pray, As we are gathered here today.

## **Prayer For Those Contemplating Suicide**

Father God we come before you on behalf of those who are contemplating suicide. Father there are those in villages, towns and cities thru-out the world that are despaired, as a sense of hopelessness surrounds them. In desperation their thoughts are toward the ending of a sacred life as this ungodly act appears to be their only answer to end the pain that has befallen them. This untruth now confronts them. Father they need your mercy and your rescue to reveal truth; as by your Grace a pathway has been provided by the Sacrifice and the Love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

## Henry (Harry) F. Langston

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Harry Langston on January 3, 2012. Harry was an inspiration to all he knew. He was a recipient of the Order of Niagara, Lay Reader in the Anglican Church, prayer partner at Crossroads for 15 years, AFP DR for the Diocese of Niagara and a member of the AFP-C Executive from 1998 to 2009. To quote the Rev. David Glenn, rector of St. George's



Anglican Church, The Crossroads Centre, Burlington, "Harry served his Lord with his life. Harry served his Lord with his death. Thank you, Lord, for men like Harry who's faithfulness and hope in You, challenges and inspires us to long for our great hope; the resurrection of the dead."

Harry was a man of good works and will be deeply missed.

# A Tribute to Harry Langston by Betty Gracie

# by Betty Gracie Past Director A.F.P. Canada

Harry will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was a gentle giant spiritually. You sensed his interest in the life of prayer and its practicality! Seeing any needs at A.F.P. Executive meetings or Conferences he would just slip into any gaps which arose.



His approach to A.F.P. finances was with the quiet, solid ability necessary to the integrity of such an organization. International Conference tasks like greeting, guiding delegates etc. were accomplished with his wife Doreen by his side. If you ever felt unsure or confused arriving at unfamiliar places, you know how much their gifts of hospitality meant.

When I first asked Harry if he would consider joining the A.F.P. Executive I detected an underlying current of affirmation. I'm not sure if I knew of his financial skills at first, but, God knew our needs and Harry met them perfectly.

Harry's Memorial Service was held at the spacious Crossroads Center near Burlington, Ontario. Family and friends filled the St. George's Church section of the Center to overflowing. They sang triumphant hymns which filled the surrounding foyer between scripture readings and during Holy Communion.

Several honouring speakers stated that 'Harry was the closest to living like Jesus as anyone they knew". Some mentioned how he would say, after someone had shared a problem, "Let's pray about this". Others cited his listening skill and insightful words. I should not leave out their references to his deep love of family and their celebrations.

Harry also saw the need for breakfasts for the High School students across the street from his former church. This little 'concern' grew so big that he became the recipient of "The Order of Niagara", a Diocesan Honour.

Most readers of A.F.P. news will remember Harry as our Treasurer for ten years. With Doreen as partner our practical resources were renewed and shipped across Canada for many years and I was one of their biggest customers.

Harry was an exceptional man. For fifteen years he was a prayer partner at Crossroad's. He used his gifts for tasks God needed done for the blessing of so many fortunate recipients.

Well done, good and prayerful servant.

### New AFP National Executive Member

#### Mark Perrin



Mark recently joined the national executive of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (Canada) as the web site coordinator. He lives in Calgary and is married to Danielle Wahl and has three children.

Mark is a professional engineer and works as a consultant to the upstream oil and gas industry in the areas of measurement, risk management, production accounting and information technology.

Mark is involved in prayer and music ministry at St. Martin's Anglican church. He plays guitar, and enjoys riding his

motorcycle.



Mark Perrin, Danielle Wahl & son Calgary Conference June 2011



Mark Perrin & Archbishop Fred Hiltz on motorcycle – Calgary Conference

# New Diocesan Representative

# Lesley Curtis Diocese of Moosonee

Lesley was born in the UK and has been in Canada for 36 years.

She has been attending St. Peters in

Kirkland Lake for 35 years. She is a long time lay reader, choir member and at present a member of the executive

council of the Diocese of Moosonee.

Lesley is a widow who lives on a hobby farm with horses, chickens, dogs and cats. She has four children, and five grandchildren. Her family all live in Northern Ontario, except for her parents, who live near Waterloo, Ontario. They immigrated to Canada after Lesley did.



St. Peter's on-the-rock Kirkland Lake, Ontario

Heavenly Father, give to our Bishops, in the midst of the stress of his/her position, a daily renewal of your presence, that upheld in your peace, enlightened by your word, and strengthened by your grace, he/she may be a shepherd enabling your church to fulfill the mission you have given us. for Jesus' sake. AMEN

## Nan Henderson Memorial



A special ministry of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer is to offer a gift of prayer resources to all newly ordained deacons of the Anglican Church of Canada. In 1996 the Nan Henderson Memorial was created to honour Nan, who was a founding member of AFP-Canada and who served many years on the National Executive Committee. We remain committed to this special ministry, but the way the gift is given has changed.

In the past the memorial has been a gift of several AFP books and pamphlets. This is now being changed to giving recipients an AFP (Canada) Gift Certificate valued at \$30. The newly ordained recipient may redeem the Gift Certificate by choosing whatever he/she may like from the AFP resources that are available. The Certificate is accompanied by a Catalogue of AFP Resources that the recipient can use to familiarize themselves with the Resources that are offered.

As in the past, the occasion and method of presentation of the Memorial is left up to the Bishop, Diocesan Representative, or designated presenter as is appropriate to local practice. Once presented, the presenter is asked to provide the name & address of the recipient(s) to our Resource Coordinator.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Resource Coordinator, Paul Dumbrille,

Tel: (613) 225-0806; Email: <a href="mailto:paul.dumbrille@sympatico.ca">paul.dumbrille@sympatico.ca</a>.



#### **Anglican Fellowship of Prayer**

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ ..." Eph 4:11-12 (NRSV)



# Skipping out the difficult "bits"... or not

#### Elizabeth Short

It is interesting, when following the lectionary, that certain biblical passages will

be left out, or avoided. I'll admit, sometimes the images of God are difficult to understand, when contrasted to the loving, Shepherd God. However, these passages are there and perhaps we're meant to explore further the meaning behind them, trying to understand contextually as well as theologically.

What does this have to do with children? In the season of Lent we are reminded of Jesus' supreme sacrifice and it doesn't paint a pretty picture. I was in a parish many years ago where one of the mothers thought that we should remove the Crosses from the church because they portrayed a disturbing image for the children. She thought happy faces would be far more welcoming! Most of you (I hope!) would think that extreme. However a question I have dealt with in my years with children is how do we talk to very young children about Jesus' death? Do we avoid it? Candy coat it?

I do believe we need to talk about Jesus' death with children — otherwise how can we talk about the central theme of our faith — Resurrection? However, we do it in a way they are ready to handle. Years ago I remember hearing advice about speaking to young children about sex. Answer their questions simply and briefly — they aren't asking for the medical journal version — their questions are simple and they require simple answers. I think the same principle can be applied here.

When I was running my Pre School, I felt really challenged by telling the story of Easter. Some of the kids had little or no Christian background, so they were hearing the story of Christ's death and resurrection for the first time. I was delighted to find a book that dealt with this very appropriately for children ages 2-4, which was my target audience! I'm happy to say that it is still available, published by Happy Day Books. The book, entitled "The Best Thing About Easter", by Christine Harder Tanguald and illustrated by C.A. Nobens, is narrated by a little girl who expresses all the things she loves about Easter. She interactively talks about eggs, bunnies, candy and new clothes. She also talks about family and church. She concludes, "But the best thing about Easter is JESUS. We have Easter because of Jesus. Jesus died for our sins, but He did not stay dead. He rose on the first Easer. He did this because He loves you and me." It is simply put. It sows seeds for further knowledge and understanding.

If children express sadness or concern that Jesus died you can agree that it was sad and/or frightening. But you can go on to say that the happy news is that he didn't stay dead and that he will always love us. At a young age, that's probably enough said. If children want more information, continue to give it in small increments as you answer their questions.

We can't always shield our children from the harsh realities of humanity. But we can be there to guide and comfort and do our best to put things in a language that expresses the truth simply.

I wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter and, to quote the little girl in the book, "I'm glad Jesus loves me! I'm really, really glad, aren't you?"

### Diocese of Keewatin

Sandra Tankard, DR for Keewatin



Sixteen "Lay Pastoral Visitors" were trained in the Fall and commissioned on Epiphany Sunday to visit in homes, P.C.Homes and Hospitals.

The ArchBishop and I presented the Workshops, and AFP materials were presented as support and resource.

# Diocese of Calgary

Jane Jensen, DR for Calgary

The diocese of Calgary is holding two synods:



A Regular Convention of Synod (to appoint delegates to council and provincial synod) Saturday, April 21, 2012 10:00am - 4:00pm

The Special Convention of Synod (Election of the 9th Bishop of the diocese of Calgary) Saturday, June 16, 2012 (no times yet)

As the DR of Calgary, I would appreciate prayers from other AFP communities. If any DRs would like to email me that you or the committee, etc., will be praying, especially for the election of the next bishop, I'll be happy to put a card noting the support from AFP members from diocese such-and-such in the prayer room/chapel accompanying the synods.

Email me at <u>jrichjensen@aol.com</u>

The AFP committee has hosted a prayer room during synods for the last few years. One of our new committee members, the Rev. Cathy Fulton, is organizing both of the synods above and can use all the prayers you can send her way.

I will be happy to let our members know when synods or councils happen in other dioceses and to send you an email of prayer support, if anyone would like to contact me with their diocese's dates. Besides undergirding our dioceses in prayer I see this as a possible way to raise the profile of AFP in the diocese and nationally.

# The Bishop of Huron's Prayer Conference

The Many Faces of Prayer, And Why Should You Care?



Submitted by The Rev'd Andreas Thiel

The Bishop of Huron's Prayer Conference took place on November 19, 2011 as some 75 participants gathered in London for a day of education, reflection and sharing. The rector, wardens and congregation of St. James

Westminster extended their characteristic warm hospitality, and AFP Parish Reps from various corners of our diocese were guided through a series of meditations on Luke's familiar "parable of the prodigal son" by this year's conference keynote speaker, Archdeacon Paul Feheley (Principal Secretary to the Primate). In addition, there were five workshops to attend (iPray with my iPod; Praying With My Family; Contemplative Prayer; Prayer Circles; and Healing Prayer), making for a very full and varied afternoon.

Bishop Bennett set the tone for the conference on Saturday morning, by sharing with us his many experiences of prayer in parish settings. He acknowledged the fact that prayer remains a rather private topic for some Anglicans; we aren't always comfortable sharing prayer with



Bishop Bob Bennett

others. And yet, Bishop Bob told of some transformative instances when individuals and groups took the initiative of exploring prayer. They discovered that by praying together, their relationships were strengthened, and their faith journeys were enhanced. Bishop Bob ended by expressing his appreciation for the work of the AFP, especially all the ways that our diocesan reps continue to foster an awareness of prayer in our parishes.

Archdeacon Paul Feheley provided the keynote address, which had at its heart the well-known "parable of the prodigal son" from Luke's gospel. Some of us might have suspected that the parable in question was chosen to coincide with our diocesanwide focus on Timothy Keller's



Archdeacon Paul Feheley

book, "The Prodigal God." We were told otherwise – it was a complete coincidence! Archdeacon Feheley's presentation included a multi-faceted reflection on Rembrandt's famous depiction of the parable, and our attention was drawn to the various faces and postures as they appear in the painting. As Archdeacon Feheley emphasized the concept of God's graciousness, it seemed only fitting that we should break out into song – 'Amazing Grace', followed by 'Come As You Are',

a setting of a text by Deirdre Brown ("Come as you are, that's how I want you. Come as you are, feel quite at home..."). The conference participants were touched by Archdeacon Feheley's warmth, and his unique ability to engage us and connect with us through so many avenues: scripture, story, image, song and of course, prayer!

The AFP executive had chosen a provocative title for this year's conference (The Many Faces of Prayer: And Why Should You Care?). By the end of Saturday, we were reminded once again that prayer did indeed make itself known to us by and through many faces and voices. Prayer can be contemplative and individual; prayer can be shared with family; prayer can dovetail with our technological sophistication; prayer can be experienced as we seek healing; and finally, prayer is a dynamic and living aspect of our Anglican liturgies. As for the question, "And Why Should You Care?" - we didn't have sufficient time to explore all the reasons for caring, but it was clear from the people who attended this conference that they DID care, and they delighted in sharing this passion with their sisters and brothers in Christ!

For anyone who missed out on experiencing this year's conference, we encourage you to set aside November 3, 2012 for the next Bishop of Huron's Prayer Conference.

# ORDER OF ST LUKE HEALING CONFERENCE

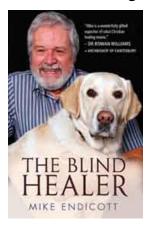


May 11 - 12, 2012

St. James Church

195 Collegiate Street, Winnipeg, MB

Theme: Kingdom, Power, Glory



# Speaker:

Rev. Mike Endicott Wales, UK

#### Contact:

OSL Region Director Rev. Clare Edwards edwardsd@mymts.net Phone: 1-204-687-8371



Rev. Canon Peter Millen

# Labourers for the Harvest

by Jane Jensen, DR Calgary

On November 28, 2011, the AFP Calgary Committee had a potluck dinner to celebrate the years of service to AFP given by the Rev Canon Peter Millen and the Rev Julienne Hendrickson. We were fortunate that Derek Hoskin, our soon-to-retire bishop, was also able to attend. Five former committee members joined us, with others sending their apologies.

Instead of the usual toast, everyone was invited to share the blessings they had received through the prayerful ministries of Peter and Julie. People remember Peter's serving as chaplain to the committee, his teaching on lay ministry and his quiet behind-the-scenes organizational support and Julie's enthusiasm for prayer and the AFP and her amazing witness to the power of prayer in her life.

The thanksgivings soon extended to Bishop Derek. His

appreciation of AFP's influence in the diocese and my work as DR encouraged me to complete my term as DR at a time when I was struggling with it. The dinner ended with Derek's asking the committee to write a prayer for the Calling Process of the New Bishop and to undergird the diocese



**Bishop Derek and Pauline Hoskin** 

with prayer throughout the process. Esther and I had just talked about that before the dinner began. It's always exciting for me to see the Holy Spirit in action! We told the bishop about AFP's pamphlet for Calling a Bishop (or Rector) and how it was used in two parishes who had called a new rector in the last year. Prayer works and using the pamphlet helps!

The committee has been richer for having Derek as our bishop and the prayerful service of Peter and Julie on the committee for lo, these many years. We wish them all the best as we look forward to seeing how God answers the prayers for the next bishop and for new labourers to reap the harvest set before us. (Luke 10:2)

# Why Do You pray?

AFP encourages you to respond to the question "Why do you pray?" by emailing Win Mizon at

winken@sympatico.ca.

I agree to print three or more responses each newsletter. Below is a starter.

"I enjoy praying particularly during those times when I learn something God teaches me." **Tony Day** 

# **Prayers for the Calling Process for the** Election of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Calgary, 2012



by Jane Jensen DR for Calgary

The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, Calgary, offers these prayer choices for your use during the Calling Process.

### An Opening Prayer:

"Lord Jesus, give to your church a renewed

desire to pray, that together we may know your will, be filled with your love, and experience your grace and power for the healing of your world to your glory. Amen."

AFP Partner's Mid-day Prayer

**Choice 1:** If you already have a regular prayer time, please include the Calling Committee, the applicants for the position, and the whole process for Calling and Electing the next bishop of Calgary.

**Choice 2:** God of Grace and Love, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon this diocese as we call and elect a new bishop and upon both lay and ordained ministers in our parishes and in the wider community. We especially lift up all those involved in the building up and financing of the Body of Christ in this diocese, both now and into the future. Amen.

"Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (AFP "Prayer in the Calling Process")

**Choice 3:** To the Glory of God in Thanksgiving for Derek's ministry as priest and bishop in the diocese, we now ask for prayerful discernment for all those involved in the Calling of our Next Bishop:

Archdeacon Barry Foster and the diocesan officers, regional deans, other clergy and laity as they keep the diocese functioning, thereby offering a stable place for the work of the calling process to proceed;

Those putting the diocesan profile together;

Those carrying out the administrative/organizational tasks related to the process;

Those recommending candidates for consideration; Candidates enquiring about and applying for the position; Calling Committee members' gifts of time and prayerful consideration:

Each parish and parishioner in the diocese as we prayerfully await the coming of our new bishop;

And the Election of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Calgary. Amen.

Choice 4: Lord God, we give thanks for the grounding, creative continuity, and love that have brought this diocese to where we are now at this point in our walk with you.

We ask you to call the priest who will best be able to encourage spiritual growth and discernment in the next leg of our journey. We also ask for clarity of thought and imagination of purpose during the interim period and the Calling Process, so that those in the diocese, the Calling Committee, and the applicants may know and do your will for the diocese of Calgary. Amen.

**Choice 5:** (by former AFP committee members Dinah Breu & Verna Hewitt)

Heavenly Father, we lift up to you those persons who will be drafting the Diocesan profile in preparation for the search for the new Bishop of Calgary. May your Holy Spirit guide them in the work to which they have been called. Fill them with wisdom and discernment to present a true and accurate picture of our Diocese. And as this time of waiting begins, we pray that you draw us all together in unity, harmony and peace. AMEN

#### **A Closing Prayer:**

"Almighty and ever living God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in Calgary for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." BAS,p. 676

**Resources:** For a six-week cycle of daily readings and prayers, I recommend "Prayer in the Calling Process" (\$1.00)

### **Anglican Fellowship of Prayer:**

www.anglicanprayer.org
or in Calgary contact Betty Nadurak
403-686-1110
nadurakb@shaw.ca

"How to Spend an Hour in Prayer" and other AFP material are also available from AFP-C Resources at

www.anglicanprayer.org

After Jesus rose from death early on Sunday, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had driven out seven demons. She went and told his companions. They were mourning and crying; and when they heard her say that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe her.

Mark 16:9-11

AFP-C Newsletter Editor Winnifred (Win) Mizon 519-433-7485 winken@sympatico.ca

# Dream the churchVISION 2-19

A PLAN FOR THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



# Praying for Our Anglican Communion and Our Anglican Church of Canada

By Bishop Gary Woolsey, National Director of AFP (Canada)

When our Primate and Patron of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (Canada) attended our National Diocesan Representatives Conference in Calgary last year, he challenged us to prayer for our Anglican Communion by using the 'Marks of Mission' and for our Anglican

Church of Canada which developed its 'Vision 2019' goals that use the Marks of Mission as its foundation.

The National Executive then took up this challenge by asking each member of our Executive to make contact with a National Church staff person and ask for suggestions on what issues/projects and people to pray for. We will do our best to share some of these requests with you through the use of our Newsletter and AFP Web Site.

## "The Marks of Mission"

- 1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- 2. To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers
- 3. To respond to human need by loving service
- 4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- 5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Responding to the Marks of Mission, our Anglican Church of Canada set these priorities for "Vision 2019"

- 1. Develop leadership education for mission, evangelism, and ministry
- 2. Support ministry through the Council of the North
- 3. Walk with Indigenous Peoples on a journey of healing and wholeness
- 4. Work toward peace and justice
- 5. Engage young people in mutual growth for mission
- 6. Enliven our worship
- 7. Be leaders in the Anglican Communion and in ecumenical actions.

In this issue of our Newsletter, after consultation with staff at our National Office, we invite your prayers for the following:

- for vocations to the ordained ministry as well as able and wise teachers so that our candidates might be properly prepared to exercise such great work
- for our Youth Secretariat as they minister to youth through 'Ask and Imagine' (Christian leadership formation for young people in high school and university), and 'Stronger Together' (a gathering of youth leaders), and Canadian Lutheran and Anglican Youth (CLAY) a biennial youth conference
- -- the Government of Canada's participation in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) process. Pray that the Parties to the Settlement Agreement on Residential Schools -- the Government, the churches, residential school survivors, and Aboriginal organizations -- will strengthen their commitment to the 5-year mandate of the TRC (2009-2014)
- --that the devastating social and economic situations facing many isolated Aboriginal communities may engender government and societal responses that are long-term and respectful of the dignity of Aboriginal children and families.

Be creative: use these prayer requests in your private prayers, in worship intercessions, in your church groups (prayer group, Vestry, Church School Teachers, Youth gatherings, etc).