

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF HOLY CROSS

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HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CROSS

May 2018

NEWSLETTER: Please have all your articles in before the **15 of May** for the **June, 2018** newsletter.

ADMINISTRATION

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK:

Back in the day – I mean *way* back in the day – there used to be a sub-section of the church called the catechumenate. These would be the people who were engaged in a long process of learning about the Christian faith. There would be mentors who would help them navigate the sometimes tricky notion of Christian living, along with teachers who would instruct the individuals on important doctrinal matters. Often, the catechumenate would leave the church just prior to the celebration of Eucharist. See, these people were not baptised. Baptism for the catechumenate would occur on Easter Sunday, and it was a day that all anticipated. Lent, then, became a time for the catechumenate to prepare for the baptism that would happen during the celebration of resurrection.

Interestingly, these pre-baptismal reflections were also part of the church community's observance of Lent. That is, Lent became a time for the congregation to prepare to receive the catechumenate out of the waters of baptism. The baptism of the individuals was something that the church was to enter into, and in that vein, the church had to prepare to receive the catechumenate. Thus, the season of Lent was not simply a time to reflect on one's own spiritual mistakes, but a time to prepare to receive the newly baptised into the household of God. In some ways, the congregation had to prepare just as much as the ones being immersed in the river.

So why bring this up? After all, we are many months away from the start of Lent. But, we are having a baptism come up. On May 20th (Pentecost), we will be celebrating the baptism of Nathaniel Dickin, son of Shayne and Stephanie. This will be a wonderful celebration, and it is my hope that we all will gather in the church to celebrate Nathaniel's baptism. As I mention in every baptism, the church is called to participate in the baptism, not simply watch it occur.

What would it look like if we took a page from church history, and saw the weeks leading up to the celebration of baptism as a time to prepare ourselves to receive Nathaniel? If you are to come on Pentecost and participate in Nathaniel's new life in Christ, what preparations are you called to make? Here are some questions you may choose to sit with as we journey toward Nathaniel's baptism.

1. What does it mean to 'support Nathaniel in his new life in Christ'?
2. In baptism the church receives Nathaniel into the 'household of God', calling him to 'join with us in His eternal priesthood', How do I participate in the ministry of the church?
3. In baptism we have an opportunity to renew our own baptismal covenant, do I need to renew my commitment to Jesus?
4. How am I maintaining my devotion to the Apostles Teaching, Fellowship, Breaking of Bread (communion) and Prayers?

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: Just go to www.holycrosscalgary.org and view the changes.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL: Please identify your religion listing as "Anglican", this places your name on the Anglican list @ Spiritual Care Services! **Please let the church office know you're in hospital.** If you do not inform the office or the clergy we will not know that either you or your loved one is in the hospital.

STEWARDSHIP

AGENCY FOR SPECIAL OFFERING FOR April/May/June 2018: Salvation Army: To donate to this monthly outreach offering please make your cheque payable to Holy Cross Church, and indicate **Salvation Army** in the memo section. Your donation will be included in the Holy Cross tax receipt at the end of the current year. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to a Warden or a Parish Council member or refer to the April 2018 newsletter.

LECTIO DIVINA: Learning to Listen: **Tuesday May 8 at 6:30pm** in the St. Cyprian Room. Lectio Divina (literally: Divine reading) is a practice deeply rooted in Christian history. In Lectio Divina, we sit with a biblical text, for the purpose of discerning the voice of Jesus as He speaks into our lives. For more information please speak to Reverend Kyle.

A.C.W: The next ACW meeting is Sunday May 6.

Heads up for the **Strawberry Tea, on Saturday May 12 from 2 pm to 4 pm**, all are welcome. Price \$6.00 per person for a scrumptious delight. There is a volunteer sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the lower hall hallway by the kitchen.

Heads up watch for information regarding the ACW end of the year potluck in June, 2018. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information.

MEDITATIONS ON “WOMEN OF THE BIBLE” – ‘IN QUIETNESS AND REST

We will hear a summary of the woman being studied and questions will be posed. After practicing breathing and relaxation techniques, we will listen for inspiration from God when we enter intervals of stillness and silence. There will be opportunities to share inspirations received, pray, or continue in silence. Newcomers welcome; please join us. Questions? Please call Joan Kendrick:

May 22 Lydia

FLOWER ARRANGERS: Our ministry has had a few members step down after many years of dedication to arrange flowers on Saturday morning for the Sunday Services. Is this a ministry that you may be interesting in getting involved with? Please talk to Anne Gover.

BOOK CLUB REVIEW: Wings of Refuge by Lynn Austin

This is a novel about a 42 year old woman who has found out her husband wants to end their marriage, her children are going off to college and so she decides to go on an archaeological dig, which has been a lifelong dream of hers. This takes her to Israel where she questions herself about having made this choice. Abigail becomes involved with the turmoil and violence in the Holy Land between the Jews and Palestinians. Although this is a novel Lynn Austin's research has been extensive. This book captures the lives of three women (Leah, Hannah and Abigail) from two very different centuries and worlds apart. Nothing in her life prepared her for this experience. The book club members had a very good discussion and 99% of the ladies really enjoyed the read. The book is currently in the Church Library. Submitted by Sandi

THY KINGDOM COME: From May 10th - May 20th , come to Morning Prayer at 9:30 am each weekday morning and spend time praying for others to know Jesus better. Information and resources can be found at www.thykingdomcome.global

ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER: May 12, 2018 @ 9am to 2:30 pm All Saints Anglican Church, Cochrane. Bishop Steven Cottrell speaker “Hit the Ground Kneeing!” What difference prayer can make in our daily lives. To register contact bettynadurak@gmail.com.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: May 20 is Pentecost the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit and the “Birthday” of the Christian Church. Worshipers are invited to wear **RED** in honour of the flames of fire which lit on the disciples.

PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY: St. Barnabas, Calgary is hosting the 38th National meeting of the Prayer Book Society on Saturday May 12 with a 12 noon Eucharistic celebration followed by a luncheon. All friends of the Society are welcome. To reserve your place at the luncheon phone Jo Ruelle at 1-403-220-0817 or email:< prayerbook@shaw.ca > Come and meet National President Fr. Gordon Maitland and members of the PBSC National Council.