

Pastoral Letter # 67 – September 9, 2009

Dear Friends:

I trust that you had a good summer with an opportunity for vacation and rest. September 'start up' is always a busy time in parish life, and a time of expectancy and new opportunity.

As usual, this Pastoral Letter will contain information, prayer requests, and announcements in no particular order, but all are important.

1. Sadly, several deaths have affected our diocesan family:

- The Hon. Sidney James Walker died on August 19. Judge Walker was Chancellor of the Diocese of Saskatoon for 16 years. A memorial service was held at All Saints Church, Saskatoon with Archdeacons Richard Spencer and Geoffrey Huggill presiding, and the blessing given by Bishop Tom Morgan. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Helen Walker and the Walker family.
- Mrs. Jean Cook died on August 28. A memorial service was held at All Saints Church, Saskatoon on September 4. Jean was well known in our diocese. She often attended parish, college, and diocesan events and was a dedicated Anglican. Sympathy is extended to Jean's family.
- Mr. Donald Parker died on August 26. A graveside memorial was held on September 2. Mr. Parker, a World War II veteran, was the spouse of Mrs. Win Parker, a former Church Warden of St. Luke's Church, Saskatoon, and a Trustee of the St. Luke's Fund. Sympathy is extended to Win and the Parker family.
- The Rev. Robert 'Sandy' Mowat, Rector of Big Country Parish in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle and a graduate of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, died during the summer. Many of our clergy met Sandy at the Clergy Retreat in February. Sympathy is extended to Sandy's family and the Big Country (Kindersley) parish.

"I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, from henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: Even so, saith the spirit, for they rest from their labours." (BCP p. 597)

2. The Rev. Joanne Beacon has returned to Saskatchewan from the Diocese of Niagara. Joanne has been appointed Chaplain of the Federal Penitentiary in Prince Albert. Best wishes with your new ministry Joanne.
3. The Rev. Sheila Martin moved to Ontario permanently at the end of June. Best wishes, Sheila, and thank you for your contribution to the Porcupine Plain Pastoral Charge, and as Regional Dean of Eastern Deanery.

4. Please continue to remember the Rev. Canon Lewis Gill in your prayers. Lewis has been suffering angina attacks recently.
5. Please keep Mr. Tim Sandell, the Rev. Karen Sandell and the Sandell family in your prayers. Tim has been hospitalized for some time and is not well. With the kindness of St. Mark's Parish, Karen will be working a reduced schedule. The Rev. Canon Bill Christensen, Honorary Assistant in the Parish, will care for Sunday duties and pastoral emergencies.
6. I hope you are giving encouragement for registrations for the "Starting Now" conference with the Rev. Canon Harold Percy on October 30 and 31. This is a very important conference and a great opportunity to stimulate parish life.
7. A Celebration of New Ministry for the Rev. Dr. David Tyler and the Parish of Good Shepherd will be held on Friday, September 11 at 7:30 pm at Christ Church, Delisle. A potluck supper at 6 pm will precede the service.
8. Congratulations to the Diocese of Saskatoon for increased contributions to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund in 2008. Contributions to the Primate's Fund from our Diocese were \$40,516 in 2008 compared to \$34,231 in 2007 and \$37,857 in 2006. Special thanks to Mrs. Mary Ann Assailly and the hard working committee, parish representatives and volunteers.
9. A service of Deconsecration will be held at St. Timothy's Church, Saskatoon on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30 pm. The Church building has been sold to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon. The new name of the Church will be "Sacred Heart Chaldean Catholic Church".
10. A service of Deconsecration for All Hallows Church, Kildrum will be held at 2 pm on Saturday, October 3.
11. "O Lord God, when thou givest thy servant to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of the same until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through him that for the finishing of the work laid down his life, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen. (BCP p. 635)

Yours sincerely,

+Rod

Rodney Andrews
Bishop of Saskatoon