

Pastoral Letter #68 – October 29, 2009

Dear Friends:

1. With increased concern about the spread of H1N1 flu virus, you are requested to review and follow the guidelines I sent to you in May. A copy is attached.

Because this flu is spread more by touch, than respiratory droplets. Special attention should be given to:

- a. Handwashing and the use of sanitizers in preparing for and administering communion;
 - b. The practice of intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). In Anglican tradition it is considered appropriate to receive communion in one kind only if circumstances require. If parishioners choose to receive only the bread at this time, that choice is to be affirmed;
 - c. Physical contact when sharing the peace is discouraged. During the pandemic, worshippers may choose to refrain from handshakes or hugging, substituting them with appropriate verbal greetings.
2. Congratulations to the Diocesan ACW on a successful retreat which was held at Manitou Springs September 18, 19 and 20.
 3. The Rev. Alex Parsons has been appointed Regional Dean of the Eastern Deanery.
 4. The Rev. Quenton Little is serving as Deacon Assistant at the Huron College Chapel in London, Ontario.
 5. The Rev. Quenton Little has been appointed Rector of the Lintlaw/Endeavour Parish effective June 1, 2010.
 6. The Rev. Dianne Mesh and the Rev. Dr. Jan Bigland-Pritchard have been appointed to the Diocesan Finance Committee.
 7. The Ven. Peter Yeung has resigned as a member of the Diocesan Finance Committee.
 8. Mrs. Kathy Lucko has been appointed Chair of the Diocesan Compensation Committee. Kathy succeeds the late Tim Sandell who contributed greatly to the work of the Committee.
 9. Mrs. Ella Smith of Endeavour has resigned as a member of the Diocesan PWRDF Steering Committee. Thank you Ella for your service. Ella continues to promote PWRDF in her parish.
 10. We mourn the passing of several members of our diocesan family, and offer sympathy.

- Mr. Tim Sandell died on September 27. Sympathy is extended to the Rev. Karen Sandell and family.
 - Mrs. Helen Rennie, mother of the late Mrs. Pat Clay, died on September 8, 2009. Sympathy is extended to the Rev. Canon Colin Clay and the Rennie family.
 - Mr. Nestor Shabits, a Cathedral parishioner, died on October 18. Nestor, among his many volunteer activities, was the organizer of the Cathedral Men's Breakfasts. Sympathy is extended to Eva and the Shabits family.
11. Rabbi Roger Pavey died on October 21. He was a strong supporter of interfaith activities. Sympathy is extended to the Saskatoon Jewish Community and Rabbi Pavey's family. He was a close friend of the Rev. Canon Colin Clay.
 12. Clergy are reminded of the dates for the Annual Clergy Retreat: February 8 to 11, 2010 at St. Michael's Retreat, Lumsden.
 13. Our Diocese needs an Archivist. If you, or someone you know, is interested please contact Canon Lorea Eufemia or myself.
 14. The Venerable Cornell Moss, Archdeacon of the Nassau and the Bahamas, is Bishop Elect of the Diocese of Guyana, our Companion Diocese. Bishop Elect Moss will be consecrated Bishop of Guyana on Tuesday, December 8 and will be enthroned on Sunday, December 14. Jacqueline and I are pleased to be going to Guyana to represent our Diocese at these celebrations.
 15. In recent months four new Metropolitans have been elected and installed in the Anglican Church of Canada:
 - Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and the Yukon: the Most Rev. John Privett, Archbishop of Kootenay
 - Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land: The Most Rev. David Ashdown, Archbishop of Keewatin
 - Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario: The Most Rev. Colin Johnson, Archbishop of Toronto
 - Ecclesiastical Province of Canada: The Most Rev. Claude Miller, Archbishop of Fredericton
 Congratulations to the new Metropolitans. Two of the four are graduates of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, Saskatoon.
 16. The Rev. Canon Fraser Lawton has been elected Bishop of Athabasca. Bishop-Elect Lawton, a graduate of the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, will be consecrated and installed at St. James Cathedral, Peace River, Alberta on January 2, 2010.
 17. We have received a letter from Ms. Cheryl Curtis, Executive Director of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, thanking us for our contributions to the Fund over 50 years. "Since PWRDF's inception, contributions from your diocese have totalled \$ 1,153,505. Thank you for the 2008 contributions in the amount of \$ 40,677 and thank you especially for the contributions we have received in 2009."
 18. Have you considered hosting a "From Cookies to Champagne: 50 CAFE Events" in support of PWRDF? If this catches your curiosity, please check the PWRDF website. "From Cookies to Champagne" are locally organized events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of PWRDF and "can be anything from a Church School hosted coffee hour, to a parish gala dinner, and everything in between."

19. The 2010 Festival of Homiletics will be held May 17-21, 2010 at Nashville, Tennessee. Information is available at GoodPreacher.com.
20. Virginia Theological Seminary is accepting applications for their Summer Collegium *Leadership in Small Congregations*. This is an exceptional opportunity. Information is available at www.vts.edu/education/collegium.
21. As we approach the end of the fiscal year, please consider making a donation to the Diocese by urging your parishes to make additional contributions to the Diocese and inviting your parishioners to do the same.

A Prayer for the Election of a Bishop:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift; Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese of Saskatoon, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for our people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(From the Book of Common Prayer, The Episcopal Church, p. 818)

With best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

+ Rodney

Rodney Andrews
Bishop of Saskatoon
anglicanbishopra@sasktel.net
PO Box 1965
#1 505 23rd St E
Saskatoon SK S7K 3S5
(306) 244-5651 phone
(306) 933-4606 fax

Attach: Memo Issued in May re. H1N1

Dear Friends,

The World Health Organization has moved its International Pandemic Alert for the H1N1 disease (swine flu) to Phase Five. There has been considerable attention to this matter in the press. You may be wondering about policy and procedures for our Diocese. I hope the following advice will be helpful.

I am indebted to the Right Rev. Colin Johnson, Bishop of Toronto, for material in his pastoral letter issued two days ago. He wrote "...our Christian tradition reminds us that the Church can be an agent of calm, reassurance and compassion during times of uncertainty. We are called by Christ to tend to those who are sick, fearful or anxious. As leaders, you have a critical responsibility in this."

Bishop Johnson's Pastoral Letter speaks of "regular and frequent hand-washing, social distancing when necessary, and the use of hand sanitizers".

You might consider these suggestions:

1. Regular use of hand sanitizers, both at the chancel and in the narthex or entry to the church for parishioners.
2. A gentle bow is adequate sharing during the peace (some parishioners may not feel comfortable to shake hands)
3. Communion in one kind only is acceptable.
4. Intinction should always be discouraged.

Most of our clergy, servers and chalice bearers use hand sanitizers. We should be especially vigilant at this time. This is particularly important after sharing the peace and before preparing the altar.

Clergy should continue to use hand sanitizers when visiting hospitals, nursing home and sick parishioners. You might consider carrying a small bottle of 'Purell' or a similar product.

Anglican Dioceses in southern Ontario have an epidemic preparedness plan. You are encouraged to review the material available on the Anglican Diocese of Toronto website (<http://www.toronto.anglican.ca/index.asp?navid=576>).

Wisdom and caution are advised.

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Andrews
Bishop of Saskatoon
anglicanbishopra@sasktel.net
PO Box 1965
#1 505 23rd St E
Saskatoon SK S7K 3S5
(306) 244-5651 phone
(306) 933-4606 fax