

January 12 - 18, 2024

Church of the Epiphany ~ 85 Larch St. Sudbury, Ontario ~ P3E 1B8

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# WORSHIP CELEBRATION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ~

**8:30am –** Traditional Said Service of Holy Communion (BCP)

**10:30am** – Main Worship Service with music and Holy Eucharist (BAS).

READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
EPIPHANY: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1
Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

<u>SUMMARY OF READINGS:</u> Last Sunday's biblical passages centred on the baptism of Jesus and its implications for Christian baptism. Today we are moved beyond baptism to the life that follows it. The story from First Samuel relates the call to service that Samuel received. Psalm 139 acknowledges God's nearness to us as well as God's intimate knowledge of our inmost being. In his first letter to the ancient church in Corinth, Paul teaches the church about the moral implications of discipleship. The gospel story presents the witness to Christ by Philip. Those who hear are offered the invitation to trust, to "come and see." Trust responds by "abiding" in with him.

**QUESTION(S) FOR REFLECTION:** Where, in what place, and through what person or persons do you hear the call of the Lord? Consider it each day this week. Who has awakened in you a new prayer, a hope, an insight? Give thanks for those persons and moments as signs of God's love for you.

<u>AT HOME PRAYERS - Morning</u> – Creator God, as I rise this day I give you thanks for breath and life, for the people I will see today, for family, neighbours and friends, and for those whose ways are challenging my serenity. Help me to give thanks especially for the people who pull me to new understandings and show me sides of life that I have not known or do not welcome. Urge me to follow you today; in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Evening** - Loving God, as the evening comes and the time for rest draws near, I give you thanks for another full and mystifying day. I have not done everything I had hoped to do. I have not forgiven myself or others as I ought. I ask now that you, who know me through and through, will lead me to let go of what I cannot change and seek a new tomorrow for a more enlightened path. I long for your guidance and your care. Guard my sleep and let me rise renewed; in Jesus' name. Amen.

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COLD, FLU AND COVID CASES ARE SPREADING THROUGH GREATER SUDBURY. Please be mindful of not only your health, safety, and well-being but also that of others. If you are not feeling well, or have any ill symptoms such as coughing, fever, fatigue, or a sore throat, please stay home and join us for the worship services that will be offered online. We are delighted to welcome you online if you are not able to join us in person.

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#### **REV. ELIZABETH'S "DROP IN" OFFICE HOURS:**

This week, as we approach a very eventful time in our church with the Memorial Service for Dorothy Thomson and our worship next Sunday with Archbishop Anne, as well as a deanery clericus meeting with the Archbishop, Rev. Elizabeth's schedule is rather full. She will be in and out the church office

throughout the week. If you would like to meet with Rev. Elizabeth in the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, please call or email her and Rev. Elizabeth will be sure to arrange for a visit in her office.

Please be reminded that if you need to speak with Rev. Elizabeth or schedule a visit for any reason, please email her at <a href="mailto:greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com">greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com</a> or leave a telephone message for her at the church office. Thank You.

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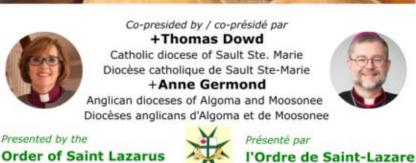
#### A NOTE FROM ARCHBISHOP ANNE ~ WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024:

Dear friends in Christ.

You are invited to an online service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Thursday 18th January, 2024 at 7pm. Bishop Tom Dowd, my colleague in ministry and friend of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, will be co-presiding with me. The link for the service is found in the poster. Your parish or deanery or region might be hosting or holding its own in person service and I encourage you to attend as you are able. It is not only our prayers that bring us closer to our siblings in Christ in other denominations but the fellowship we share with them over refreshments and conversation.

The theme for the 2024 Week of Prayer for Christian unity was prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso. The theme they chose comes from Luke 10:27, "You shall love the Lord your God.....and your neighbour as yourself." Burkina Faso is located in West Africa with Mali and Niger being





their neighbours. The Sahel region, covering 174,000 kms square (The Diocese of Algoma is 112,600 kms square) and has 21 million inhabitants with sixty ethnicities. More than half the population is Muslim, 9% follow indigenous practices and Christianity forms 26% of the population. It is said that each of these religious groups are present in every region of the country and in every family.

Burkina Faso is experiencing security risks on a number of fronts causing a deterioration in its social cohesion. It is also subject to terrorist attacks, lawlessness, and human trafficking. It is said that since 2016, there are almost two million internally displaced people in the country. Schools and health care centres have been closed and a lot of the infrastructure has been destroyed.

Unfortunately, Christian churches have also been targeted by armed attacks. A number of clergy and lay leaders have been killed or kidnapped and, in some areas, Christians can no longer practice their faith. Where worship is still possible, security guards are necessary. Services are often shortened because of security concerns. How different from our situation where we are freely able to gather for

worship anywhere and anytime. Burkina Faso and all other countries living in these difficult circumstances needs our prayers.

In spite of the horrendous state of unrest in Burkina Faso, there is an emerging solidarity between Christians, Muslims, and traditional religious groups. The government of Burkina Faso has called for prayers for peace, social cohesion, and reconciliation. Roman Catholic and Protestant churches are working together to assist displaced persons. Awareness raising meetings have been organized to promote better understanding of the situation and of the value of working together to return to a lasting peace.

There is a beautiful traditional Mossi (a local indigenous group) proverb that says, "No matter the nature or duration of the fight, the moment of reconciliation will come."

As the churches in Burkina Faso have been challenged and changed as they have worked together to prepare the materials for the Week of Prayer for Christian unity, my prayer is that we will be challenged and changed as we reflect on what it means to walk the path of love – love of God and love of neighbour. Love, as the preparation material for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity states, is the 'DNA' of Christian faith. Let us come together to pray, work, and act for the love of God and neighbour by showing mercy and compassion to all in need, regardless of their religious, ethnic, or social identity. It is by learning to love one another regardless of our differences that Christians can become neighbours like the Samaritan in the chosen gospel.

I hope to see you online on the 18th January, but otherwise encourage you to attend an in person service in your area.

Your bishop in Christ,

+Anne

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<u>PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:</u> There are some important dates coming up in the life of our Church. Please note the following:

On **Saturday**, **January 20**<sup>th</sup> at 11am there will be a Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life and Memory of our friend and faithful member of Epiphany, Dorothy Thomson

On **Sunday, January 21**st, Archbishop Anne will be with us and will lead us in worship. \*This is an excellent opportunity for those who are seeking baptism, confirmation or the renewal of baptismal vows, to meet our wonderful Archbishop before she joins us again on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>.

On **Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 11am there will be a Memorial Service to Celebrate the Life and Memory of our friend and faithful member of Epiphany, Dan Pendleton.



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#### A NOTE FROM REV. ELIZABETH AND REV. NORM

I'm Not Alone - Online Grief Discussion Group

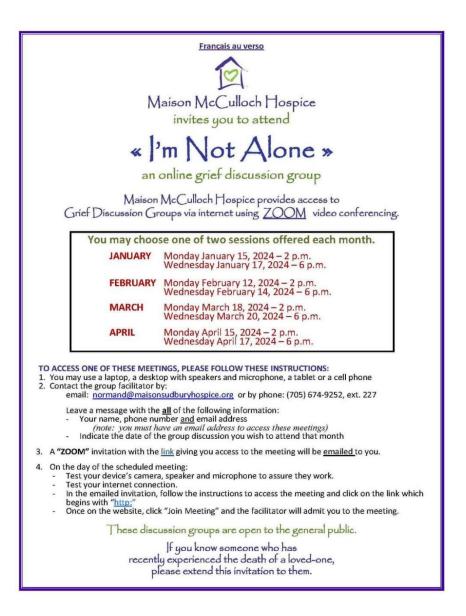
Dear Friends in Christ,

In whatever ways we may differ from one another there is one thing that we all hold in common -

grief. Most, if not all of us, are grieving a loss; be it the loss of a spouse, a friend, a parent, a relative, a family pet, or even a place. And though most of us are well acquainted with grief, everyone's grief is unique and therefore needs to be honoured as such. However, if we are not careful, our grief can leave us feeling isolated and alone; and yet as we are reminded each Sunday, we know that God blesses us when we bless one another with love. The blessing of love reminds us that we are not alone, especially in our grieving.

From January through to April, Rev. Norm will be offering an online discussion group to help all of us share and express our grief. "I'm Not Alone" will provide a meaningful opportunity to connect with others through our grieving. Rev. Elizabeth will be joining one of the discussion groups and looks forward to the Godgiven blessings that it will surely offer. All the dates and information are included in the poster. If you have any questions or would like more information, please be sure to speak with Rev. Norm.

Yours in Christ, Rev. Norm and Rev. Elizabeth.



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<u>THE ANNUAL BOOK SALE:</u> will be taking place January 26-28<sup>th</sup>. Posters are available on the table outside the church office. Please take one, or more, to post in a business you frequent, your apartment building, etc. If you would like an electronic copy to send to friends and family contact Evelyn at <a href="mailto:keeper1916@gmail.com">keeper1916@gmail.com</a>

Books can be brought to the church beginning Sunday, January 21st, 2024.

If you are in need of help with delivery of your donated books, please contact an able bodied church family member that lives in your area of town.

A sign-up sheet for volunteering has been posted on the glass outside of the Algoma Room. Please remember to include your phone number when you sign up.

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**FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY:** Bill and Darlene McKetsy; Marilyn Young; Eileen Thom; Sandra Mark; Katherine Quesnel; Margaret Klassen.

<u>FOR THOSE IN NEED:</u> William; Jean; Pat; Nick and Ellen; John and Judith; Karen and Corrine; Della and Sandra; Frances; Monique; Carol and Bob; Maybourne.

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Watch us LIVE on Sunday Mornings at <a href="https://www.epiphanysudbury.org/our-services">www.epiphanysudbury.org/our-services</a>

Announcements for ETW should be sent to <a href="mailto:etw@epiphanysudbury.org">etw@epiphanysudbury.org</a> by NOON each Thursday.