

EPIPHANY THIS WEEK

January 14 - 20, 2022

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

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The Second Sunday after the Epiphany, Sunday January 16th, worship with Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green

Readings for The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Psalm 36:5-10; John 2:1-11

SUMMARY OF READINGS: The dramatic manifestation of the power of God is the dominant theme in the readings for today. The Gospel stories for this season call attention to the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. The account of the miracle at the wedding in Cana was the first of Jesus' signs, when he revealed his glory. In this context the portion we

hear from 1 Corinthians calls attention to the manifestation of God through the gifts of the Spirit. The verses we hear from Psalm 36 is a hymn of praise for God's steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, and judgement, the one in whose light "we see light" (v.9).

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND AT HOME PRAYERS: Paul teaches the ancient Church in Corinth that all of the spiritual gifts, services, and activities are activated by God for purpose. Each person, Paul says, is given a manifestation of the Spirit to be used for the common good. In the culture that surrounds the church today, and often even within the church, individualism has been exalted to such high status that the phrase "common good" has nearly vanished from the lexicon. Paul's words offer a refreshing, even shocking reminder that faith, while personal is never private, and that the gift each person has been given is meant to be shared. What gifts has God given you? Which of these gifts are shared in community?

Morning – God of Creation, each morning I am awakened by your goodness nudging the earth to life. I am filled with wonder. Your steadfast love extends to the sky, your constancy reaches the clouds. How precious is your steadfast love! It shines like the dawn and dew the desolation of my soul. Manifest in me the gifts of your Spirit that I may rejoice in you as I delight in serving your world this day. Amen.

Evening – As evening falls and darkness shuts the day, do not forsake us, O God. Crown the sky with jewels of light that your salvation may burnish the heavens and illumine the earth, and all find refuge in the shadow of your wings. I offer all of my prayers to you Holy God, in Jesus' name. Amen.

A NOTE FROM REV. ELIZABETH AND THE CHURCH WARDENS

The Epiphany Church building will reopen for worship on Sunday, January 23rd. Of course, we must continue to take every health and safety precaution so that we may all gather safely during this phase of the pandemic.

At this time the number of people in our congregation is limited to 50. In order to help us plan and prepare for safe Sunday worship, it would be very helpful, and greatly appreciated if you would **please call the church office to let us know that you plan to attend worship on Sunday. When you call the church office, please be sure to provide Annet with your name(s) and telephone number.**

We encourage everyone who plans to attend worship to be fully vaccinated. Should you be experiencing any Covid and/or Omicron symptoms, please stay home and worship with us online. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Peoples' Warden, Gilles Tessier through the Epiphany Church office.

Thank You.

PARISH ZOOM GATHERING WITH EVENING PRAYER

Please mark your calendars! Rev. Elizabeth invites everyone in the Epiphany Community to please join her on Zoom on the evening of Wednesday, January 26th at 7pm, for Evening Prayer, and that will also include a time to check in and visit with one another. Please watch upcoming emails for more information, and for the Zoom link to follow. Thank You.

THE GREAT EPIPHANY SANDWICH MAKING CHALLENGE

Hello to you all! You may have noticed that January has 5 Sundays so Epiphany is committed to providing the makings for at least 20 loaves of sandwiches on January 30th for the Elgin Street Mission! I will be collecting these makings that Sunday and delivering them to the Mission.

For those attending the service that Sunday you may leave them in the boxes in the front entrance to the church as you enter. For those still not planning to attend service in person, I will try to park my van in the one parking spot immediately adjacent to the entrance which will allow you to put your donations right into the van, right after the service ~ 11:30 to noon. If you are able to provide one or more loaves and makings for the filling, please let me know. I realize that it is difficult for some to get out and purchase the bread and fillings in this cold weather so if you contact me and send me your donation via e-transfer, I'll shop for you.

If you are aware of other members of the parish who might like to contribute to this worthy project, please ask them to contact me, so I will know how many to expect on the 30th. Many thanks for your faithfulness to this project.

Blessings!

Terry

A NOTE FROM REV. RHONDA

Dear Epiphany Friends,

In these very challenging times, I thought I'd give you a bit of an update about what's happening at HSN. Covid admissions to Health Sciences North continue to rise at a rate never seen before in Sudbury. Patients who are suffering with the virus are being cared for on a variety of different units throughout the hospital because our Covid19 medical unit is completely full. This means that healthcare staff will now see Covid patients on every unit of the hospital. Chaplains and Spiritual Care providers are now being requested to complete some self-learning packages, so to learn how to don and doff personal protective equipment, i.e., *What is the difference between protected code blues and protected code whites etc., etc., etc.* This is the worst the hospital has seen, in terms of admitted Covid19 patients, since the beginning of the pandemic. In addition to praying for all of you to stay well, I ask you, as not only the parishioners of Epiphany, but also as Christians who are called to love one another and everyone around us, to do everything you can to avoid contracting Covid and to avoid the spread if you do. Please, *please*, get vaccinated, including your booster shot. Please, *please* wash your hands, often. Please, *please*, maintain the appropriate physical distancing when out and about and please, *please* wear a mask. By doing all of the things suggested by our scientists, physicians, and public health officers, you are keeping yourself safe; you are helping to ease what is a difficult and exhausting time in healthcare; but most of all, I truly believe you are showing the love of Christ to all of those you encounter.

Blessings of Health and Safety to All,
Rev. Rhonda

**Next week Rev. Rhonda will share a more personal account with us about her experience, and what it's like working in hospital during this phase of the Pandemic. Let's all please keep Rev. Rhonda in our prayers. She is an essential worker in the vineyard of God's kingdom.*

Electronic Offering Program (EOP) – The Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury

The Electronic Offering Program is a service that is offered to you and your parish to assist in giving and receiving donations. In this computerized age where many of us pay our bills online this service allows many to donate to their church and other ministries electronically. Click [here](#) to be taken to our website for more information and to download the enrollment forms.

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY: Lorraine Campell, Bruce & Marion Haddad; Gwen Chmilar; Terry Kett; Elwood & Dale Dunn; Lenard & Donna Punstel

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NEED: Barb; John; Irene; Lawrence; Jean; William; Sandra; Ruth; Sean; Mark; Colleen; Natalie and Curtis; Nick; Ellen and George.

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**A Tribute of Love and Gratitude
in Honour of the late Bishop Tom Corston,
made by some of the Faithful Members in
the Church of the Epiphany**



Tom was a Rector who served through quiet but determined leadership. He sought consensus over contention. He also possessed an easy-going sense of humour tinged with self-deprecation. Once, during a dinner-auction fundraiser in the Phoenix Hall, the auctioneer exhorted the gathering to act upon Tom's homily of the previous Sunday by being a "cheerful giver." In his closing remarks that night, Tom thanked parishioners for their support, in particular the auctioneer when he chuckled, "I sometimes wonder if anyone listens to my sermons".

- Peter Williams

Bishop Tom had a great deal of compassion towards his older members of the church. He also relayed wonderful stories from his parishes as a younger priest. I hope he finished his memoirs. He loved all of his people. - Tom Moland

I can't remember a baby crying at a baptism, Tom had a special touch. When our youngest grandchild was preparing to be baptized, Bishop Tom dropped in on Saturday, to spend some time with the rambunctious two-year-old. On Sunday morning, Tom slipped a little rubber duck into the font and the anticipated fuss was averted.

- Alice-Mae Varpio

I don't think I will ever forget the time Bishop Tom told a first communion class, sitting in the front pew at Epiphany, not to make a face when they took the wine for the first time at their first communion the following day. I was on Altar Guild at the time, and as soon as he said what he did about making faces, I asked Bishop Tom to check some communion wine; we thought it was bad, but we weren't sure. He took a sniff, and then took a sip, and made the funniest face because the wine had indeed gone rancid. Bishop

Tom turned to the kids in the Communion Class and said "That!" --- "Don't do that!!" We all laughed and laughed.

– Marion Collinson



In the good weather, Bishop Tom would always go down, fully garbed in his vestments, and stand outside with the door wide open welcoming all who came by. Bishop Tom also had a soft touch for distressed people. I particularly remember his caring for a man named Fern who was an up and down alcoholic, and who we all tried to support. Whether in the hospital or in jail or whether he just needed help in the middle of the night, Bishop Tom was always there for him. Tom really missed Fern when he eventually passed away. Now it is Bishop Tom who is greatly missed. - Mary Donato

Bishop Tom was an active member of our men's club. He arranged for speakers and always arrived at our meeting location early enough to help prepare and set up. Unless he had a clerical obligation after the breakfast, Bishop Tom stayed until the last dish was in the cupboard. In a way, that willingness to pitch in and help was typical of the man.

- Peter Varpio

I was very happy when I received my license from Bishop Tom, when I became a Lay Reader. – Rick Collinson

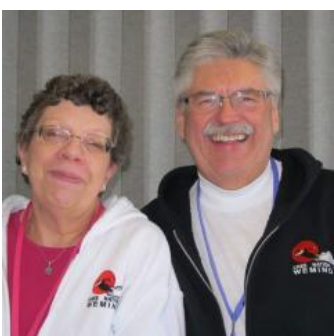
What I remember is how Bishop Tom always loved a celebration, especially if it had something to do with the Epiphany. When there was no Covid pandemic, Bishop Tom used to hold a parade around the church with the children. But I always felt my wheelchair was in the way so it made me a little nervous. A parade was what Bishop Tom loved, and what he was known for. – Stephen Donato



At church luncheons and community dinners, several of us remember Bishop Tom jokingly saying things like, how he was "certain there would be no salads in heaven!" We all loved him for his good and easy-going sense of humour. – Barb Bolton

One time there was a group of us talking about incense and people who were allergic to it. Bishop Tom (then Father Tom) said, "just mention incense and Marilyn will start to sneeze." This memory of Tom always makes me smile

– Marilyn Collinson



Bishop Tom trained me as a lay reader. Throughout the training period, he always had encouraging words for me and I came to regard him as a spiritual mentor. I will also remember his many sermons, always scripturally sound, but with a timely message. Rest in peace Bishop Tom. – Sean Etches

- There will be a Memorial Service, attended by invitation only at the Family's request, that will take place at the Church of the Epiphany on Feb. 1st. With the help of the Epiphany worship team and our technical support, Bishop Tom's Memorial Service will be recorded and made available on our church's website. We are also hopefully that we will be able to live-stream the service so that you can participate in real time in the safety and comfort of your own home.

A NOTE FROM REV. ELIZABETH - I WILL NEVER FILL HIS SHOES

Dear Friends,

What a week it's been. Though we are most grateful to God that Bishop Tom is no longer suffering from the pain and discomfort of cancer, news of his death last Friday hit us like a huge tidal wave. Even as we knew that the inevitable would soon come to pass, our Epiphany community was plunged into sadness and grief over the loss of our beloved Bishop Tom. I certainly have felt it, and I know you have too.

After reading all of your wonderful tributes to Bishop Tom, it is crystal clear just how much he was loved, cherished and appreciated by so many of you. Bishop Tom was one-of-a-kind. He is someone who can never be replaced, and whose shoes I will never be able to fill.

Realistically, I know that I will never be able to fill the shoes of Bishop Tom at the Church of the Epiphany, but I can do my best to follow in his footsteps through the love, care, and leadership that I will continue to offer and provide for and with the people of the Epiphany Church.

In all that Bishop Tom was as a priest, teacher, community leader, bishop and friend, he will forever be a role model for all of us going forward. Bishop Tom's legacy of life, leadership and ministry will always be part of the Epiphany community.

He will live on in our hearts and memories, even as he has entered into new life in the Spirit. Here, I am reminded of the beautiful, prayerful words of St. John Chrysostom who said,

*He whom we love
and lose
is no longer where he was before.
He is now
wherever we are.*

As friends and members of the Church of the Epiphany, Bishop Tom will always and forever be part of who we are. We are a people and community of faith who respond to God's call to love and serve the Lord, as we love and serve one another. It is through this same God-given love, love that is made known to us in all that we do, and in all that we are as Church, that our dear Bishop Tom will eternally bless us with his light.

Rest in Peace. Light. and Love, Bishop Tom.

To God be the Glory. Thanks be to God.

With every Blessing,
Elizabeth+

