

Crosstalk

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OTTAWA | SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL | DECEMBER 2024



PHOTO OF ALL SAINTS PETAWAWA: THE REV. GILLIAN HOYER



"In the dark quiet of Advent, where the light of day comes late each morning and flees early each evening, we wait for the coming again of the glory of Christ, the light of the world," writes the Rev. Canon Catherine Ascah in her reflection on p. 12.

Diocese benefits from participation in Conference on Ending Homelessness

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa's delegates to the National Conference on Ending Homelessness went home with challenges and a wealth of information to share with the renewed Bishop's Panel on Housing Justice and the wider community.

Sue Garvey, chair of the panel (formerly known as the diocesan Homelessness and Affordable Housing Working Group), offered two questions in particular to address:

- How can we increase the voice with those of lived experience in the work of the diocese, its committees and advisory bodies?
- How can we connect the work of

the Bishop's Panel with the work of the National Anglican Church?

Garvey represented the diocese along with the Ven. Kathryn Otley, Incumbent of All Saints Westboro and Archdeacon of Central Ottawa, at the conference held in Ottawa from Oct. 29 to 31. Representing the Anglican Church of Canada was Ryan Weston, lead animator, public witness for social and ecological justice for the national church.

They joined a record 2,000 delegates, including frontline workers, policy makers, funders, researchers, advocates, politicians, volunteers, and 300 people with lived experience in homelessness, who are working to end homelessness in their communities.

Tim Richter, president and CEO,

said the alliance is retooling to deliver more resources to local service providers to respond to a "lethal upward trajectory" of homelessness.

"Every day, hundreds, if not thousands, of people are lifted out of homelessness across Canada," he said. "But homelessness grows because unaffordable housing markets throw thousands more onto the street."

A current initiative, a new Encampment Response Service: a step-by-step service of community-wide supports, was promoted by the alliance in two sessions.

Sean Fraser, minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, announced the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund,

a \$50-million fund to help communities develop innovative projects to prevent homelessness and accelerate new homes for people currently experiencing homelessness.

The need for full engagement of those with lived experience in developing responses was among the main takeaways for the Ottawa group. "Nothing about us without us," one presenter said.

The conference heard evidence of the need to change the way advocates communicate about homelessness and affordable housing. In other words, put a human face on the issue. Tell stories with impact that invoke emotion and inspire.

► **Homelessness conference p. 4**

BISHOP'S CHARGE, 2024



THE RIGHT REVEREND
DR. SHANE A. D. PARKER
BISHOP OF OTTAWA

**For my house shall
be called a house of
prayer for all peoples.**

Isaiah 56.7b

**Sing a new song to
the Lord.**

Psalms 98.1

In my charge to Synod last year, I spoke of how Henry Chadwick, a prolific church historian, described the church as a stained-glass window—reflecting through its diverse panes the beauty of God's grace, love, peace, hope, reconciliation, and justice. And like stained-glass, which on its own cannot withstand the assaults of the elements, the church needs to be held by the oak and iron of good order and discipline. Professor Chadwick realized the structures and operations of the Church—being well-run and properly resourced—enable cohesion amongst its members and frees them to focus on serving others.

Between 2020 and 2023, you, the laity and clergy of our diocesan church, joined me in a journey of honestly assessing where we were at, and of carefully and collaboratively discerning what God was calling us to do. We worked hard together to listen, respond, discern, shape, revise, and propose what we were being called to do. We heard that our clergy and lay leaders are motivated to work together more, reach more people, enrich their discipleship, and to clarify and support shared roles. We drafted three action-oriented proposals designed to strengthen and nurture parish ministry, and to find a better way to engage with the wider community.

Bishop's Charge envisions a thriving church that is ready to serve

We gave overwhelming support to those proposals. We said we were ready to step away from being changed to guiding change, so we can share the Gospel of Christ's love and healing power from a place of strength and hope. We were ready to consolidate our overall parish ministry structure and the operations which support it in order to have well-resourced churches. We want lay leaders across our diocese to be well-supported and well-equipped to share in robust parish ministries. We want to learn how to share the love of God in an age where many are wary of religion. We said we want to change and thrive. We are seeking to sing a new song to the Lord.

2 Language is important, and the words we use to describe ourselves at this time matter very much.

It is important to use affirming words like: we belong to Christ; we are in communion with one another, deeply and inextricably; we are strong together; and we can build our capacity to serve those who seek God's love in healthy communities of faith and those who cry out for justice, compassion, shelter, and respect.

And, to repeat what I have said before, it is heartening to say we are a diocesan church, a body with two arms: parish ministries and community ministries. It is unifying to say: our diocese, not the diocese; our parishes, not the parishes; our community ministries, not the community ministries; Ascension House, not the Synod Office; our clergy, our people, our staff, our bishop, our central resources. It is empowering to say we, us, and ours. Words matter.

We need to adopt new words to speak of how we move through the temporal tasks of planning and budgeting. Some time ago, we decided to approve a new budget every three years, and saw this as practical and helpful. Now, we need to locate the setting of our budget within a more clearly defined and strategic triennial cycle.

We have learned how to listen well to one another and to the Holy Spirit as we discern the mind of Christ and build consensus around what we are called to do. This is the starting point for each new triennium. From there, speaking broadly, our triennial cycle will

involve working to achieve agreed-to results, evaluating our efforts, discerning and agreeing to new priorities, and budgeting to achieve new results in the next triennium. I look forward to working with our Diocesan Council to develop and enable each part of our triennial cycle.

3 We are currently in year one of a triennium that will conclude at the end of 2026, and we are focused on achieving 6 Results that reflect our careful work of discernment and the actions and budget we affirmed last year.

Result 1 involves focussing on developing our central resources so we are less reliant on parish revenues to fund our shared operations and staffing. This is intended to leave more money in parishes. Just as every one of our parishes must seek to engage in effective financial stewardship and develop three streams of revenue from offerings, property, and investments, we, as a diocesan church, must do the same.

Result 2 involves providing increased assistance and support to parish leaders from the directors and staff of Ascension House, who offer expertise in communications and stewardship development, financial and legal matters, liturgy, human resources, governance, and property and asset management.

Result 3 involves providing guidance to parishes facing major change and promoting collaboration and innovation across our diocese. I am directly involved in achieving this result, and continue to work with parish leaders to discuss options and support their decisions concerning major change. A panel is in place to assist with other initiatives requiring innovation and collaboration. ADOyouth is a recent example of taking a collaborative approach to reaching and connecting young people across our parishes and deaneries.

Results 4, 5, and 6 are being addressed by our new Learning Commons, which is managed by the Education Committee of Diocesan Council. In addition, Ascension House staff have worked with others to bring much greater clarity to canons and by-laws concerning the governance of parishes.

The Learning Commons will achieve results through four distinct areas of activity: a) Ascension

House will provide training and learning opportunities to help understand how parishes can operate more effectively; b) our Parish Development Subcommittee will prepare modules and sessions to provide practical instruction on how to have healthier congregations; c) our Resource Hub Coordinator is establishing hubs and knowledge networks to gather and share resources and expertise; and d) our Contextual Mission Subcommittee will help us learn how to engage with the world and establish new worshipping communities.

We must continue to be disciplined and focussed, and encourage everyone to engage in the Learning Commons activities. God has shown us what we need to do to guide change and thrive, and we need to do it together.

The Learning Commons is an important new structure that will remain in place long after this current triennium, as we must always ensure that successive generations of clergy and lay leaders learn how to do the work of parish ministry—a ministry that provides spiritual nurture, common worship, meaningful social engagement, pastoral care, and hope to hundreds of people every week of the year.

This triennium will be significant in the life of our diocesan church as we seek to firmly implement all we have carefully discerned and agreed to. As we move from 2025 to 2026, we will evaluate what we have been doing, refine our approach wherever necessary, and faithfully discern new priorities to shape and budget for the next triennium.

4 We commemorate Archbishop Willibrord as we gather on this 7th day of November.

Willibrord was a medieval monk at the vanguard of the evangelization of northwestern Europe during the 8th Century. He devoted four decades to preaching the gospel, with the encouragement of his Pope and military support from the Franks.

Willibrord is rightly remembered for bringing Christianity to a large swath of Europe, and he did so with considerable skill, evidenced in the establishment of many monasteries. There are also accounts of him aggressively challenging paganism, including destroying idols and despoiling places deemed to be sacred to pagans, and by killing their

PHOTO: DOUG MORRIS



Bishop Shane gives the blessing in Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa.

sacred cattle for food.

While we can admire the deep and sacrificial faith of Willibrord, it would be unthinkable for us to have his mindset or to use his methods as we seek to engage with the world around us here in eastern Ontario and western Quebec, the ancestral homeland of the Anishinaabe Algonquins. The Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2015 laid bare the perils and horrors of aligning the Gospel of Christ with imperial, colonial, and military ambitions.

During this meeting of Synod, we will be given a better sense for the distinction between parish development and contextual mission: if you want people to join your parish community, pay attention to parish development materials and become healthy and attractive to others; if you want your parish community to share in God's mission to bring the rural areas, villages, towns, and cities of our diocese into the orbit of Christ's love, pay attention to contextual mission materials—including the time of prayer.

We must always remember that God is already at work in the world, and our task is to participate in God's work by listening in a new way to the Holy Spirit—because we cannot afford to repeat the colonial mistake of thinking we have the agenda in hand and have to convince others to follow it.

5 We are surrounded these days by some disturbing clouds of polarization, intolerance, geopolitical instability, environmental degradation, and socio-economic disparity. We see these clouds in news feeds and on the streets of our diocese. We must never forget that we always have agency, as individual followers of Jesus and as a diocesan church. We always have the option of praying, donating, advocating or acting in ways that are wise and faithful.

As tensions based on toxic blends of religion, ideology, and nationalism mount in other parts of the world, it is important for us to build bridges in our own civic communities. I have recently gathered the interfaith and ecumenical work we have done for years into a new ministry of interreligious relations. This ministry will be ably staffed by two experienced priests of our diocese, who will work with me to build bilateral relationships with other faith groups—and to model for our clergy the importance of getting to know other faith leaders in their areas. We build these relationships from the platform of shared values that serve the common good here in Canada—and standing together against hatred.

On Saturday, we will hear from Archbishop Hosam Naoum in our partner diocese of Jerusalem, who plaintively says his people are bleeding at this time. Please pray, donate and reach out to individuals and agencies who are either

struggling or serving to alleviate the effects of obscene violence in the land of the Holy One. PWRDF, UNICEF, Canadian Red Cross, and several other agencies seek to bring relief to those who are suffering. Archbishop Hosam asks us to pray fervently for peace, justice, and reconciliation for all Jews, Muslims, and Christians in the land where Jesus walked.

Our highly respected community ministries continue to respond to need. Belong Ottawa and Centre 105 provide sanctuary and services for people who live precariously; Cornerstone provides shelter and affordable housing for women; the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre provides affordable counselling and psychotherapy; and our Refugee Ministry Office enables the sponsorship of dozens of refugees each year. Our diocesan church remains committed to addressing the need for affordable housing, which is essential in addressing numerous social inequities and human suffering. As promised last year, our Synod will be asked to endorse a new Panel on Housing Justice which will refine our approach to providing affordable housing in this triennium.

6 A short while ago, Martine Dore retired from many years as a beloved member of the staff of Cornerstone Housing for Women. At her retirement party, she shared her conviction that “everyone

belongs, everyone matters, everyone deserves a second chance.”

While Martine's beautiful words aptly describe the work of our five community ministries—each one of them an example of the fruits of contextual mission—they also lift up the heart of our baptismal covenant.

We who are baptized have vowed to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being. My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples, says the Lord.

Both arms of our diocesan church, our parish ministries and our community ministries, are compelled by our love and worship of God to communicate God's love for all people through meaningful action.

As we move through this triennium, we will continue to faithfully attend to the oak and iron that holds the beautiful stained-glass of God's grace, love, peace, hope, reconciliation, and justice. We will strive to achieve the results we have named, evaluating our efforts, and collaboratively discerning new priorities and directions. We will cherish the beauty of Christ that has been entrusted to our diocesan church, and we will seek to share that beauty, with humble confidence and expansive generosity, wherever God is calling us to be.

Amen+

More than 2000 people attended

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

► Homelessness conference, from p. 1

Mark Horvath, founder of Invisible People, an American non-profit that specializes in story-telling to change public perceptions, said the public doesn't relate well to expert discourse. "We need to amplify the voice of lived experience."

In terms of lessons learned, Archdeacon Otley rated effective advocacy highly important. Harmful discourse gains currency, acquires misinformation through social media and leads to fear of a threat to social norms. The curtailing of harm reduction strategies is a perfect current example, she said. "It is essential to counter harmful discourse at its source with factual information."

While the Ottawa delegates heard a few references to faith groups—the role of churches with property and the work of chaplains such as the Rev. Hilary Murray at Cornerstone Housing for Women were mentioned—but the contributions they make weren't well represented at the conference.

Archdeacon Otley suggested consideration be given to offering a session at the 2025 conference in Montreal on the theme of faith groups as partners in ending homelessness.

Conference takeaways

► The face of homelessness is disproportionately Indigenous. There is a need to engage Indigenous communities in Indigenous solutions and leadership.

► Housing is and must be seen as a human right. There is a need to pursue a Right to Housing ecosystem, a preferred approach to housing initiatives. As Guy Felicella, a harm reduction advocate and keynote speaker said: "We've made housing a privilege in this country instead of a human right...that has to change."



David Humphreys, the Ven. Kathryn Otley and Ryan Weston from the Anglican Church of Canada and Canon Sue Garvey attended the conference for the Bishop's Panel on Housing Justice.

► The connection between housing and health should be amplified. Housing is a health issue, a social determinant. You can't have one without the other.

► Canadians are very concerned about the homelessness issue, housing affordability and homeless people. They believe that mental health and addictions are main factors, but they primarily believe that homelessness is a failure of leadership.

A communications handbook: *How We Talk about Homelessness in St. John's* (Wecandoit.com) could be useful in shaping educational tools for the Bishop's Panel on Housing Justice. <https://wecanedit.com/handbook>

Cornerstone project was highlighted

Cornerstone Housing for Women's Aging in Home Program was featured in a panel discussion on Innovative Practices in Housing and Homelessness in Ottawa at the National Conference on Ending Homelessness.

Devika Pawar, Cornerstone senior manager of supportive housing, said the program prioritizes holistic well-being for those aging at home. "Our services include accessible medical support, nurturing spiritual care and harm-reduction practices that enhance safety and health."

She appeared with representatives of Shepherds of Good Hope, John Howard Society of Ottawa, Ottawa Inner City Health and Youth Services Bureau.

Cornerstone is a Community Ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa.

The audience of about 100, many from other parts of Canada, registered agreement with the panelists that close collaboration is the key to their success in solving many problems.

"We service providers in Ottawa work in a web," Adrienne Sesiakin, senior manager in supportive housing at Shepherds of Good Hope, said. "We are always consulting each other on the best solution to a problem."

—David Humphreys

David Humphreys is a journalist and regular contributor to Crosstalk. He is a member of the Bishops's Panel on Housing Justice. Read more here: www.ottawa.anglican.ca/housing-justice/



Crosstalk

A publication of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa
www.ottawa.anglican.ca

The Rt. Rev. Shane Parker
Bishop of Ottawa
Publisher

Leigh Anne Williams
Editor

Jane Waterston
Production

Crosstalk is published 10 times a year (September to June) and mailed as a section of the *Anglican Journal*. It is printed and mailed by Webnews Printing Inc., North York.

Crosstalk is a member of the Canadian Christian Communicators Association and the Anglican Editors Association.

Subscriptions

For new or changed subscriptions, please contact your parish administrator or visit: www.anglicanjournal.com
Suggested annual donation: \$25

Advertising

Crosstalk welcomes advertising from parishes, agencies and enterprises wanting to support our mission and reach our readers. Publication does not

imply endorsement by the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa (ADO) or any of its principals, and Crosstalk reserves the right to decline advertisements.

Advertising enquiries should be directed to: advertising@ottawa.anglican.ca

Submit a story

Editorial enquiries and letters to the editor should be directed to: editor@ottawa.anglican.ca

Leigh Anne Williams,
Crosstalk
71 Bronson Ave.
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 6G6
613 232-7124

Please contact the editor for submission deadlines.



Crosstalk acknowledges that we publish on traditional Anishinàbeg Algonquin territory. We recognize the Algonquins as the customary keepers and defenders of the Ottawa River Watershed and its tributaries.

Rural areas need more services for homeless

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

Sessions at the National Conference to End Homelessness focused on the reality of the rural hidden homeless, often identified as a troubling factor in Lanark and Renfrew counties.

Terilee Kelford, based in Carleton Place and co-chair of the National Alliance to End Rural and Remote Homelessness, identified transportation as a leading problem as well as the widespread lack of services.

Atlas Commanda, now working with Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa and a member of a rural youth network, spoke of coming to Ottawa from Renfrew at age 17 in search of help. There was no other option. Ten years later, she is planning to return home where others can benefit from her experience.

She said it is twice as hard for rural youth to get help compared to those in the city and three times as hard for Indigenous youth.

Small ancillary things like a lack of public transportation can pose a big problem, she said.

Information about the reasons for rural homelessness and a guide to estimating numbers is available on ruraldevelopmentrt.ca

Heather Hay from Elder Abuse Prevention Muskoka emphasized the plight of older women in rural settings, some spending as much as 80 per cent of income on housing.

Many are living in much older houses, she said, and are not able to pay for needed maintenance and upgrades. Their numbers are increasing. They are living alone



Sculptor Timothy Schmalz's *Homeless Jesus* in the forecourt of Christ Church Cathedral signals the deep concern among Anglicans, and the diocesan church's commitment to work toward housing justice.

longer; in the worst cases ending up on the street because they didn't want to take advantage of "the system."

Another presentation, from west-central Alberta, described an initiative to develop a rural transit

system that addresses local needs.

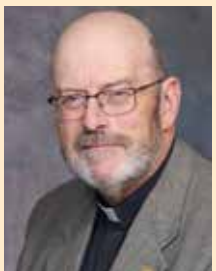
The Tamarack Transit System followed a county-wide survey and consultations. It is a project of the Clearwater Regional Housing Foundation, partnering with the federal Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

"All the services were saying that quality of life would definitely be improved with better transportation options for people," project manager Janice Fraser said.

CLERGY NEWS



The Rev. Susan Lewis has been appointed Incumbent (half-time) of the Parish of St. Columba in Ottawa, effective Jan. 8, 2025.



The Rev. Canon Stewart Murray will retire on Jan. 1, 2025. Bishop Shane Parker made the announcement with "thanksgiving for his 45 years of excellent priestly ministry in our diocese."



The Rev. Robert Sicard has been appointed part-time Associate Priest in the Parish of Mississippi Lake, effective Nov. 20, 2024.



It's your life! It's your legacy!

Give peace of mind to those you love most by preplanning with Beechwood.

280 Beechwood, Ottawa - 613-741-9530 - www.beechwoodottawa.ca
Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company.



COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Shauna-marie Young is Belong Ottawa's new director

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Shauna-marie Young began her new role as the executive director at Belong Ottawa on Sept. 9, following the retirement of Rachel Robinson. Belong Ottawa is an Anglican Community Ministry, which serves hundreds of vulnerable people in the city who struggle with poverty, precarious housing, mental health issues and addictions, providing for basic needs and social support at three locations — Centre 454, St. Luke's Table and The Well.

Young brings with her a wealth of experience as a registered nurse, educator and leader in health care and management. She earned a Master's degree in conflict studies and is an accredited mediator. She kindly made time to talk with *Crosstalk* in late October.

How are you settling in?

"It's going really well. I'm extremely impressed by the dedication of the entire team, and so that's really helping settle in for sure.... The team has been warm and welcoming and informative."

What drew you to Belong Ottawa?

The opportunity to work with an organization whose mission, vision, and values aligns with both my personal and professional vision and mission and value system was really the calling to join the organization. My passion has always been serving those who are less fortunate, whether that's marginally housed, living with substance use or comorbid psychiatric conditions. My background in nursing has led me to be aligned to serve those who are most in need in our society.

What parts of your experience best prepared you to lead Belong Ottawa?



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Belong is a small organization, recently amalgamated, and so there is a growth opportunity here.... I have worked with Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, with the Royal Ottawa Mental Health Care Centre (formerly the Royal Ottawa Hospital) and with Carlington Community Health Centre. In those positions, I was responsible for change leadership and management, whether that was at the point of care, or organizational infrastructure, so all of those skills are very important for me in this role now, as is my background in nursing and knowledge around mental health, addictions and psychiatry. I worked at the Royal Ottawa for about six years, managed the substance use and concurrent

disorders program at the time when the hospital was evolving to become a tertiary care centre, and a centre of excellence, so there was a huge transition. My knowledge, skills, ability and experience in mental health and addictions is also as important because I very much understand the needs of our participants.

I'm an accredited intergenerational mediator, so I understand family systems and the methodology and the research around various issues families face. And often some of those issues are what led our participants to have lost their contact in their support systems.

I'm also an accredited manager and leader, and I am committed to the people that I work for. That is not just the participants, but the amazing team at Belong — so supporting the excellence in the service delivery to our participants and also serving the staff, the employees, our valued human resource, which is the why and how we can do what we do. They are equally important to me.

I don't think there's one piece of my background or experience or knowledge that is more important than the other in this role. It's the whole basket that I'm bringing forward, and to be honest with you, I have tapped on every bit since my first day.

Early in your career, you lived and worked in the North. What did you do there?

I was living in Iqaluit...Working with and serving in health services in

Iqaluit—a formative experience in my early nursing years....

It was really an important personal family experience and a professional growth experience....I wanted my children to learn, to experience part of Canada that they might never see [otherwise]. I wanted them to understand what it's like to live as a minority, even in their country of origin. It was a great adventure to live there, to understand the eastern Arctic and Nunavut and learn that Canada isn't just the east and west coast, there's three coasts in this country.... Many Inuit populate that north coast, and the Inuit Regions are vital to our country — a very rich ecosystem, very rich in culture and traditional Inuit knowledge .

More recently, you served as director of programs at Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada here in Ottawa. What was the focus of your work there?

I was hired to create a division where we addressed social and economic prosperity, safety, justice, health and well-being, and anti-violence in support of Inuit womens rights, health and prosperity.

What are the biggest challenges you see at the moment or on Belong Ottawa's horizon?

There's still opportunities for ... supporting our team and further development of the infrastructure, and creating stability in a newly amalgamated organization.... There is ongoing opportunity to work with our allies and partners in Ottawa to address the issues of food insecurity, lack of affordable housing... and finding creative ways with our partners to address and eliminate homelessness.

Are there specific hopes you are envisioning?

Consolidating the organizations in ways that continue to support the current day programming we are engaged in that makes a difference in the lives of 600 to 700 people a day in Ottawa, and also really focusing on supporting the entire team ... so they may continue to do the work they're doing.

We are really looking forward to the rebuild of St. Luke's [which was severely damaged by a fire in October 2022.]

And ongoing community relations with our neighbours around each of the service areas, continuing support and education and raising awareness of the needs of the populations we serve...trying to be good neighbours, working closely with our parish partners.



**Ottawa Pastoral
Counselling Centre**

An Anglican
Community Ministry

**Individuals, Couples, & Family
Life Transitions
Personal Crisis
Grief & Bereavement
Stress & Depression**



CONNECT WITH US

613-235-2516 connect@theopc.ca

209-211 Bronson Ave, Ottawa, ON K1R 6H5

New Website www.theopc.ca

PARISH NEWS

St. Mark's celebrates 75th anniversary with worship, food and fun

PHOTOS: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

St. Mark's Anglican Church in Ottawa wound up its 75th anniversary celebrations with a special worship service on Oct. 6.

Bishop Shane Parker offered the homily, beginning by remarking on how much things have changed since St. Mark's was founded. "There weren't solar panels on the roof back then. Oil was endless and in great supply..... If we said we were going to build an Anglican Church, people would be lining up and when the church was finally built it would be filled and we didn't need to do much to make that happen.

Now we live in a very different context where we're not really noticed as much as we used to be. And we need to come to terms with that, not in a way that discourages us. The simple truth is that we are a smaller church in a city, in a context where many people are suspicious of religion, have no religion, or are members of another religious tradition. And we need to learn how to be faithful in such a change of context. And as many of you know, our diocesan church has done a lot of work in recent years to come to terms with the things we know we're being called to do in this changed environment."

The bishop recommended the



St. Mark's officially welcomed new members of the parish, some of whom arrived during the pandemic when it wasn't possible to celebrate together in this way.

diocesan Learning Commons, designed to offer resources to help learn how to be healthy parishes and to learn how to be the church in the world at this time. He encouraged parishioners to focus on discerning how God is working in the world around them and around St. Mark's and to look for ways to "participate with other people in serving the common good."

The bishop thanked Father Julian Campbell, the Incumbent of St.

Mark's, for his ministry in the church and in the diocese and prayed for blessings on all of his and the parish's endeavours.

At the end of the worship serve, the parish officially welcomed a group of individuals and families who had joined St. Mark's during the pandemic when such in-person ceremonies were deemed to be unsafe.

As everyone gathered in the parish hall to have lunch and celebrate the

anniversary together, Father Julian told *Crosstalk* that parishioners had also marked anniversary over the year at different points during the year by planting a tree; holding a strawberry tea; hosting a musical performance by the group "Aged in Harmony;" and creating a pictorial directory of parishioners. This special worship service and celebratory lunch capped off their celebrations.



Judy Darling



Margaret Lodge



Brenda Zanin



Elizabeth van Ossenbruggen



(left) The Rev. Julian Campbell with parishioners Sheila Pitt (front), Sophia Chiboka and Joseph Amuah. (right) Dari Akinwale enjoys the party with his children.



Opening of second Cathedral Hill tower marks successful completion of vision

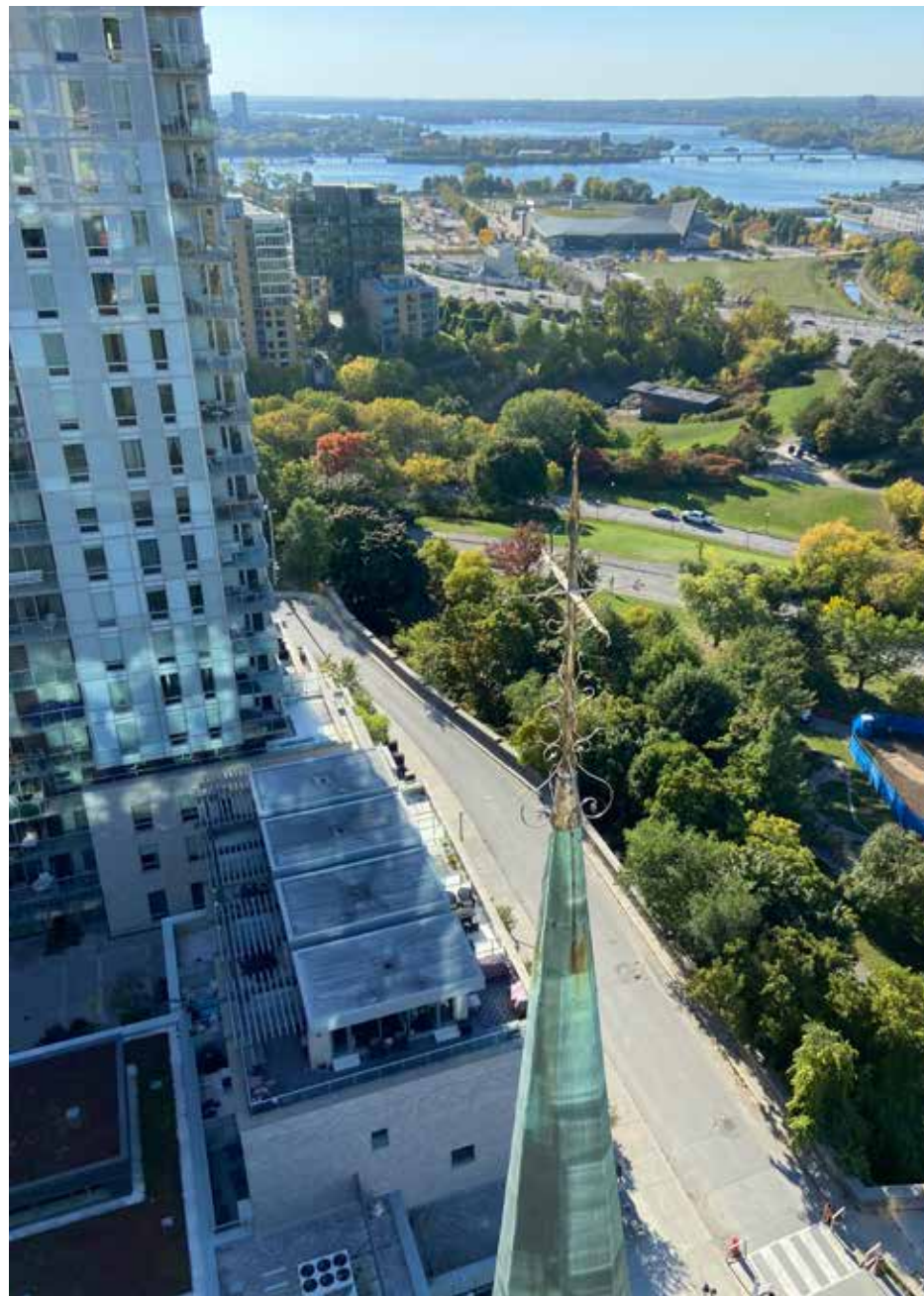
PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

As The Vista on Sparks, the new 18-storey retirement residence on the east side of the Christ Church Cathedral, officially opened and began welcoming tenants in November, the cathedral parish and the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa celebrated the completion of a vital project first envisioned almost 20 years ago.

Gwen Lévesque, chair of the board of the Cathedral Hill Foundation (CHF), which was established in 2010 to represent the Cathedral and the Diocese in this project, told *Crosstalk* that the objective “was to provide a secure revenue stream for the church’s many important social ministries and to ensure that there is ongoing revenue to maintain its important heritage buildings without compromising its ministries.” She added that members of the foundation “have been resolute in their determination” to realize that goal, and “and also to ensure that in doing so these buildings which bracket Ascension House and the Cathedral would be a good fit for the neighbourhood. There is a great deal of satisfaction in accomplishing these results.”

David Morgan, who has been a member of the cathedral parish for 43 years and has been a CHF board member from its beginnings, described the challenges that first sparked this dream. A second cathedral hall built in 1950 “was 30 or 40 feet high inside with a stage at one end and a mezzanine balcony at the other end which we no longer really used. You had to heat all that before you got the heat down to where people were actually standing. The roof leaked. It was inappropriate in terms of architecture,” and he added



The fabulous view from the new Vista on Sparks includes the Great Hall's green roof, the first tower, and the war museum beyond.



Gwen Lévesque is chair of the Cathedral Hill Foundation board and David Morgan was one of the first board members.



In 2013, the Cathedral's hall was gone and excavation for the first tower well underway. Staff received training for the next four years in patience and forbearance.

they needed more space for the girls' choir, which was just being established. “There were all kinds of reasons why we felt the need to remove that hall,” he said.

The cost of building a new hall, however, was beyond the Cathedral's capacity. “We thought we would try and offer it up as a development parcel and get a hall that way... but it very soon became apparent that it was too small a parcel to be successfully developed and to give us back all the wonderful things that we wanted,” he said.

The Cathedral turned to the Diocese, which also owned parts of the block, but the situation was complicated by the fact that the Cathedral and Diocese each owned bits and pieces, like a patchwork

quilt on the 40,000 square foot area. Rather miraculously, Morgan said, it turned out that when you added all the bits up about half was owned by each party. “So, we had a very quick and short meeting with the Diocese where it was agreed that we could go into a joint venture on this, and everything would be split 50-50.”

Initially, representatives from both the Diocese and the Cathedral formed a joint development group, working out the details according to the Canons, Bylaws and Regulations (CBRs) and holding bidding processes with the proviso that payments would come from the development, and the parties involved had to be willing to wait for that. “We selected Gowlings. They had a very good commercial real estate partnership, and Windmill Developments, who basically knocked it out of the park above all the other proposals in terms of being willing to work with the church and understanding the church's motivations to be doing this,” Morgan said.

The group did discuss the possibilities of including affordable housing as a part of the development, but in the end, Morgan said they decided that it was more beneficial to get the maximum return from properties in this prominent location in the city and then use those revenues to benefit community ministries in the diocese.

Windmill was contracted to develop the property in two phases. The first phase was a residential condominium tower to be built on the west side of the cathedral next to Ascension House, with a commercial building to be built later. At that point, the joint venture group was formalized as the non-profit Cathedral Hill Foundation, and it was chaired first by David Caulfield, then David Morgan, and by Barbara Gagne, who led the board until she stepped down in 2020 and was succeeded by Lévesque. The ownership of the land was transferred to the CHF, so that the developer was only dealing with one entity representing both the Cathedral and the Diocese.

Bishop Shane served as the dean and rector of the Cathedral from the beginning of the development and was instrumental throughout, supporting volunteers on the joint venture committee and being the face of the development project to outside parties. He recalls making a representation to the City of Ottawa, persuading

► continued, p. 9

planning authorities to rezone the land so the project could proceed. “I had to explain that, while we were responsible for a municipal “heritage asset” called Christ Church Cathedral, we were in a self-defeating circle where spending money to keep the building in good repair meant no money for all the good things we offer to the city, which meant diminishing givings. We needed to develop our property to pay for our property. Fortunately, we prevailed.”

A large-scale construction project inevitably comes with disruptions of various kinds, but Morgan says that overall members of the cathedral parish were supportive. “It helped to meet often with them in special vestry meetings and other sessions when the developer would explain the plans....We kept up a pretty steady and consistent communication,” he said. The loss of parking spots was the biggest inconvenience, for which there was \$30,000 annual compensation during the construction. The first phase included 25 underground parking spots when it was finished, also split between the Cathedral and Diocese.

The 21-storey, 140-unit condominium tower was completed in 2015. It is a 99-year ground lease, with option for another 100 years. As a part of that phase of the development, the Cathedral’s present-day Great Hall was built along with a kitchen, and revamped archives space. The area that links Lauder Hall and the Great Hall to the cathedral itself was renewed and updated. Masonry was repaired. Ascension House was also renovated and the parking spots purchased. The total cost was more than \$2.5 million. The lease payment was made as a lump sum, with the costs for the Great Hall, replacements/repairs/parking spaces being paid from this revenue, and the balance invested in the Consolidated Trust Fund (CTF), Lévesque explained. Disbursements from the CTF dividends are allocated 50/50 to the Cathedral and Diocese.

After some delays and an extension of the original time frame, Windmill let the CHF know they could not do the second phase. Fortunately, the Reichmann Senior

Housing Development Corporation saw it as a prime location and opportunity to build a retirement accommodation complex. Lévesque said they have been very good, professional partners. As occupancy begins, annual rent will be paid, with an escalation based on CPI changes on a 10-year review cycle, Lévesque said. Disbursements will be 50/50 between the Cathedral and Diocese. Underground parking will include: 10 spaces for the Cathedral’s exclusive use 24/7; 15 spaces from Monday to Friday from 6 pm to 6am and Saturday-Sunday 24 Hours, with five additional spaces for special events with notice given.

As is expected with construction and development, a few adjustments had to be made along the way. Most notably, the plan to make another level of underground parking had to be changed. Due to fractures in the bedrock, Reichmann said including another layer of parking would have cost them \$3 million. “So, we split the difference and received \$1.5 million from them in addition to the lease rent. That’s the sort of adaptability you have to have as you go along,” Lévesque explained. No project goes exactly according to plan.



Bishop Shane Parker has been closely involved with each step of development, first as Dean of the Cathedral and now as diocesan bishop.

Despite such hiccups and the fact that the pandemic slowed everything down, The Vista on Sparks officially opened on Oct. 21, offering 152 units including independent living as well as assisted living options. The restaurant Cooks on the Water



The limestone bedrock underfoot on Cathedral Hill, exposed in 2013.

lots of interest from Anglicans in the city who would like to live near the Cathedral. They expect to reach 25% occupancy by early February and 50% by the end of May 2025, she said.

Morgan said the completion of the development and an influx of hundreds of new neighbours is a good opportunity to rejuvenate the cathedral community. “We’ve got all these new facilities which are useful and that we can rent out,” mentioning the annual Ottawa International Writers Festival as an example. It will also help reach out to the community more. “We can now go to the Vista on Sparks and say, you know, we’re having a music night on Thursday, please come and Dean Beth Bretzlaff, the current rector of Christ Church Cathedral, echoed that hopeful view: “The Cathedral Hill Foundation has not only created a revenue stream but also a neighbourhood, and our Cathedral is now focusing on building community. These are gifts that will keep on giving well into the future, honouring the faithful stewardship of those who worked so hard to bring a dream to reality.”

occupies the top floor and offers residents and their guests an expansive view of the city and river. There is also a pub, patios and many other amenities. The move-in date for the first residents was Nov. 4. Marketing manager Julia Riddick told *Crosstalk* that they have had

PERSPECTIVE
ADO online newspaper

SUBSCRIBE



Perspective is ADO’s new online newspaper. Enjoy *Crosstalk* featured news and updates plus more – read it anytime and from anywhere in the world.

Don’t miss out Sign up today!
ottawa.anglican.ca/subscribe



Ottawa.Anglican.ca | Read ADO Perspective → ottawa.anglicannews.ca



Anglican
Diocese of
Ottawa



Serving the World God Loves



"It's awesome coming here for the breakfast... just having the staff to talk to, having somewhere safe to be."
Adam

ADO Community Ministries

 An Anglican
Community Ministry



Individually and together, the five Community Ministries serve the most vulnerable people throughout the Ottawa region.

Together we can make a hope a reality for so many people.

DONATE NOW



ottawa.anglican.ca/community-ministries-giving/
613-232-7124 ext.222

ADOy launches with first youth gathering at Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa



PHOTOS: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Christ Church Cathedral and Dean Beth Bretzlaff hosted the first ADOy youth event on Oct. 19, welcoming youth and parish youth leaders from across the diocese.

The Saturday morning gathering introduced youth to the Cathedral and offered some activities to help them get to know one another.

Before beginning an informal worship time, Dean Beth reflected on the ways that people pray and commune with God individually and when they come together in churches:

“Every place has its own way of living out their worship life, and every one of us has a way of living that out as well. We heard a number of people talk about what they do to pray, what is worship for them besides the church.

Mine is kayaking. Sometimes when I go kayaking I am not happy, and it’s the Book of Lamentations, and I am paddling with some anger or some angst or some sorrow. And sometimes it is the beauty of thanksgiving and just so grateful for the opportunity to be in nature.

But all of us need a home for that, and that’s what our churches are and our Cathedral. It’s a home where we can gather as a community and bring all of those experiences that we have elsewhere together, be refueled, re-energized and bring some of that peace to ourselves, and then go out and share that with everyone else. So we all have that as a part of our Anglican heritage, which is a beautiful thing.”

Cathedral music director and organist James Calkin led the group singing some hymns, and the Rev. Matthew Brown of Parish of the Valley shared some reflections on the history of the Cathedral and the Anglican Church.

The youth had an opportunity



Youth and their leaders from seven parishes tried out the choir stalls and explored the Cathedral with the dean and staff.



to explore the Cathedral, learning about its magnificent stained glass windows, symbols, seats for the bishop and Cathedral canons, as well as whimsical touches like the carvings of four church mice tucked into hiding spots around the sanctuary.

The youth received a special invitation to come back to the Cathedral to start 2025 "on a high note" at the New Year's Day Eucharist service and following reception.

Check out updates at ottawa.anglican.ca/ado-youth



The Community Ministries of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa (ADO) offer drop-in day programs, professional counselling, supportive housing, emergency shelter, and refugee sponsorship. These ministries embody God’s love, providing care, material aid, and hope to people in the national capital area and beyond. Our staff is well-trained, offering services ranging from compassionate

listening to professional expertise. We aim to serve with acceptance and compassion.

Please consider supporting us with a donation—your gift can bring hope to those facing tough challenges.



Shane A.D. Parker
The Right Reverend
Bishop of Ottawa

Yes! I wish to support the ADO Community Ministries

Name _____ Postal Code _____ Phone _____
Address _____ E-mail _____

I have **enclosed** a one-time gift of
 \$40 \$80 \$125 \$200

I am paying by:
 Visa Mastercard Cheque

Name on card: _____
 Card#: _____
 Exp Date: _____
 Signature: _____

*Please make cheque payable to
Anglican Diocese of Ottawa
 or provide credit card info



I would like to make a monthly gift of
 \$20 \$40 \$80 \$200 Other _____

Debit the amount from my chequing account

1st of month 16th of month
 I have enclosed a marked VOID cheque
 Please debit at month’s end my

Visa Mastercard

To donate by phone, call (613) 232-7124 ext 222

Mail your gift to **Anglican Diocese of Ottawa**
 71 Bronson Avenue Ottawa, ON K1R 6G6

CLERGY REFLECTION

Waiting for the light that shines in the darkness, in the places it is least expected

BY THE REV. CANON CATHERINE ASCAH

Susan Wojciechowski's book *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey* is about a lonely, brooding wood carver, haunted by the loss of his wife and child. He left his home, travelling "until his tears stopped" in an escape from the pain, finally landing in a small cottage at the edge of a small village. Muttering, grumbling, stooping under the weight of his heavy heart, he dismisses the company of others. Finally, through the innocent and guileless badgering of a young boy named Thomas, for whom the craftsman is carving a nativity set, Jonathan Toomey is able to confront the hurt he thought he had fled. The miracle he discovers is that light can shine through the cold darkness of a heart that has shut out the hope of ever knowing joy and peace and love.

The prophet Micah, distressed with the worldly splendours of the great city of Jerusalem and the corruption that surrounds him,



The Rev. Canon Catherine Ascah is Incumbent of St. Bartholomew's Ottawa.

looked at Bethlehem, a modest village with a rich history, a decent economy but not much else, and declared it to be the place out of which the future hope of Israel would come. And of course, it did. In a dark, crowded stable, away from the royal palaces and holy temple of Jerusalem, God chose to empty God's self into the very lives of humanity. In the place least likely for it to happen, in a dark little grotto in an overcrowded village,

God became one with us, so that we might become one with God.

In the place least expected: the pain of loss; the weight of hopelessness; the silence of the forest; the stillness of the sea at rest – it is there you will find the power

of God working out the Divine purpose. In the dark quiet of Advent, where the light of day comes late each morning and flees early each evening, we wait for the coming again of the glory of Christ, the

► **continued on p. 13**

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



Nativity window from St. Bartholomew's Ottawa

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Micah 5:2

PWRDF World of Gifts

Can you be-leaf it?

Every gift is matched up to \$110,000, thanks to an anonymous donor!

Find your copy of PWRDF's annual gift guide in this issue

Order your gift today before the match runs out!

pwrdf.org/worldofgifts

66% of Canadian families haven't discussed their final wishes*

Choosing funeral and cemetery plans can be overwhelming to a grieving spouse. Plan the details now. Together.

Get started today. Scan the QR code to visit us online or call for a FREE 87 Decisions, Choices, and Things to Do™ brochure.

Kelly Funeral Homes
by Arbor Memorial

Carling 2313 Carling Ave. 613-828-2313	Orléans 2370 St. Joseph Blvd. 613-837-2370	Somerset 585 Somerset St. W. 613-235-6712
Kanata 580 Eagleson Rd. 613-591-6580	Barrhaven 3000 Woodroffe Ave. 613-823-4747	Walkley 1255 Walkley Rd. 613-731-1255

*Research conducted by Willful and Arbor Memorial Inc. in a 2020 survey.

Arbor Memorial Inc.

light of the world. From the reality of what is to the promise of what will be, we watch, and we wait for the light that shines in the darkness. And try as it might, the darkness will never overcome it. The miracle will continue to be born, shining its light into every corner of our heart.

In the beginning, God spoke the Word and created light out of darkness, order out of chaos, life out of the void. In Bethlehem, God emptied God's self into the reality of the day to renew and restore life. In our present day, we are bombarded by a cacophony of messages that declare destruction and devastation while Christmas carols – increasingly referred to as holiday songs – do their best to mask the despair and desperation. The liminal space that is the season of Advent provides the Church with a time to confront the hurt and the pain of the world through hopeful prayer, inviting God once more to be in our present reality, and empower us to be agents of God's Divine purpose.

In her book, *Come Emmanuel: Approaching Advent, Living with Christmas*, UK poet and retreat leader Ann Lewin writes: "Advent: a time for discovering treasure in darkness; Christmas: the dawn of light transforming light." May we take this season of Advent to discover the treasures as we watch for the Christmas dawn of transforming light.

ICI ON PARLE FRANÇAIS — RÉFLEXION

Marie et l'espoir du temps de l'Avent

THE REV. CANON KEVIN FLYNN

Le temps de l'Avent, avec ses oracles prophétiques, ses hymnes élégiaques et ses prières, accélère notre désir de voir venir « le Jour du Seigneur », la parousie, la seconde venue du Christ et le plein établissement du règne de Dieu, le domaine de la justice et de la paix. Nous aspirons au jour où se réaliseront les qualités des Béatitudes que Jésus a proclamées dans son sermon sur la montagne.

Le quatrième dimanche de l'Avent, l'Église porte son attention sur l'Incarnation en tant qu'acte inaugural de la grande rédemption. Elle reprend le chant de Marie, le Magnificat. Marie chante le jour du Seigneur comme quelque chose de déjà accompli. Le chant est la proclamation triomphante que l'humanité a été re-née dans une vie nouvelle et infinie : l'hiver est passé, la pluie est finie et disparue. Le centre de la vie nous est rendu. Nous pouvons être comblés à l'infini parce que les personnes qui ont appris à perdre leur vie la retrouvent en Dieu.

L'un des plus beaux titres



Le révérend chanoine Kevin Flynn est le pasteur de la paroisse St-Bernard-de-Clairvaux



donnés à Marie par ceux et celles qui l'honorent est celui d'« Étoile du matin », l'étoile qui annonce l'aube du Verbe dans le monde. Par la naissance de son Fils, le monde entier renaît et se renouvelle. Par la gloire de son « qu'il m'advienne selon ta parole », la Lumière des lumières entre dans le monde et fait toutes choses nouvelles.

L'étoile du matin est l'étoile de la joie parce que, malgré le péché et la souffrance, le monde est à nouveau beau. Il y a de la joie parce

que ce n'est pas une fin mais un commencement, le joyeux sacrifice qui précède le banquet éternel ; de la joie parce que juste au-delà de nous se trouve le Soleil ardent du midi éternel, le nouveau ciel et la nouvelle terre qui sont la demeure de Dieu parmi les mortels, où Dieu essuiera toutes les larmes de leurs yeux.

This text in English is available in the December issue of Perspective: ottawa.anglicannews.ca



WARM UP AT AMICA THE GLEBE

If you or a loved one are concerned about spending the colder months at home, consider a winter stay at Amica The Glebe. Here, you won't have to worry about the challenges that come with winter. Instead, you'll enjoy the comfort and connection of a caring community of seniors, while staying in a private suite with access to premium amenities and professional, personalized care.

Who knows, you may just warm up to winter after all.

To learn more about a winter stay or to book a private tour, call LA or Luisa at 613-233-6363

AMICA

THE GLEBE

33 MONK STREET • AMICA.CA/THEGLEBE

DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

Church of the Nativity, L'Original Deanery of East Ontario

What Better Time?

BY GLENN J LOCKWOOD

Anglican services in L'Original began in the 1850s, and from 1870 were held at the Prescott and Russell courthouse. Peter H. McIntosh donated land for a church in 1875. From 1870 to 1899, L'Original was a part of the Parish of Hawkesbury with services held at Alfred (from 1873 to 1876), Hawkesbury and Plantagenet (also from 1873 to 1876).

Construction of this frame church began in 1891, and it opened, appropriately, on 25 December 1891. The new church was a means of drawing better congregations and in every way putting new energy into a comparatively feeble branch of the Parish of Hawkesbury.

What better time could there be for a photograph of the interior of the Church of the Nativity than when this house of worship was decorated for Advent and Christmas. If we do not know the precise year this photograph was taken, we can estimate that it was taken in the early 20th century, probably before 1920, certainly before the advent of hydro-electricity.

The building of the Church of the Nativity not only strengthened the local congregation but made it the centre of a mission. In 1899, the parish of L'Original included outstations at Caledonia Springs and Alfred. These churches were grouped with Fenaghvale, Maxville, Plantagenet and Ross's Schoolhouse to form the Parish of Plantagenet in 1903.

There was hope of growth at L'Original by 1903, with mills being built, hopefully to infuse new life into the whole neighbourhood and considerably augment the



DIOCESAN ARCHIVES 51 L3 2

congregation of the Church of the Nativity. In 1904, L'Original moved to the Parish of Hawkesbury which included congregations at Alfred (from 1923 to 1965), Caledonia Springs (from 1921 to 1937), Crysler (in 1981 and 1982) Hawkesbury, L'Original and Plantagenet (from 1921 to 1923).

Despite the whole interior—floor, walls and ceiling—being covered with darkly painted wood or darkly stained panelling, we can clearly see every detail. Why? Was it because the photographer, John Brokham of Hawkesbury, used flash powder to illuminate it? Or, has he used a lengthy exposure to bring out details? Or, yet again, do the numerous, wide windows lining the nave of this church provide

sufficient light to show up the details? Who can be sure?

Someone certainly had been busy decorating for Christmas. There were large trefoils made of cedar branches, featuring foil stars and the words 'PEACE' and 'PRAISE' on either side at the front. The top of the chancel window was accented by more cedar boughs to highlight the words 'Glory to God in the Highest,' crowned by a star. There were sprigs of spruce in the vases on the altar, and boughs of spruce adorned the pulpit, the lectern, even the bottoms of the coal oil lamps hanging above the centre aisle. Above each lamp we see the mechanism by which they could be lowered for cleaning and refilling.

The more permanent words

on the chancel arch included the phrase 'Reverence My Sanctuary.' We can make out the details of the melodeon, the pews featuring a pointed arch at the base and a trefoil at the top, the herringbone design of the panelling both in the ceiling and in the walls above the wainscotting, the arrangement of the chancel being one step up from the nave, and the altar being two steps up from the chancel.

If you would like to help the Archives preserve the records of the Diocese and its parishes, why not become a Friend of the Archives? Your \$20 membership brings you three issues of the lively, informative Newsletter, and you will receive a tax receipt for further donations above that amount.

Secure Your Legacy

Transforming Lives for Generations to Come

Your enduring support can shape a brighter tomorrow for our church. By including your parish, an Anglican community ministry or the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa in your estate plans, you ensure that your offering will endure for years to come.

- **Convenient:** at any age, any amount - it costs you nothing during your lifetime
- **Easy setup:** a simple few sentences added to your will is all it takes; change anytime
- **Cost-effective:** with no current costs, your present income does not decrease
- **Tax benefits:** gifts are deductible, can reduce estate tax, income tax in year gift made

Your planned gift can be added to your will, or can be an outright gift of cash, property, gift of securities, or as a beneficiary of RRSP or RIF. Make a difference and join in building a legacy of compassion, helping people in need.

Continue your faithful contribution: Explore legacy giving opportunities today contact Sandra Hamway, director, communications and development at development@ottawa.anglican.ca



CALENDAR

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS



Nov. 30 - Dec. 1

Christmas Market

St. James Anglican Church
(1138 Bridge St., Manotick)
10 am – 2 pm
Christmas puddings, butter tarts, delicious Christmas squares. gift emporium and great Christmas gift ideas. Tourtiere lunch with salad or squash soup with bun. Tiny Town Christmas shopping for youngsters. Gifts are wrapped, tagged, and ready to be placed under the tree.
www.stjames-manotick.ca

Dec. 1

Jazz Vespers

All Saints' Westboro
(347 Richmond Road, Ottawa)
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Jazz Vespers in Advent, with guest musicians Yves Laroche, Charley Gordon, and Mark Ferguson. Everyone is welcome!
For more information:
Email: office@allsaintswestboro.com
or phone (613) 725-9487
<https://www.allsaintswestboro.com>

Advent Carol Service

Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
4 pm

Dec. 7

Christmas Craft and Bake Sale

Epiphany Anglican Church
(1290 Ogilvie Rd., Ottawa)
8:30 am to 1 pm

Dec. 8

From Darkness to Light: An Advent Carol Service

Church of St. Barnabas
(70 James Street, Ottawa)
7 pm to 8:30 pm

The Choir of St. Barnabas, conducted by Wesley R Warren, will offer a beautiful programme of carols and anthems, with readings. All are welcome!
For more information: email: parishoffice@primus.ca or phone (613) 232-6992
<https://www.stbarnabasottawa.com>

Saint Nicolas: A Ceremony of Carols – Benjamin Britten

Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
4 pm
With tenor Nils Brown, a children's chorus and young Ottawa instrumentalists. Tickets available at ottawacathedral.ca

Dec. 14

Community Christmas Concert

St. Aidan's
(934 Hamlet Road, Ottawa)
7pm to 8:30 pm
All are welcome! Musical performances, from baroque to modern, and Christmas carols. Refreshments after the concert. Free

will offering to Heron Emergency Food Centre.
For more information:
Email: staidans@bellnet.ca or phone (613) 733-0102
www.staidans-ottawa.org

Dec. 15

Nine Lessons and Carols: an annual tradition

Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
4 pm to 6 pm

Dec. 22

O Antiphons

Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
4 pm

Dec. 24

Christmas Eve

Dec. 25

Christmas Day

Jan. 1

New Year's Day Eucharist

Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
12 pm
Archbishop Anne Germond, Acting Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, will preach. Reception to follow in the Great Hall.

COURTESY GISÈLE MCKNIGHT/NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN

WE ARE BACK! THURSDAYS AT 10AM UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

December 5 Bridge & Games – or Koffee Klatsch
December 12 Creative Writing or Coffee & Conversation
December 19 Christmas Joy – with Joy Bowerman on piano and leading a Christmas Singalong

Advent Activities 2024

CREATION

- Invite someone to discover part of God's beautiful Earth with you
- Donate supplies to an animal shelter
- Pick up litter
- Take a shelter dog for a walk
- Discover God's beauty by walking a new trail
- Support a cause that supports the Earth

FRIENDSHIP

- Call and check on a friend or family member
- Listen to someone's story

CENTRING

- Use a centring prayer to hear God's voice
- Listen for God's voice in music
- Set aside time and place to hear the Holy Spirit's voice

SHARING

- Give a treat to a community helper
- Take a shut-in to lunch
- Bake or buy cookies or muffins and share them with co-workers, friends, or people in need
- Drop off a veggie tray to a nurse's station at the hospital, the police station, fire station or EMT depot
- Donate what you can to a food bank or community pantry

KINDNESS

- Let someone go ahead of you in line
- Smile at everyone today

GRATITUDE

- Write a note of gratitude to God
- Reflect and record how much joy the Advent season has brought you

SECRET ACTS

- Pray for every neighbour on your street
- Hide a happy note for someone to find
- Do a secret act of kindness

READ & WATCH

- Read Luke 1:39-45
- Read Luke 2:1-20
- Read Luke 3:1-6
- Read Luke 3:7-18
- Read Luke 21:25-36
- Watch a film version of the Gospels, like *The Chosen*
- Study the life of Jesus written by scholars

CHILDREN

- Read to a child
- Adopt a local school and supply them with snacks and other necessities

SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Fight for a cause Jesus would support
- Read the Truth & Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action. Then act.

The VISTA ON SPARKS
Retirement *by Signature*

Call to book your tour today!

613-809-2212

info@thevistaonsparks.com



The Vista on Sparks is now open!

**Now leasing one-bedroom, two-bedroom + two-bathroom,
and two-bedroom with den + two-bathroom suites**

-
- V*
- Full Kitchens
 - In-suite Washer & Dryer
 - On-site IT specialist
 - Aqua fitness & state-of-the-art fitness centre
 - Four gourmet dining experiences
 - Patios on main, 3rd & 18th floors
 - 24-hour concierge
 - Town car service
 - In-house physician
 - Dedicated Assisted Living Floor with 24-hour nursing station
 - And much, much more!