

Bishop's Charge: The Rt. Rev John Chapman opened Synod recognizing "as we gather this night on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishnabe Nation". He began by telling everyone that we are "going to change the world, save lives, be instruments of God's peace, usher in a world without violence, heal the sick and broken hearted, end homelessness and poverty, create a world that trusts in God and nurtures God's love" and like Sarah, Abraham, and Moses we don't know whether to laugh or weep at our inadequacies. We have been called by Jesus to the river of baptism, to contemplate our faith and listen to the call, to embrace the mission of Jesus, and to care for God's people. In conclusion everyone is requested to go to their home parish and invite a few representatives to attend the New Year's Day Eucharist at the Cathedral to stand together to renew our baptism, renew our commitment to blaze a new path so that the mission of God continues among us in this Diocese.

Collation of Archdeacons: Ven. Brain Kauk became Archdeacon of Lanark.

Installation of a Canons: Rev. Beth Bretzlaff was installed as the Canon of St. Joanna; Rev. Linda Hill was installed as the Canon of St. Hilda of Whitby; and Rev. Pat Martin was installed as the Canon of St. Mary of Magdalene at Christ Church Cathedral.

Synod Greeting: Mayor Jim Watson gave praise for the work the Diocese does in our city through Cornerstone Housing for Women, Centre 454, The Well/La Source, St. Luke's Table, the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre, and Refugee Support. Our involvement helps make Ottawa a more caring community.

Guest Speaker: The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, referenced the Five Marks of Mission that shape our lives and define what it means to be Anglican. We live in a world where we have many Christians but their are only part-time disciples. "Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of the joy of the gospel" – Pope Francis. Give us humility and grace to be that kind of church, following in the way of Jesus in the world, to care for all without reserve.

Our world is too big for anything but truth, and too small for anything but love. Pope Francis "prefers a church that is bruised, hurting, and a bit dirty because it has been out on the street." We are called to be a servant church rooted in our Lord's ministry. Learn more about Human Trafficking and how the Anglican Church of Canada is working with partners on this issue: (anglican.ca/issues/human-trafficking/)

Primate's World Relief and Development Fund: The Diocese of Ottawa contributes the second highest amount of all Canadian Dioceses. We learned about 2 major ongoing projects: Maternal Newborn & Child Health in Africa, and Pikangikum Water Program, as well as response to international and national relief effort. (pwrdf.org)

Homelessness and Affordable Housing: Slide Presentation, as well as the accompanying presentation notes, available for use by parishes. Every parish is encouraged to become involved; to learn, pray, advocate, and act. Learn the needs of your community, identify your strength and assets, speak up for the voiceless, get involved in Diocesan Ministry or start a local ministry, work with groups already established within community. Goal of 125 housing units by 2021 is well on it's way.

Ontario Trillium Foundation seed grant recipient: John Fraser, MPP of Ottawa South, and Yasir Naqvi, MPP for Ottawa Centre were present to celebrate the receipt of the Ontario Trillium Foundation seed grant to the Diocese for the study of affordable housing on church properties. Both spoke about our work in fighting homelessness and being advocates for affordable housing and look forward to continuing to work with us to achieve an end to homelessness and securing more affordable housing.

Refugee Ministry Working Group: In 2012 we had 5 sponsoring churches, we now have 68 sponsoring groups (parishes as well as community groups) within Ottawa. Going forward the need is greater than ever, please consider how you can support the work of our Refugee Ministry.

All My Relations: Continuing to work towards building relationships between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples; remembering our history and walking together in reconciliation. Reminds us that we must continue to do more than talk about reconciliation, but we need to practice it. There is funding available for projects that will foster and contribute to healing: (ottawa.anglican.ca/All-My-Relations.html)

Community Ministries: Cornerstone Housing for Women, Centre 454, Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre (OPC), St. Luke's Table, The Well/La Source are all expanding their services: from OPC's opening of a satellite in Manotick, to other Ministries extending their hours. All of their work is born out our love for neighbour.

Property & Finance Committee: New funding available through the Innovation Fund, to support innovative and courageous ways of being church and of advancing the work outlined in our "Embracing God's Future" roadmap (ottawa.anglican.ca/EGF.html). Dare to Dream, Think, Create. Guidelines/Application for grant: (ottawa.anglican.ca/Announcements.html)

Real Estate Working Group: Net proceeds of the sale of surplus properties held by Diocese are held in the Church Extension Fund, Real Estate Legacy Fund, Real Estate Stewardship Fund.

Youth Internship Program: Initially funded through GIFT, YIP continues to grow. Beginning in January 2018, the next cohort of interns will experience faith formation, christian mentorship, leadership training, and an internship placement. It is open to youth in grades 11, 12, or first year university/college. If you have any questions: contact Donna Rourke, program coordinator. (donna-rourke@ottawa.anglican.ca). More info: (ottawa.anglican.ca/Young_Adult_Ministries.html#yip)

Rev. Canon Sarah Hills: Canon for Reconciliation at Coventry Cathedral. Community of Cross of Nails: Healing the wounds of history, learning to live with differences and deliberate diversity, and building a culture of peace. A cross of nails was made from medieval nails recovered from the bombed ruins of Coventry Cathedral in 1940 have become a symbol of reconciliation. (coventrycathedral.org.uk/ccn)

Today 4 Tomorrow (T4T): Diocesan Annual Campaign; to-date T4T is building foundations for better churches and compassionate communities. New aspects of the case for 2018 will include Engaging With the World, and Strengthening Congregations. Through T4T we are building a strong church to respond to the Gospel Call.

Communications: Stephanie Boyd, Communications Officer, highlighted the various responsibilities of her role; including editing and layout for Crosstalk as well as the Diocesan Newsletter, monitoring and posting on our various social media channels, managing the Diocesan website, dealing with media relations, and providing consultation to staff and clergy. A new website is currently under construction for the Diocese that will better highlight the work of the Diocese, vs. the current site which highlights our governance. Encouraged parishes to take a look at Canva, a free tool to assist with graphic design work (facebook posters, flyers, community announcements, etc.) See more: (canva.com)

Companion Diocese: Women who participated in the Women's Conference with our Companion Diocese of Jerusalem presented highlights of their time in Jerusalem; where much was learned by members of both Dioceses in regards to theology, hope, and solidarity.

Parish Ministry Committee (PMC) & Parish Ministry Institute (PMI): New Initiative with PMC, as well as the Ecclesiastical Province on Ontario, is Elder Care. The ministry of PMI is exciting and provides education to parishes about ways to do our jobs better and smarter. If you're interested in being a student at PMI, there are 30 spaces available. More info about PMI, please contact Canon Peter Lackey (st.helen@on.aibn.com)

Hospital Ministry: Civic, General, and Queensway Carleton Hospitals have pastoral care teams, where they volunteer to a large church of transient people. New program available for training: Emergency Spiritual Care Assistance Team (ESCAT) in response to "Code Orange Calls".

Trinity Cornwall Drop-In: Learned from Centre 454 and others about how to start up a new community ministry. It started small, but grown now to a three-day drop-in where breakfast is served and social recreation happens. Please pray that funding for this needed ministry will be provided (an application has been made to the Trillium Foundation).

Priority 1 Working Group: To date, has been a very participatory initiative. Building Blocks Document; highlighting emerging range of options for the shape of parish ministry and buildings, see handout (ottawa.anglican.ca/Synod.html). Our structure is fluid, flexible, with good ministry, and knowing each other as we work collaboratively.

Nominations Report: Please visit our website for the results of the election.

For more information on what took place at Synod:

ottawa.anglican.ca/Synod.html

Will be updated to Include: Synod slide presentations, Summary of the Social Media Conversation, handouts, etc.