

Sentence



I am the vine, you are the branches, says the Lord. Those who abide in me, and I in them, bear much fruit. John 15.5

ALMIGHTY GOD, YOUR SON JESUS CHRIST IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. GIVE US GRACE TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AND WALK IN THE WAY OF THE COMMANDMENTS, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN. BAS P.340

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ!

I hope and pray you are well. This coming Sunday the Gospel (John 15:1-8) reminds us of the importance of abiding in Christ the true vine and, in that abiding, to bear much fruit. Some might be lulled into thinking that during this pandemic not much is happening, rather the opposite. I am so thankful for both the up-front and behind the scenes, fruit bearing ministries that continue in our diocese.



Outreach ministries: This coming Sunday, Psalm 22:25 reminds us of the important ministry to those who are in financial difficulty or struggling to eat well. In 2020, in addition to monies raised in the matched funding diocesan Easter Appeal, St Aidan's Moose Jaw were also granted \$7,500 of Loblaw gift cards, all of which have been used to fund their lunch program, support a Transition House, and support households in need. Earlier this year St Aidan's were successful in receiving a second 'Second Harvest' grant to further fund their lunch program. This is just one example of this important Gospel ministry in our diocese.

Psalm 22:26 also reminds us of the global task we share. Bishop Paisible (Diocese of Muyinga) sends Easter greetings. He wrote, '*Covid 19 is really a big threat around the world. Here in Burundi it is spreading rapidly and our people live in desperate situation as the country has not yet received the vaccine. People in Muyinga are very grateful to the support from the Diocese of Qu'Appelle. We will never forget the work of compassion during the famine and the Health Center provision. We seek for your prayers*'.

PRAYER

Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Risen Lord. Amen. BAS p341

**Teaching,
baptizing
and
confirming.**

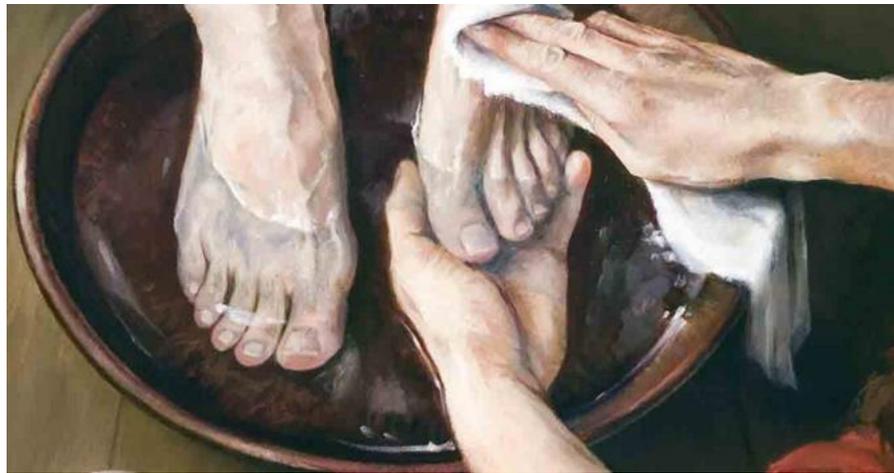
This Sunday's, Acts 8:26-40 reading, reminds us of the need to come alongside folk struggling to understand the Scriptures and to provide opportunities that lead to baptism/confirmation.

Thank you to those of you in the diocese who are leading Bible Studies and stewardship webinars; to those engaging in catechesis, and education and training for ministry through the Qu'Appelle School for Mission and Ministry; and thank you to those leading baptism and confirmation studies.

It was a great privilege to be at St. Mary's, Regina, Holy Saturday for a baptism and confirmation. Please also pray for those to be confirmed in Melville (May 16), Beechy (June 13) Swift Current (June 20) and Estevan (June 27).



**Postulants
and
Ordinands**



***Such a lot is happening
behind the scenes!***

In this Sunday's reading from Acts, in Philip, we also note the changing and developing ministries of those called into a specific ministry, be it diocesan reader, deacon or Apostles. As such, we thank God for the work of the Committee On Ordained Ministry, QSMM and for the ongoing work of Post Ordination Training.

New Postulant

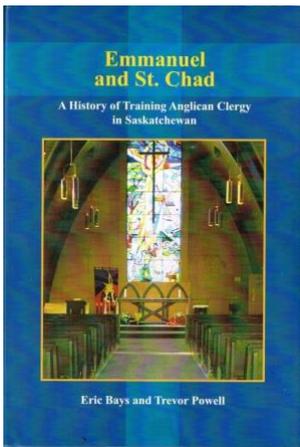
Such a lot is happening behind the scenes, in addition to our Postulants Brody Albers, Jessie Miller and Nate Wall, it gives me great pleasure to formally acknowledge Ms. Susan Haacke (St Paul's Cathedral) as a postulant in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle. Susan is exploring further, a call to the vocational diaconate. Postulancy is a transition time from lay to ordered life. As such, Postulants are invited to attend clerical gatherings such as clergy days, clergy conference and clergy retreat and to attend diocesan synod not as a parish representative but in their role of postulant. Please pray for our postulants and ordinands.

Four Ordinations

It is our hope that both Brody and Jessie will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St Andrew/Trinity in Rosetown on May 22nd at 2pm. Ordinations to the priesthood are also planned for the Revd. Luanne Hrywkiw May 30th at Holy Trinity, Yorkton and the Revd. Alex Campbell June 12th in Regina (church to be decided).

Thank you!

**Congratulations
Deacon Michael Jackson**



1 John 4:7-21

**God is love,
and those who abide in love
abide in God
and God
abides in them**



Yes, the work of COOM and the QSMM continues and we pray for others testing vocational calls within our diocese and for more to respond to God's call in a variety of fruitful ways. It is humbling to receive stories of how God uses people like me, and you, yet God does. And through those 'Other ministries that may be assigned from time to time', like Deacon Philip in Acts 8, or like our own leaders learning and adapting to online worship opportunities, the results are fruitful and often miraculous. Thank you for your faithfulness especially in such trying times as these.

On May 7th I shall ask the Chancellor of the University of Emmanuel and St Chad to confer on the Revd. Deacon, Canon Dr. Michael Jackson an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. Michael is the longest serving vocational deacon in the Anglican Church of Canada. In this call he has faithfully modelled to the Church the importance of this full and equal order, not only in the diocese of Qu'Appelle but also ecumenically, and globally across the Anglican Communion. His dedication, devotion and persistence have, in many places, seen a revival to this order and I thank God for calling him to what has been, like Philip, a pioneering role.

New Book co-authored by our Archivist and Registrar, Canon Dr. Trevor Powell and former bishop of Qu'Appelle The Rt. Revd. Dr. Eric Bays. This book recounts the story of the two Anglican seminaries in the province. Emmanuel College, founded in Prince Albert in 1879, moved to Saskatoon in 1909; St. Chad's College began in Regina in 1907. The two institutions merged into the College of Emmanuel & St. Chad in 1964, located in Saskatoon and now part of the Saskatoon Theological Union at the University of Saskatchewan. Canon Powell, also recently published an article, "Faith and Fortitude: Response of Anglicans in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle to the Depression and Drought of the Dirty Thirties," in the *Journal of the Canadian Church Historical Society*.

Finally, linking our news update to this Sunday's readings, we come to 1 John 4:7-21.

It has been, and continues to be, a great honour and privilege to have been called to serve with you in this diocese that God loves so much. In our abiding, we have faced many joys, challenges, trials, opportunities, miracles and blessings, and through them all, God has faithfully led us. This pandemic is no exception, this too shall pass, and we will be the stronger for our perseverance and faithfulness, and for abiding in that love that God has called us into.

God is calling me now to transition into a different ministry in retirement, but though Lorraine and I will be leaving these shores, God will be ever present with you and you will be forever in my prayers. Diocesan Council will meet May 29 and again in early July to determine the members of the episcopal search committee and the date of election for a new bishop and my last day will be July 31st. Dean Mike Sinclair will then be the diocesan Administrator and will keep you informed about the process going forward.

As a way of my saying farewell to you, from July 14th -31st I am planning an ambitious pilgrimage cycle ride to 48 churches in the diocese, a mere 2875 kms. However, this time, the ride will be shared with others in relay. God willing, and subject to pandemic restrictions, it would be wonderful to meet with you, pray and even cycle with you. More information about the ride will be shared later.

So, beloved, let us continue to love one another because love is from God, and may the love of God, bless and keep you all, this day and for evermore. Amen.