



NewsLetter

The Anglican Church of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Advent & Christmas 2019

Megan's Advent Message



"Remember, remember, the fifth of November." This is part of a chant that I learned in the context of Guy Fawkes Day. But now, I will always remember November 5, 2019, as the day that I sat in Bishop Kevin's office and signed the papers and agreed to become the Incumbent Priest of St Augustine of Canterbury.

As we announced and shared this news, there was joy and celebration, but also some confusion, which I hope I can clear up. When I started in February 2018, it was on a two-year fixed contract as a Priest-in-Charge. The hope and plan was always that I would stay on as your Incumbent Priest and that was why Chris and I made the move and relocated our family to the recto-

ry and entered into community life in Leaside. In 2017 and early 2018, there was a sense of urgency here. A strong desire to appoint a new priest quickly, without spending months or even a year or more conducting a search via a parish selection committee. Bishop Kevin responded to that request, but Canon Law prevented him from directly appointing an Incumbent Priest. Canon Law limits the power of bishops to arbitrarily make clerical appointments. He can only directly appoint a Priest-in-Charge for up to two years in the absence of a parish selection committee process. The other reason to choose a Priest-in-Charge appointment is in cases where the parish is really quite fragile and their long-term needs are not known.

Over the last eighteen months, the parish of St Augustine's has become much more stable. Sunday attendance first stabilized and has now begun to grow. We have added members to our parish list. We've welcomed a new honorary priest who will be commissioned soon. We have secured some grant funding for programs and we are demonstrating our capacity to be missional and reach out into the community and welcome people in to Christian community in new and creative ways. This capacity to welcome people in turn makes our parish much more strategic from a diocesan point of view, especially as the City of Toronto anticipates explosive growth in our neighbourhood. There is much less conflict at the parish level and the church wardens, on behalf of the parish, indicated to Bishop Kevin that they would like to see the Priest-in-Charge appointment convert to an Incumbency. That's the appointment I agreed to

**The Anglican Church of
Saint Augustine of Canterbury**
1847 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, ON, M4G 3E4
416.486.2656
Web: www.saintaugustine.ca
Email: info@saintaugustine.ca

In This Issue

Advent Message	... Page 1
Refugee Update	... Page 2
Blessing of the Animals	... Page 3
Community BBQ	... Page 4
Bishop's Dinner	Page 5
Halloween	... Page 6
Fall Fair	... Page 7

(Continued on page 3)

Refugee Update

On October 15, 2019, Mbitsemunda and Kimonyo arrived safely to begin their new life in Canada. Megan, along with members from St Cuthbert's, met them at the airport on behalf of our joint refugee committee. Thanks to all who have donated household goods to help set up a new apartment for them. With the endorsement of Advisory Board and some of those who contributed to fundraising for the Syrian family, we have released funds earmarked for sponsorship. You may recall that the travel loan was forgiven for the Syrian family, and so we had excess money in a designated fund for refugees. It is wonderful that these designated funds can be used to further another sponsorship. Fingers crossed, they will move from temporary housing soon and will move into an apartment of their own.

We had a chance to meet them in person on Sunday, November 10, when they were able to attend a church service with us. They are Christians; Mbitsemunda is Anglican and Kimonyo is Seventh Day Adventist. Both are now enrolled in English language classes and that will be their primary vocational focus during the first few months of the sponsorship. The idea is that if they can use their year of sponsorship to improve their English skills, that will help make them more employable as the sponsorship concludes autumn 2020. Kimonyo is a trained fashion designer and tailor. Mbitsemunda worked as a teacher. Looking to future employment for them, please work your own networks and do pass on leads. The refugee settlement team from St. Augustine's includes Gina, Peter, Tom, and Megan.





Blessing of the Animals

This year, using the remainder of our REACH grant funds, we brought back the Blessing of the Animals service. We marked the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi by inviting parishioners and neighbours to bring their furry friends to church for a blessing. We also hosted a time of refreshments for humans and pets, so that fellow pet lovers could meet one another. We welcomed several dogs, a cat, guinea pigs, hermit crabs, and a fish. Several people also brought pictures of animals and we asked God's blessing on them too. Thanks to Tom Wong for all his work to promote the event by hanging posters and reaching out to pet stores.



(Continued from page 1)

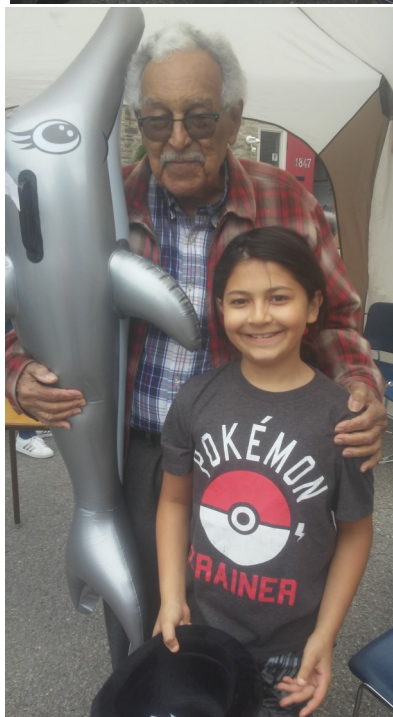
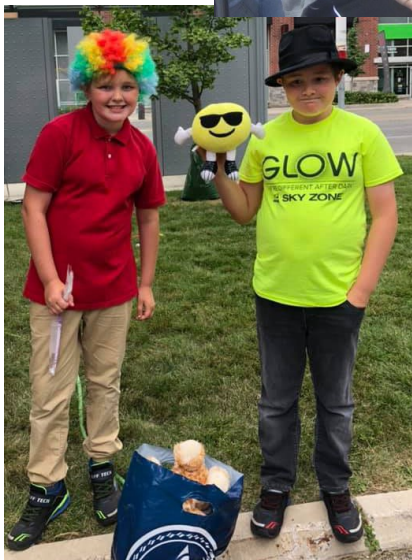
on November 5th. Effective December 1, 2019, I will be your Incumbent Priest. This is a much more permanent role with no fixed end date.

I'm encouraged that this was completed in 2019, well in advance of the contract termination date in mid February 2020. I also kind of like that my appointment takes effect on the first Sunday of Advent. That on the very day when the church calendar marks a new year, you and I will mark a new stage in our common ministry. In Advent, our focus in our scripture reading and common worship is on the new things that God is doing in the world and we remember how Christ came into the world and how God lived with us in an entirely new way. It seems a fitting day to begin to imagine the new things God is doing in our midst here at St. Augustine's and how God might be present in this church community and this neighbourhood in a new and different way.



Community BBQ

We had another year with record attendance at our community BBQ in September. Toronto Fire made an appearance. Rob Oliphant, our MP and his partner Marco dropped by. Patrick Rocca, a local Leaside real estate agent, sent his "icicle bicycle". In addition to the fun of the bouncy castle, the kids of our parish led and managed a number of carnival games and orchestrated a raffle, with a number of stuffed animal prizes distributed. Thanks to Jamie for his efforts to plan and coordinate the event and to all that helped make it a successful community engagement project.



This and that...



Bishop's Company Dinner



This year, the annual Bishop's Company Dinner was sponsored by the Fleck Family Foundation in memory of the The Rev'd Dr. Margaret Fleck. A number of friends from the parish attended the event and a tribute video was produced to honour her memory. We are hoping to get copies of the tribute video and "air" it at St Augustine's.

The Bishop's Company raises funds to offer scholarships and bursaries and they also have an emergency fund to support clergy families in need. In 2016, Megan and Chris received funds in order to access private psycho-educational assessments that Matthew required in order to get support and equipment from the school

Halloween

Once again, we opened up the church to little ghosts and goblins who came trick or treating on Halloween Night. It was a vicious night weather-wise. Heavy rain and wind. But our church was place of warmth and welcome. Many families came in and stayed to warm up with hot apple cider. We had a colouring table going, music and a dance party, and we created a photo booth so that kids and families could pose for pictures indoors.

Thanks to Barb, Mike, Ross, Isabel, and Fabiana for hosting the event. Thanks to all who carved pumpkins for us and contributed candy and decorations.



Fall Fair 2019



The annual Fall Sale was held on Saturday, November 16 from 10 - 1 pm. If you missed it, you missed an important parish event because our church was transformed into a wonderful market! A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped in so many different ways. Our sale was helped by many family members and friends of the parish who volunteered their time with set up, selling and take down and others who baked for the bake table. The sale raised over \$3,400 for parish projects! Looking forward to next year's sale in November 2020.

Barbara Goodbody & Gina Davidson

PA DAY CAMP

FOR KIDS JK TO GR 8

DECEMBER 6, 2019

Only \$10
Includes Lunch!

*Come and explore
the real story of
Christmas*

Stories, games, crafts, and more!

Give your child a fun-filled day while you work, shop, or
prepare for Christmas in your home

Email the Rev'd Megan Jull for information megan@saintaugustine.ca Register Online



The Anglican Church of
St Augustine of Canterbury

1847 Bayview Ave @ Broadway
416-485-2656 saintaugustine.ca



PAGEANT IN PICTURES

PHOTO DAY!

HELP US TELL THE CHRISTMAS STORY

8 DECEMBER 2019 | 12 P.M. - 2 P.M.
ST AUGUSTINE'S WORSHIP SPACE

Come and wear a costumes and help us build the
2019 pageant in pictures.

All ages welcome!

A great opportunity to invite grandkids, friends, and
neighbours. Pizza lunch follows.

Loan of costumes and accessories most appreciated

COME AND CELEBRATE
Christmas
ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY
ANGLICAN CHURCH

<p>Blue Christmas December 12 7:00pm Prayers & Reflection</p>	<p>Christmas Day December 25 10:30am Holy Communion</p>
<p>Christmas Eve December 24 4:00pm Children's Service 7:00pm Candlelight Service</p>	<p>Epiphany January 5 10:30am Holy Communion</p>

f 🏳️🌈 🕊️ 🌐



*If you are receiving a paper copy of this NewsLetter in
the mail and would prefer not to, please contact the
office at 416-485-2656 or email us at:
info@saintaugustine.ca*

Incumbent Priest	The Rev'd Megan Jull megan@saintaugustine.ca
Parish Deacon	The Rev'd Elizabeth Nelson elizabeth.jane.nelson@gmail.com
Honorary Assistant	The Rev'd Pamela Lucas
Music Director & Parish Administrator NewsLetter Editor	Marcus Reinkeluers info@saintaugustine.ca
Wardens	Bill Empey Mike Rapson Tom Wong