

Happening

Sunday February 4

Annual Vestry

Thank you to Christ Church for hosting the annual meeting of Vestry last Sunday. Copies of the approved Report to Vestry and the draft minutes of the meeting will be posted in each of the churches next week.

Thank you to everyone who accepted nomination or appointment to ministry positions for 2018. Thank you to all who served the parish in 2017 and who have stepped away from the more administrative side of parish life for a while.

Funscip

Orders are available today.

Shrove Tuesday

February 13th

Think pancakes! 11:00 to 1:00 at Christ Church. Great meal at a very reasonable price. Conversation and meeting neighbours is free. See the flyer for details. If there are any other plans in the works, please let us know – it is not that far away!!

Ash Wednesday

February 14th

Ash Wednesday eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be take place at St. John's, Havelock at 10:00 am. For those who cannot attend Imposition of ashes will be available at communion od the 1st Sunday in Lent (Feb. 18th).

Lenten Study book

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John reflection booklets are still available. Cost is \$2.00 each. Ask Gloria for details.

Schedule of services

Updated schedule of services and Sunday readings to the beginning of June has been posted in each church.

Saturday April 21, 2018

Deanery Confirmation, Reaffirmation

All the churches in Peterborough Deanery will be celebrating these sacraments together in the Easter season with **Bishop Riscylla** officiating. We are starting to work on the details now and will release the date asap. Please read the flyer available in all of our churches describing these sacraments. If you might be interested or just curious about these sacraments, please speak to me.

Elections and Appointments:

Appointed:

Vestry Clerk	Linda Hooper
Rector's Warden	Tom Strawbridge
Treasurer	Pat Vatta
Envelope Secretary	Rose Anne Kelly

Elected:

People's Warden	Russ Pollock
Lay Member of Synod	Laurie Strawbridge
Congregational Reps. to Parish Council:	

- Christ Church Carolyn Towns O.D.T.
- St. Michael's Anita & Josh Andreas
- St. John's Marion Pollock

Member at Large to Parish Council:

- St. Michael's Don Master
- St. John's Rose Anne Kelly

Motion Approved unanimously:

Social Justice and Advocacy Committee Vestry Motion for 2018: Affordable Housing

All levels of government need to work together to build and sustain affordable housing. We, the vestry of Belmont in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the provincial government to:

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to increase and maintain the available stock of affordable housing in Ontario.
2. Develop specific strategies to address the needs of communities and populations experiencing disproportionately high levels of inadequate housing, including members of Indigenous and racialized communities, newcomers to Canada, seniors, youth, survivors of domestic violence, and people living with mental illness or addictions.
3. Work with the federal government to maximize the impact of the National Housing Strategy on housing in Ontario.
4. Work with municipalities to ensure that emergency shelters are adequately funded to meet the needs of their communities.

It was noted by Vestry that, in rural and small communities, affordable housing for Seniors in their home communities is scarce but essential in allowing Seniors to remain near family and involved in community life.

There was a lot of energy around this motion which raises a question for consideration. What steps can this parish take to actively support awareness of a need for Seniors' housing in our local Townships? Is it time to step up and be heard?

Just for fun:

