

'The Ambassador'

st. paul's
anglican
church

Pentecost

As Ambassadors for Christ, we are called to bring our Lord's grace, love, and peace to everyone.

~ Friday June 4, 2021 ~

HONOR THOSE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT HOME

SACRED FIRE
FRIDAY
JUNE 4TH- 7TH

BRING YOUR NEW/USED
MOCCASINS
AS AN OFFERING

ANEMKI WAJIW
MT.MCKAY

CEREMONY
FRI, JUNE 4TH 6PM



Signs of The Times



Thank you to Sharon Angeconeb for these photos of our church sign, the cross on our front steps, and the poster for the 'Sacred Fire' event on Mt. McKay. Although the ceremony took place this evening, the sacred fire will remain lit until Monday. All are welcome to visit Mt. McKay to pay their respects to the 'Kamloops 215' and to honour all the children who didn't make it home.

A "GRACE NOTE" from thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

"CHURCH is not something you go to, it's a FAMILY you belong to."

visit our website @ stpaulsanglicanchurch.ca and find us on facebook



1. Rector's Grace Notes ~

"Every Child Matters" St. Paul's Labyrinth Prayer Service ~ Friday, June 4 at 11:00 am

We held an outdoor prayer service on Friday, June 4 which honoured the 215 children whose remains were found last week at the *Kamloops Indian Residential School*. I also tolled the church bell 215 times at 2:15 pm on June 4.

We began by stating that we are standing on Robinson-Superior Treaty (1850) territory, the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg.

The service consisted of prayers, scripture, a message, the singing in Cree of Amazing Grace, the Sharing of the Peace, and the singing of The Lord's Prayer in Cree, sung to Sibelius' "Finlandia."

May we all reflect and think and use our hearts to move forward with action. We are an Easter people of peace and of hope and of unity and of reconciliation. As Archbishop Anne says, *"We must first stand together in the darkness and weep together."*

For my message, I walked over to the anemones in our garden. They are a beautiful spring perennial with large white petals and a yellow centre. These flowers close in any darkness and only open in the light. Just like you and me. To protect our souls we close ourselves off from darkness and it is through the light of Jesus that we open ourselves up in hope and peace to become fully human. Jesus is the light of the world and we turn to our Saviour in confidence. May we walk together towards the light and reach out to each other in unity, kindness, and God's reconciling grace.

We lit a candle in loving memory of the 215 children who never returned home.



I am thankful that the Canadian government is now committed to finding all the unmarked graves of the remains of children located on residential school properties.

We prayed a prayer of lamentation by Archbishop Linda Nicholls, *Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada*:

*Let us take a moment now, to pause and give voice to our shame and our sorrow
'A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'*

*Let us open our ears to the voice of lamentation
in Kamloops,
in hundreds of communities across this country;
the voice of mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers,
generation after generation,
wailing for their children who were taken from them.
Let us open our ears to the sobs of those children,
torn from the comfort and protection of their families,
estranged from their culture and their sense of their own identity,*

*left with a pain that they often carried their whole lives.
Let us hold in our hearts those who were abused.
And let us remember those who never came home,
whose lives were stolen from them by disease and neglect,
particularly the 215 children whose graves have now been discovered.*

*As we have so shamefully failed the children in this life,
may they find honour and healing as the first in your Kingdom.*

*We pray for our nation of Canada,
at this reminder of stories still untold,
pain still unshared,
responsibility still not taken.*

*Teach us the lesson of your cross:
that it is only in opening ourselves to the pain of others,
in sharing their burdens in love,
that we may find healing together.*

We concluded with the Collect for The Holy Innocents:

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,
receive, we pray, all innocent victims into the arms of your mercy.
By your great might frustrate all evil designs
and establish your reign of justice, love, and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

Editor's Note: Photos of Sandra Fox with Jessie McKay [r], holding her *Diocesan Lay Reader's Certificate* presented at today's service, and a group shot of socially distanced attendees. You can watch the service on our *St. Paul's Facebook page*.



And here's a screenshot of Archdeacon Deborah counting down to 2:15 pm to begin tolling our church bells in honour of the 'Kamloops 215.'

Click the link below to watch the footage of the bell-tolling and prayers.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vufCL-H7dBSFINF7qYUX_2dtlx3w9CL9/view?usp=drivesdk



Finally, I've been noticing all the orange shirts hanging on people's front doors in my neighbourhood as Christopher & I walk Nunzio. Here's a photo of the Rector's front door. If you put an orange shirt on your door, please send us a picture we can share in next week's 'Ambassador.' Thank you!





Good News! We're On TV!

Now you can now watch our weekly service on local TV. On Tuesday evenings at 7 pm, you will be able to watch the 10 am Worship Service from the previous Sunday

on **Channel 10, "Shaw Spotlight."** This Sunday's Service will be broadcast **Tuesday June 8 at 7 pm.**

This free service from **Shaw Spotlight** is a blessing for us. We are still trying to arrange forward to being on TBayTel's community channel too, so everyone will have access to our services.



**EVERY FRIDAY ~ 9:00am Morning Prayer
'ZOOM' / PHONE-IN Worship Service**

↓ SAVE THIS LINK ↓

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82208698866>

Thank the Lord for bringing you safely to the close of another week of change and challenge. Praise the Lord for the blessing of refreshment the weekend brings. Ask the Lord to strengthen you for the week ahead. Worship with us from the

comfort of home by ZOOM or PHONE. Deborah Kraft is inviting you to a scheduled ZOOM:

SAME LINK ALWAYS! → <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82208698866> ←

 **Topic:** Morning Prayer with the Parish

 **Time:** Every Friday Morning at 9 am

 **Meeting ID:** 822 0869 8866

OR Dial any one of these numbers ~ Meeting ID: 822 0869 8866

 **1-[204]-272-7920**

 **1-[438]-809-7799**

 **1-[587]-328-1099**



watch live or ANYTIME on

YouTube
St. Paul's Media

Our Sunday Morning Service LIVESTREAMS ARE HERE FOR YOU!

We are live-stream both our **10:00 am Morning Prayer Service** and **11:30 am Children's Service** every Sunday. Worship with us on **YouTube / St. Paul's Media** or on **Shaw TV Channel 10**

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. See you then!

Office STILL Closed, But WE ARE STILL HERE FOR YOU! ☺

Our Church Office is still closed to public traffic, but we are still available to address your questions, requests, or concerns. We continue to check messages and emails and work behind the scenes to bring you the livestreams and keep you updated. You are welcome to email myself (stpauls.lector@shaw.ca) or call us at 622-4945 (office messages) or 624-7161 (Rector's cell).



Healing Prayer AVAILABLE VIA OUR 'PARISH PRAYER CHAIN'

The power of prayer to heal and to comfort is truly a blessing! We encourage you to request a Healing Prayer through our **CONFIDENTIAL Prayer Chain ministry**. The dedicated parishioners who undertake this special ministry offer up the names they receive in prayer continually throughout the day. Call/Text **Sandra Rejall at 629-3431** to leave a name; give as little or as much info as you wish. *"Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them."* (James 5: 14)



Who Would You Like Us To Pray For?

I value your prayer requests and love including them in our live-stream service. Until in-person worship resumes, **please email me directly (stpauls.rector@shaw.ca) or text me (807-624-7161) by Friday evening** with your prayer petitions and gratitude prayers. I will include all I receive by 11:00pm. Thank you!

Archdeacon Deborah+



2. A 'Grace Note' from Archbishop Anne

Editor's Note: Archdeacon Deborah received this little prayer of blessing from our beloved Archbishop & Metropolitan Anne Germond a few weeks back, and asked me to share it with you when I had space in *'The Ambassador.'* It's an excerpt from Beth Richardson's book *Celtic Blessings*. As a dog-walker, I found the poem quite moving. I'm including it in today's edition to remind us to seek out the sacred in the everyday, God's constant messages of peace and love to each of us . . .

Walking The Dog

*Bless to me this walking of the dog.
Early in morning, late at night,
We walk to the park and back.*

*Bless to me the silence we share.
Me watching, him sniffing,
Noticing the changes of each day,
each season.*

*Bless to me my faithful companion.
In him I see the word
Through different eyes and ears and nose.*

*Bless to me this quite time.
Our ritual, a time of prayer,
Of peace, of love.*

Bless to me this walking of the dog.



3. My Sermon from Sunday May 30, 2021, 'Trinity Sunday' ~

"Relationships"

*I speak to you in the name of the Trinity ~
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

While walking to the church from home last week, I noticed some of the street signs ~ **Finlayson, Dease, Cameron, Brodie** ~ and I started to wonder about the stories behind the street names. I am sure that these streets and many others in Thunder Bay are named after real people with real stories. I do not know the people or the stories and so when I hear the name 'Rupert' Street, I think of an address and not about the person named Rupert. Was it a first name or a last name?

There are many schools named after people in this community and I do not know their stories either. The Kraft children attended *Ecole Gron Morgan* and I have no idea who **Gron Morgan** was. Jouni did a google



search for me and found out that Gron Morgan was a Baptist pastor. I am sure his descendants think about the person when they hear the name of the school. Similarly with the retirement community of *Sister Leila Greco*. I know that **Sr. Leila** was a Roman Catholic nun and capable administrator but I never met her so when I hear the name, I think about the retirement community and not about her. What about the 8 storey *Whalen Building* that was built in 1913? Who was **Mr. Whalen**?

This is the same as the Trinity. When I started at **Trinity College** at the *University of Toronto* in the 1970's, I never associated the Trinity with the doctrine. I associated the Trinity with a fabulous undergraduate experience, one for which I am forever grateful!

Trinity. Trinity Sunday. An annual day in the life of the church when we celebrate the doctrine of the Trinity. There are references to the Trinity in the Bible but the word 'Trinity' is not used. Matthew ends his gospel with Jesus commissioning the disciples and telling them to *"go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."* (Matthew 28:19). Paul ends his second letter to the Corinthians with a Trinitarian benediction ~ *"the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you."* (2 Corinthians 13:13)

The word "Trinity" was first used in Greek by **Theophilus of Antioch** in 180 AD. As Christians, we believe in one God and that the one God is revealed to us through 3 distinct persons ~ the Father or the Creator, the Son or the Redeemer, and the Spirit or the Sanctifier. **All are God. All are one God. All are distinct.** One God in three persons and one substance. All are unique. This doctrine was finalized at a church council nearly 300 years after the Crucifixion. The **Council of Nicea** in 325 AD.

There were other opinions being discussed at this time. One of them was by a man named **Arius**. Arius was a priest at the time who believed that Jesus **came** from God and was made by God. He believed that Jesus had divine qualities but he was most certainly not on the same level as God. Arius and his followers believed that Jesus was subordinate to God the Father. This became a famous heresy and one of the reasons for the calling of the Council meeting. The Council ended with the development of the **Nicene Creed** and this key affirmation that Jesus Christ was most definitely God. We say in the Nicene Creed that Christ is:



"Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,"

**OF ONE BEING WITH THE FATHER.
"HOMOOUSIOS." THE SAME**

"Of one being with the Father, through him all things were made."

Not "similar being" but the same. The word in Greek is: **Homoousios**.

If we, like Arius, believe that Jesus came from God and was lesser than fully divine then the Greek word is: **"HOMOIOUSIOS." SIMILAR**

Homoiousios. That 'i' is known as an 'iota' in Greek. That one little letter completely changes Christian beliefs. Just one little letter threatened to challenge all Christian beliefs. Even today, we still speak



about the iota and say things like this: *"She didn't get one iota of thanks."* Which means she got nothing, not even the smallest amount.

homoousios vs. homoiousios

"Christ is of one substance with the Father" or

"Christ is homoousios with the Father"

homoousios is from the Greek compound word composed of the following:

homo – same

ousia – substance

(what a difference one letter makes!)

"Christ is of a similar substance with the Father" or

"Christ is homoiousios with the Father"

homoiousios is from the Greek compound composed of the following:

homoi – similar

ousia – substance

As Christians, we know that we have received our salvation from Jesus redeeming the whole world through dying on the cross for us. If we say that Jesus was not God, we then need to go on to ask the following questions:

"If Jesus was solely a human or even with some divine properties then how could Jesus be our Saviour?"

"How could we receive salvation from him?"

Theologians have struggled with explaining the mystery of the Trinity. **St. Augustine of Hippo** wrote 14 books on the Trinity. How do you put into words something that is an eternal truth? Over the centuries, people have used metaphors to explain the Trinity. **St. Patrick** used the shamrock. **'Dr. Science'** at our Children's Talk this morning will be using the 3 forms of water ~ solid, liquid, and gas.

Another metaphor is through music. In the book *Resounding Truth; Christian Wisdom In The World Of Music*, **Jeremy Begbie** uses a 3 note chord to understand the Trinity. Dr. Begbie is a professor of theology at *Duke Divinity School*. He believes that music can help us do theology better. We can hear the world.

In a 3-note chord, we hear 3 distinct notes and yet it is one chord. We can hear different things at the same time. Each note completely fills the space.

Over the centuries, the Trinity of three has resulted in the importance of the number three. Good things come in threes and there is an old superstition that bad things come in threes. This too is derived from the power of three.

As the Trinitarian hymn, *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty*, expresses, we sing to God, we praise God and we worship God.

"Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee" (from verse 1)

"All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea" (verse 4)

The Trinity takes on meaning and importance through our personal relationship with God. Some people don't like to use automatic checkouts at *Shoppers* or *Metro* or *Walmart* or the bank. They prefer the personal touch. It might be a cashier they know very well who asks them about their arthritis or how their 7 year old is doing in virtual school. That's part of the wisdom of Christ's coming to our earth to live among us as described in today's Gospel (John 3: 16-18). He can relate to us in all of our daily needs.

We don't need to understand the Trinity or to articulate it in order to live it and to let God be in charge of our lives.

Thomas Edison, the inventor of the light bulb once remarked: *"We don't know what water is. We*

don't know what light is. We don't know what electricity is. We don't know what heat is. We have a lot of hypotheses about these things, but that is all. But we don't let our ignorance about these things deprive us of their use." The truth of that statement is real. Most of us do not know how an LED light bulb saves money, or how our 'smart phone' sends info to 'the cloud' or how our 'smart TV' works to enable us to watch this service on *YouTube*. That reality does not prevent us from using them and enjoying them and finding meaning in them.

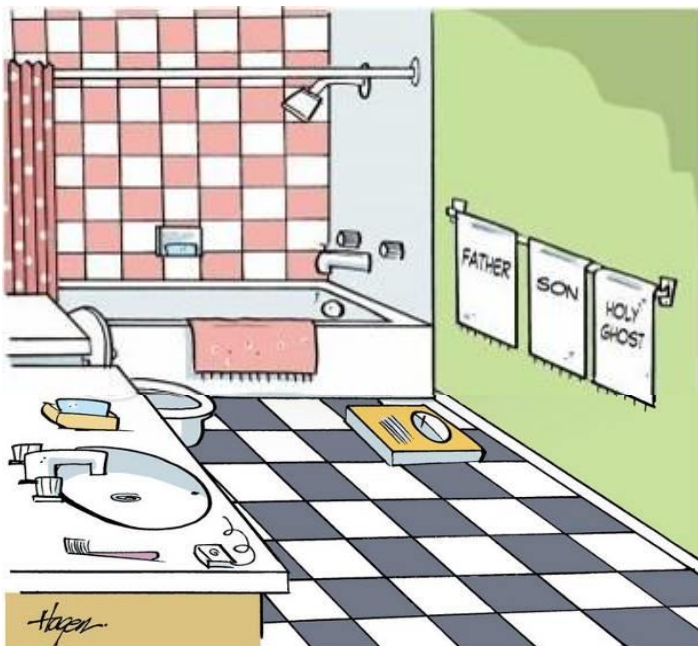
We apply the same common sense to our Faith in the doctrine of the Trinity. When we thank our Creator God for the magnificent rainbow, when we thank our Redeemer God for showing us the face of God, when we thank our Sanctifier God for living in us, we are acknowledging the 3 persons of God. We are showing gratitude for the 3 persons of God. We are building relationship with the 3 persons of God. We move from saying in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit to truly knowing the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and we are blessed.

*Three folds of the cloth yet only one napkin is there.
Three joints in the finger but still only one finger fair,
Three leaves of the shamrock yet no more than one shamrock to wear
Frost, snow flakes and ice all in water their origin share,
Three persons in God, to one God alone we make prayer.*

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Archdeacon Deborah+

4. The Last Laugh ~ "A cheerful heart is good medicine." [Proverbs 7:22]

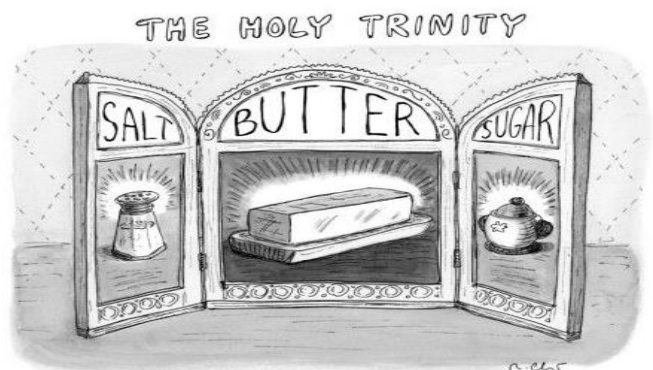
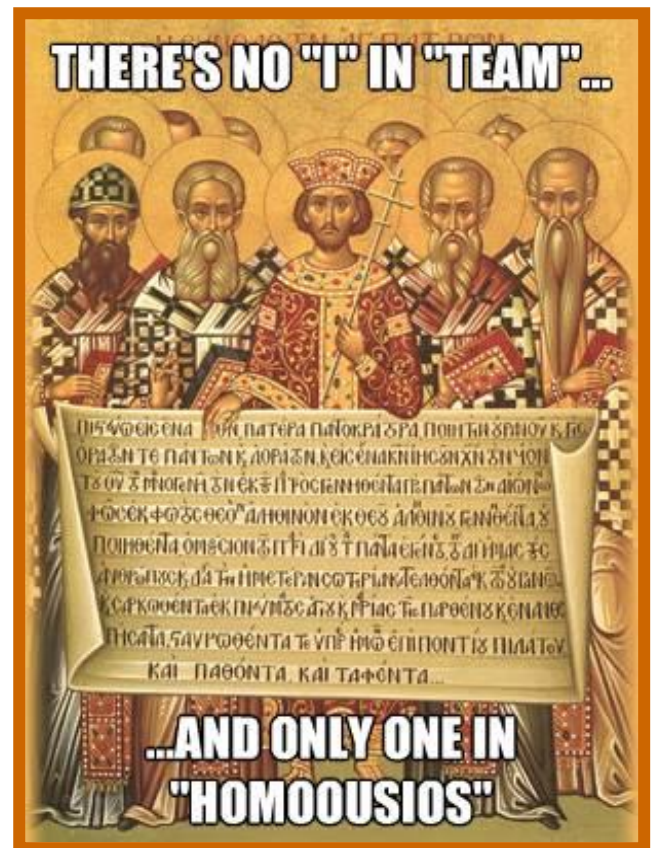


GOD'S BATHROOM.

Christian Math:

$$1+1+1 = 1$$

Three folds of the cloth
yet only one napkin is
there,
Three joints in the finger,
but still only one finger
fair,
Three leaves of the
shamrock,
yet no more than one
shamrock to wear,
Frost, snow-flakes and ice,
all in water their origin
share
Three persons in God,
to one God alone we make
prayer



Archdeacon Deborah+

"The Happy Rector & Archdeacon"