

# 'The Ambassador'

st. paul's  
anglican  
church

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

~ Friday November 5, 2021 ~



'All Hallows Even' Sunday  
October 31, 2021

'Dr. Science' enlists the help of Spiderman, a ladybug, a soldier, and a host of other costumed characters to demonstrate all the ways in which Christians are like pumpkins. God picks us from a cold muddy field, cleans out all the gunk inside us, and fills us with his light. This puts a smile on our face and we let the light of Christ shine out from us for all to see.

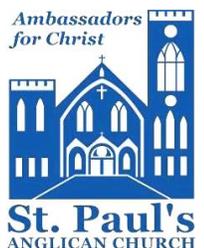


Scripture Lector Daniel Klein explains that, although his kind were around for the origin of the Letter to The Hebrews, "nobody saurus." [Just another of the myth-teries of faith . . .]

A "GRACE NOTE" from [thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com](http://thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com)

*"Jesus keeps it real."*  
[Amen to that!]

visit our website @  
[stpaulsanglicanchurch.ca](http://stpaulsanglicanchurch.ca)  
and find us on facebook



## 1. Rector's Grace Notes ~

### Carry A Candle THIS SUNDAY Nov 7 at 10am for 'All Saints' Sunday

Our 'All Saints' Candle Service is a beautiful tribute to all those newly baptized [the 'Saints'] and all those called home to Jesus [the 'Souls'] in the past 12 months. **You are invited to come a few minutes early and pick up a candle to carry during the Processional Hymn** for anyone close to you who was baptized or has died since last November. The candles will stay on the altar throughout the service.



### Funeral For My Father, MO Nelson . . .

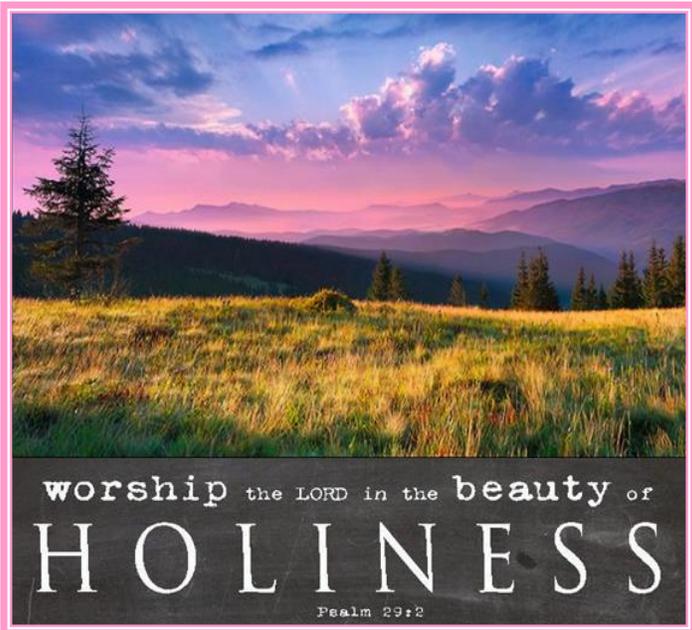
The Lord took my beloved 100 year old father MO Nelson home on October 1, 2021. **You are all invited to attend** his funeral service, which will be held at St. Paul's United Church, 349 Waverly Street this Monday November 8, 2021 at 11am. Please note that **proof of vaccination is required** to enter the service and the luncheon reception following at the *Italian Cultural Centre*.

*"Rest eternal grant unto MO, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon him."*

### We Offer 3 IN-PERSON SERVICES Each Week ~

- † Saturday at 5:00 pm
- † Sunday morning at 8:30 am & at 10:00 am

The 10:00 am service continues to be live-streamed (*YouTube/St. Paul's Media*).



### 9:00 am Friday ZOOM Worship Every Week

Here is your ZOOM invitation for worshipping with me Friday mornings 9 am - 9:30 am. Then you may leave the call or stay for a check-in until 10 am. No supplies needed, same link always -

**Deborah Kraft is inviting you to a scheduled ZOOM meeting: ↓ SAME LINK EVERY WEEK ↓**

<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 ~**

☎ 1-[204]-272-7920 ☎ 1-[438]-809-7799 ☎ 1-[587]-328-1099 Meeting ID: 822 0869 8866

### 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)*



### **Good News! We're On TV!**

Watch our weekly Sunday 10:00 am service on local TV, Tuesdays at 7:00 pm on **Channel 10, “Shaw Spotlight.”** This Sunday’s Service will be broadcast **7 pm Tuesday November 9.** This free service from Shaw Spotlight is a blessing to us!

### **Our Sunday Service LIVESTREAMS Are Here For You, Too!**

We live-stream our **Sunday 10 am Eucharist Services.** If you can’t get to one of our **3 in-person Services,** you can still worship with us on **YouTube / St. Paul’s Media** . Praise God for technology, and for our Live Stream Team!



watch live or ANYTIME



## *Archdeacon Deborah+*

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### **2. Please Support Our “BB” Fundraiser ~**

Please help us to keep our **Blessing Box** filled this fall and winter by **donating money (and/or food)** to St. Paul’s and **designating your donation for “Blessing Box.”** Last year we raised enough funds to stock our BB well into February! With your help, we’re hoping to do the same this year.

**Thank you for your giving and generous hearts.** We are calling for donations throughout the month of November. Please check your email for our letter or pick up a paper version at the back of the church for more information.

*~ Alison Arthur, BB Mission Team*



### **3. Christian Accommodation Required ~**

A devout Christian lady, 67, recently re-located to Thunder Bay from Timmins, is in urgent need of **affordable shared accommodation or a small bachelor or 1-bedroom apartment.** **English and Finn speaking** with a heart for music ministry and care home visitation; clean, quiet, and financially dependable. Anywhere in Thunder Bay acceptable, near a bus route preferred. If you know of any place that might be suitable, please contact Irene at 358-7542. Thank you!

### **4. My Sermon from Sunday October 31, 2021, “All Hallow’s Even” ~ *“Leave Moab And Live!”***

*Holy God, help us always to love you and to love our neighbour. Amen.*

***Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die — there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” (Ruth 1:16-17)***

This passage from the Book of Ruth in the Old Testament is famous and is often read at weddings. It is not a statement of love between two people getting married. It is a statement of love and loyalty

between a daughter-in-law and her mother-in-law. The daughter-in-law's name is **Ruth** and the mother-in-law's name is **Naomi**.

The story of Ruth begins with sorrow and with heartbreak. Naomi is a married Jewish woman. Naomi, her husband, and her two sons move to Moab in order to escape the famine in Judah. The kingdom of 'Moab' was east of the Dead Sea and is now known as Jordan.

While in Moab, Naomi's husband dies, her 2 sons marry non-Jewish women, and then both sons die . . . Sadness after sadness. Naomi is in a foreign land and she has lost her husband and all of her children. She has no grandchildren.

Once Naomi hears that the famine in her homeland of Judah is over, she decides to return. Both her daughters-in-law decide to travel with her. However, Naomi insists that they stay home. Naomi is thinking of their welfare and believes that they are better off in Moab where they can be with their families. One of the daughters-in-law agrees and turns back.



The other daughter-in-law, Ruth, insists on staying with Naomi and on travelling to Judah with her. Naomi and Ruth had a good relationship and were loyal friends. That is when Ruth makes her impassioned speech.

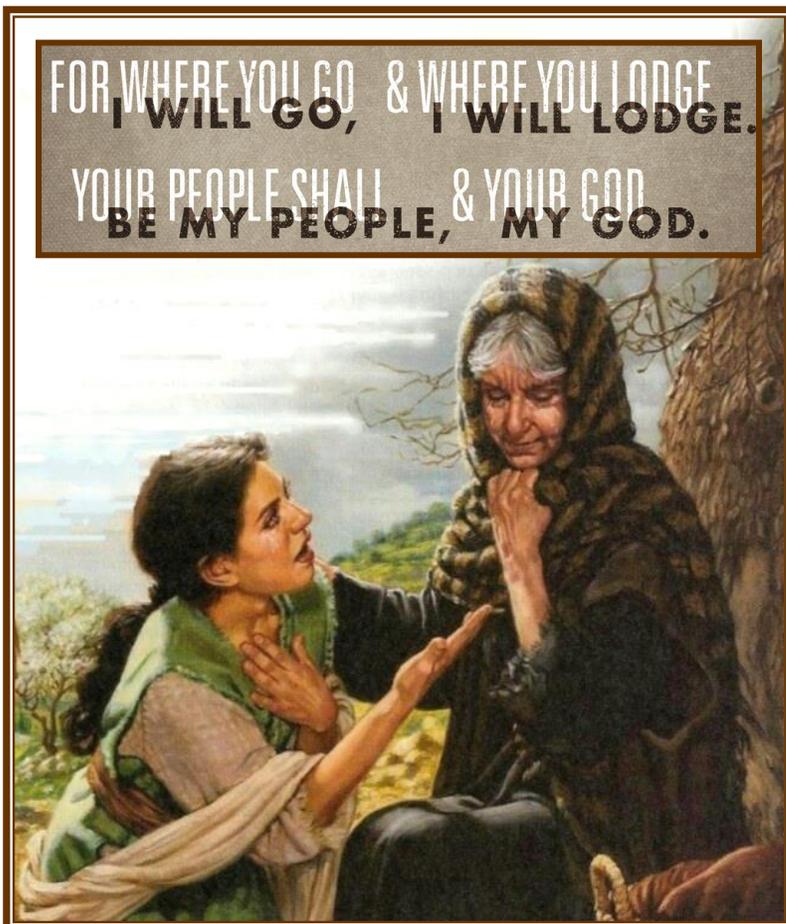
***“Your people shall be my people and your God my God.”***

What happens next? Ruth and Naomi travel together to Judah. Eventually Ruth will marry a man named Boaz and they will be blessed with a son named **Obed** who will be the grandfather of **King David**. Ruth will become the great-grandmother of David who is one of the ancestors of **Jesus**.

We don't know what awaits us when we venture out into the unknown. When we are tempted to turn back, when we might feel that if we let go of our past, our grieving, we are letting go of our memories.

The Bible refers to Moab as the *“land of the dead.”* (1 Kings 11:17). A dead husband and

dead sons. A dead relationship. The death of a loved one. The death of our good health. The death of a friendship or a job. The death of trust. There is spiritual danger if we stay in 'Moab.'



What is your 'Moab'? If you and I cling to the dead, then we might lose our desire to live. In Thailand, adult elephants are sometimes secured by a thin rope. They have the strength to break off the rope but they don't know that. When they are babies the same thickness of rope is used to tie them and the elephant quickly learns that they can't break away. The adult elephant doesn't know that they now have the strength to pull away from the rope.

Remember that you have the ability to leave Moab. I know a person who is living in a home he really doesn't like but out of loyalty to a dead family member, this unhappy person cannot leave. That is his 'Moab.' I know a person who is living with someone in a dead relationship, a relationship of emotional abuse and she is too scared to venture out into the unknown. That is her 'Moab.' I know a person who failed at a job and now has stopped applying to jobs for which she is perfectly suited. That is her 'Moab'. I know a person whose spouse died several years ago and he has given up all of his social interactions with others, including time with his children and grandchildren. That is his 'Moab.' What is yours?

Let God carry you away from Moab. Cling not to the past, but to God. God who encourages us to embrace newness, to venture into the unknown, whether it is a new relationship, a new place to live, a new job, a new volunteer position. God will turn our mourning into dancing.

Today on October 31, **"All Hallows Even,"** we are aware of death. We remember the dead as we prepare for **"All Saints Day"** tomorrow, November 1. We don't stay on this day of the dead, as we will move forward tomorrow in gratitude for all the saints in our lives who have blessed us, loved us and taught us. These legacies are powerful and move forward throughout the generations. From Ruth, to Obed, to Jesse, to David and then onward and upward to Jesus. Ruth's legacy is one of trust, faith, loyalty, honour and, in the words of St. Paul, *"press[ing] on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 3:14)

God is calling us out of Moab.

I love the story of Ruth, of her desire to trust in Naomi and to trust in God. I am wondering if deep in her heart, Ruth heard the voice of God speaking to her and telling her that she would participate in the salvation of the world through Jesus. Jesus would become her descendant.

Jesus stresses that the most important commands are the commands to love God and to love one another.

When we leave Moab, we are open to new experiences . . .  
We are open to love.

Amen.

*Archdeacon Deborah+*

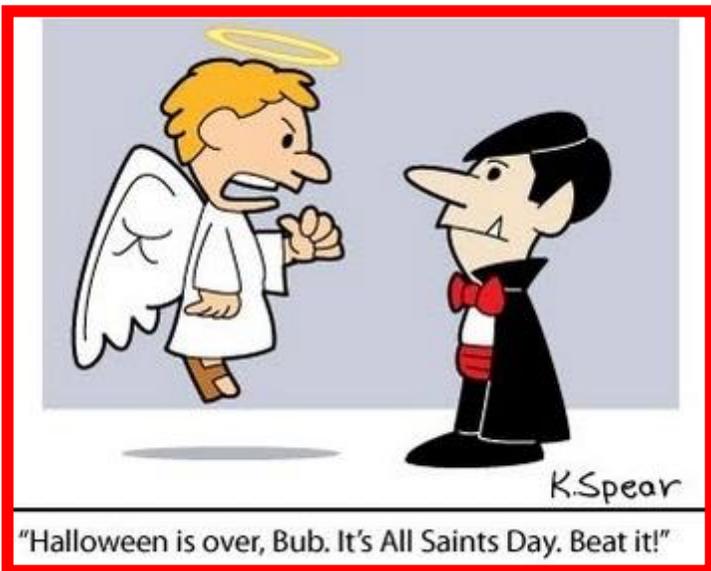


6. Scriptures for this Saturday & Sunday November 6 & 7, 2021 ~ "All Saints & All Souls" Sunday

**Rectors' Note:** I encourage you to read these passages. If you don't have a Bible they are all accessible online. The church uses the *NRSV* (New Revised Standard Version).

- **Isaiah 25:6-9** ~ The Lord will "swallow up death forever." [verse 7]
- **Psalms 24** ~ The Lord enters into the Temple.
- **Revelation 21:1-6A** ~ The author has a vision of "a new heaven and a new earth," where "death will be no more." [verse 4]
- **John 11:32-44** ~ Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

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



"I'm considered a saint, but my mother always thought I could've done better."

