



St Cuthbert's Anglican Church

Venerable Jeff Ward : rector.stcuthbert@gmail.com

e-Messenger

December 2022



**St Cuthbert's tree
December 2022**

Our tree is growing rapidly but looking glorious. We had to purchase 8 additional sets of lights for it this year ! Thank you to long time parishioners James and Pat Chin for donating money to cover the cost of these beautiful Christmas lights.

Sunday Services

8.0 a.m. Traditional Anglican Service (BCP)

10.0 a.m. Contemporary Eucharist with Choir

SERVICE CHANGE

From December 4 a bilingual service will be held at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall, running in parallel with the normal service in Church. We will meet after the services for coffee and goodies in the Parish Hall.

See Page 8 for Christmas Service details

Friday Service

9:0 A.M. Morning Prayer on Zoom
(followed by coffee)

Masks are optional (but recommended) at services

Dawn Receives the Order of Niagara - November 13th



Dawn and her St Cuthbert's supporters at the Order of Niagara Service.



Dawn receiving her Order of Niagara

Following the service the St Cuthbert's gang went to the restaurant next to the Cathedral and enjoyed a good meal together and made plenty of noise! There were 15 of us altogether.

Dawn was awarded the Order of Niagara by the Bishop at Christ Church Cathedral on November 13th. The citation read:

Dawn is a dynamo. Dawn is constantly at the church and constantly in motion. It is rare to find Dawn at the church and her being spotless, except on Sunday mornings! Dawn lovingly tends to the gardens that surround St Cuthbert's and she does all that is humanly possible to keep them looking lovely and well cared for. Over many years Dawn has helped with our Sunday School, with many events and activities, and in the maintenance of our community gardens which provide annual produce to those in need in Oakville. She has also helped out with the Martha's Guild so the kitchen is always clean, neat, tidy, and organized. Dawn is currently serving as a Warden. She has played a significant role in our recent depave project and the establishment of our new Paradise Garden. Dawn is also a leader of our Altar Guild and she guides and teaches the youth members, most of whom are boys, typically called "her boys", and is thus fostering an understanding, appreciation, and care for the church among another generation! When asked what she has done to serve through St Cuthbert's, her response is always, "not much". Dawn is a very humble servant of our church.

Continued on Page 2

Order of Niagara (continued)

Dan Ye (Mission in Acts- Chinese Anglican Ministry in Oakville)

Dan Ye (bottom right in photograph on page 1) was awarded the Order of Niagara. Dan Ye and her family are active in many community events, especially music and arts ministry at St Cuthbert's and in various churches in Oakville. She follows her calling and puts her Christian life into practice. She is a talented and accomplished musician, pianist, and successful businesswoman. She was called to be baptized when she travelled to the United States in 2016. She makes her calling very clear, being an evangelist and preaching the gospel through her music. She serves one of the first groups of Asian Anglicans in Oakville since she joined St Simon's and St Aidan's in 2018. She and her husband Jack have contributed a lot to church ministry work and witnessed the growth of the Ministry development in Oakville.

The Ordination of Nicola as Deacon November 20th

On November 20th Nicola was ordained a Deacon in the Anglican Church by Bishop Susan. She has been with us since 2021 and was our Lay Pastoral Associate. She is a graduate of Trinity College with a Master of Divinity degree with Honours. She has become a much loved member of our church family and she once said:

"coming into St Cuthbert's is like coming home".

Unfortunately for us, now she is a Deacon she has to gain experience in another Parish and so we will be losing her for 6 months to Grace Church Waterdown, but after that she will then return to us.



Bishop Susan with Nicola, her family and all her supporters

In the evening, when we returned from the Cathedral in Hamilton we had dinner at St Cuthbert's to celebrate Nicola's Ordination and Dawn's Order of Niagara. It was very well attended and speeches were given by Fr. Jeff and Nicola. Nicola paid tribute to her family and in particular to her husband Sheng for his support and love during her training.

The meal was a Chinese buffet with wine which was very much enjoyed by all and we were able to toast Nicola's future success.



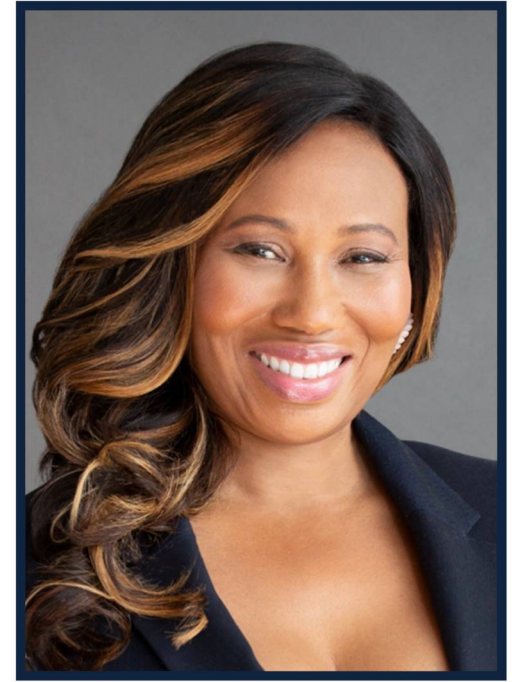
Bishop Susan with the three Deacons who were ordained on November 20th.



Dinner at St Cuthbert's in celebration of Nicola's Ordination and Dawn's O.N.

Who's Who - Che Marville-Sponder

Most of you will know Che as one of our regular readers at the 10 a.m. service and also a leader of the MAP project. She is married to Industrial Designer Joseph Sponder and has four children, three boys and one girl. She has had an eclectic career as an executive, politician, meditation and yoga teacher, researcher, and podcast producer. In addition, she works full-time as the Head of People and Innovation for an advertising company in Toronto.



Born in England, her family emigrated to Canada when she was four years old, and she grew up in Toronto. Che was raised in the Anglican tradition; her family were members of St. James Cathedral, and she has happy memories of her time there. Her mother and grandparents were people of deep faith.

At a young age, while traveling in Guyana, where her parents were born, she developed a life-threatening infection, and prayer's power guided her through the pain. The power of prayer inspired her to become a Sunday school teacher at the early age of ten.

In conversation with Che, she shared her deep gratitude for her mother, a learned person of faith and love. Her mother had friends from all over the world from different backgrounds and religions and was yet profoundly committed to the Christian faith. Never dogmatic or harsh, she treated her faith with devotion and commitment.

Che shared that her mother was her first spiritual teacher and mentor as a student of god's grace. Although she has been a member of St. Cuthbert's for twenty years, she did not always attend; she was torn in the struggle to get the whole family to attend, and the trauma of the pandemic inspired her to renew her practice of participating in a faith community. So much of her faith practice was done with her mom, whom she lost during the second lock down.

The loss of access to the Church was very impactful, and "I missed the in-person worship experience" and has attended regularly since the Church re-opened. One of the benefits of attending Church is being part of a community of care and faith; regular physical exercise and routines develop our muscles and general well-being, so regular worship routines develop and maintain our faith and well-being. In addition, the regular ritual of the Sunday service helps us focus and develop our practice of prayer and worship in communion with others. Che is a teacher of "Mindfulness," a form of meditation that helps us relieve our stress and cares for our psychological state. As one of the leaders of the MAP project, Che has been a Mindfulness and Yoga teacher for twenty years and is happy to share mindfulness with the community at St Cuthbert's as a worthwhile practice that we can develop as individuals. She has taught all over the world, people of all ages, in temples, churches, hospitals, schools, kitchens, and parks.

Thank you, Che, for your happy smiling face on Sunday morning and for contributing so much to the life of the St Cuthbert's community, especially the leadership you have undertaken in the MAP project.

Dr. Dan's Dental Mission to Guatemala

Our Music Director Dr Dan Lee's Dental Mission to the interior of Guatemala in January 2023 is fast approaching. He is looking for donations to finance this work and told us that 100% of donations go towards the dental care of the children. The volunteer team pay all their own expenses including air fare. Donations will receive a tax receipt. Please make cheques payable to Health Outreach and send to Health Outreach, C/O Dr Dan Lee, 3335 Meadow Marsh Crsc. Oakville, On L6H 0T5 or see him on Sunday morning after the service.





Anglican Christianity: A Series by Professor Alan L. Hayes

Part V: Great Britain, 595-664

My excuse for focusing this month on a short period of just seventy years is that I think that this is one of the two most foundational periods for the character of Anglicanism. (The other period is from about 1530 to 1570.)

In many ways, this period represents the real beginning of Anglicanism. It's when the stream of early British Christianity, which continued to flow through Wales and Ireland, joined Anglo-Saxon and Roman streams to create the river of Anglicanism.

The conversion of the kingdom of Kent

In 595 Pope Gregory the Great felt moved to send a missionary to the Anglo-Saxons with the task of planting Christianity among them. Of the several Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, the Pope chose to send a mission to the one closest to Rome, which was Kent, in southeast England.

Experience showed that monks made great missionaries, so Gregory sent the head of a monastery in Rome, named Augustine.

Although the religion of Kent was of a Germanic pagan kind, the king had married a Catholic princess from across the English Channel, Bertha of Paris. And she worked vigorously to convert her husband. Maybe it was in order to help her out that Gregory sent Augustine to Kent.

The king let Augustine work from a church in his capital, Canterbury. By Christmas 597 he had baptized the king and thousands of others. The pope made Augustine the first archbishop of Canterbury.

And the pope sent more missionaries and bishops. Gradually, from south to north, England was being converted to a Roman form of Christianity.

Pope Gregory's instructions

Augustine wrote the Pope a letter with ten policy questions, and much of Gregory's wise counsel on those questions took root in Anglicanism. You can read the questions and answers in a rather stuffy translation at <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/360211064.htm>

Here are a few of the questions.

Augustine asked: since churches in different parts of the world have different traditions, which should we use in England? Gregory answered: for every tradition, choose whichever you think best. For we don't love things because of the places they come from, but places because of the things.

Augustine asked: what if someone steals from a church? Gregory answered: it depends why they stole; some steal because they have nothing. In any case, be charitable.

Augustine asked: can the church marry two brothers to two sisters? Gregory answered: yes; the church allows things that aren't prohibited in Scripture.

Augustine asked: if an unmarried couple is living together, can they be allowed to receive communion? Gregory answered: yes, especially since Anglo-Saxons aren't accustomed to Christian ways. You should persuade the couple to get married, but don't treat them legalistically, for "Holy Church corrects some things with fervour, tolerates some things with gentleness, and bears some things with consideration."

Augustine asked: can a woman enter a church as soon as she gives birth? The Old Testament law says she's unclean for a certain number of days. Gregory answered: the number of days, like many things in Scripture, should be interpreted mystically, not literally. Yes, she can enter without sin.

Part V: Great Britain, 595-664 Continued

The conversion of Northumbria

Meanwhile, up in the north of England, in the kingdom of Northumbria, just before an important battle in 634, King Oswald, a pagan, had a miraculous Christian vision. The story goes that St. Columba of Iona, who had been dead for several decades, appeared to Oswald and promised him victory. (I wrote about Columba and Iona last month.)

After Oswald won the battle, he asked to be baptized. And then he invited the Iona community to send a missionary to his kingdom.

The Iona community sent the saintly Aidan, a leader of great wisdom and simple life. He established a monastery and mission headquarters on the island of Lindisfarne, just off the east coast. (See the picture. You can walk to it from the mainland when the tide is low.) He in turn trained and sent out other missionaries.



Lindisfarne

So at that point, Roman Christians were converting England from south to north, and Irish Christians were converting England from north to south. Since the Romans and the Irish did things differently, that began to create problems.

Rome and Ireland observed different dates of Easter, understood the role of bishops differently, and tonsured clergy differently (i.e., they had different haircuts). They also had different spiritual tendencies. It's hard to be precise about the latter, and I have to speak broadly here. Irish Christianity tended to the prophetic; it generated independent, creative saints who lived simple lives close to nature, preached with evangelical zeal, and immersed themselves in Scripture. Roman Christianity was more priestly; it represented the universal Church with its authority structures, liturgies, doctrines, and beautiful buildings.

The Synod of Whitby

In 664 King Oswiu of Northumbria, who had succeeded his brother Oswald, felt that England should choose between Roman Christianity and Irish Christianity. So he convened a synod (a kind of church meeting), and he invited an advocate of Roman Christianity and an advocate of Irish Christianity to come promote their respective causes to an assembly of leaders.

The synod was held at a holy place in Northumbria called Streanæshalch, which is pretty hard to pronounce if you're not an Anglo-Saxon, but we think it later turned into Whitby, which is much easier to say. It was known for two large monasteries, one for men and one for women, both ruled by the great St. Hilda, a woman of Irish Christian spirituality and royal lineage who was celebrated for her wisdom, teaching gifts, and virtue.

After hearing both sides, the king decided to favour Roman Christianity, since it seemed prudent to choose the group that had St. Peter on its side.

The seat of episcopal power in Northumbria moved from Lindisfarne to York, a royal centre that had a Roman missionary, and in theory all of Christian England now fell under the sway of Rome. In practice, though, Irish missionaries and communities continued in their accustomed ways, and as for the gifts of Irish spirituality, I like to think that they remain in Anglicanism to this day.

Men's Lunch

The men's lunch was held on Friday November 25th at the Pump and Patio Pub and 10 guys attended and had a good time. The next Men's Lunch will be on the last Friday of January ,(the 27th) . NOTE there is no Men's Lunch in December.

St Cuthbert's Youth News



St Cuthbert's Youth Music Group

Our Youth Music Group from St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church is going to have their debut on Friday, December 2nd.

**They have been practising very hard every Friday evening since June so -
PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THEM**

This group was initiated under MAP program, made up of over 30 youth from Mississauga and Oakville, and led by Nicola, Jane and some of our youths. Since June we have been working together every Friday evening, experiencing all forms of performance, trying to bring out each one's strength and potential, and to let God's Spirit Shine in us.

Now as the Advent Season begins, we are very proud to announce that we're ready! On that night you will hear not only the familiar "Amazing Grace" in harmony, "10,000 Reasons" and "You Raise Me Up" in chorus, but also the aboriginal tune Siyahamba, and some famous tunes from the Japanese animate movie "Spirited Away" sung by a superb talent from Oakville Trafalgar High School, all accompanied by our own youth band! !

So only songs? - No !

We have all sorts of instrumental ensemble, duet, solo, choir of all age groups, even a group dance though a little awkward :(

So, 7:00pm Fri., December, 02, at our church. Be there or be square.

St Cuthbert's Youth Bake Cookies



On Saturday November 19 our teenagers, led by Anna (our Youth Leader), baked cookies and gingerbread which they will be selling at the Bake Sale Table on November 26/27 and December 3/4.

Teenagers Clear Christmas Tree Sales Area



Thanks to the teenagers, Nick, George, Andrew, Kai, and Shaun who cleared the Christmas tree sales area of leaves before the trees arrived. Nick even brought his own equipment - a gas powered blower.

TipToe Music's Sixth Annual Holiday Charity Jingle



TipToe Music's Sixth Annual Holiday Jingle in aid of Safetynet Charities is here!

Friday 9th December at 10am
Saturday 10th December at 9am,
10am and 11am **at St Cuthberts Church, Oakville**

Festive fun, merriment and music-making for **ALL** the family - come ready to mingle and jingle, sing and dance - **ugly sweaters and holiday outfits encouraged!**

All proceeds will go to Safetynet Charities - diaper donations also accepted for the charity (inc opened packs)

Tickets are \$25 for the first child, \$15 for each sibling in the same session (**grown ups are free!**)

So Come on parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, caregivers bring the kids for some fun
Tickets must be purchased in advance - space is limited
Contact E-J at tiptoemusicfun@gmail.com for tickets

Wellbeing Yoga Class

Why not join the free Wellbeing Yoga class in person at the Church in the Parish Hall or on Zoom. The class is open to both English and Chinese speakers.

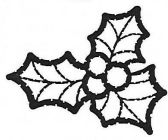
Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30am

Please come and invite your friends.

If you prefer to practice online, here is the Zoom information:

Zoom ID: 7945058496
Code : 123456

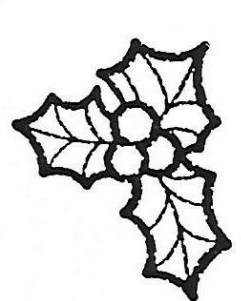
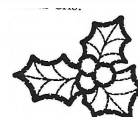
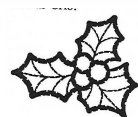
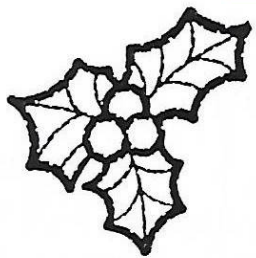




St Cuthbert's December Calendar



		A.M.	P.M.
Thursday	1-Dec-22	Mandarin Bible Study 10 am-12 pm	Choir Practise 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Friday	2-Dec-22	Morning Prayer 9:00 am	Christmas Tree Sale / Youth Concert in Church 7:30 pm
Saturday	3-Dec-22	Christmas Tree and Bake Sale 8 a.m.	Christmas Tree and Bake Sale
Sunday	4-Dec-22	8 am and 10 am Service in church Bilingual service 10 a.m.- Parish Hall	Christmas Tree and Bake Sale
Monday	5-Dec-22		Home Group meeting 7:30 pm/ Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Tuesday	6-Dec-22		Bible Study 7:15/ Choir practise 7 - 9pm Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Wednesday	7-Dec-22	Wellbeing Yoga 10:30 - 11:30am	Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Thursday	8-Dec-22	Mandarin Bible Study 10 am-12 pm	Christmas Tree Sale 5-9 pm. Choir moved to Tuesday 7pm
Friday	9-Dec-22	Morning Prayer 9:00 am Holiday Jingles 10 a.m in Parish Hall	Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Saturday	10-Dec-22	Christmas Tree Sale from 8 a.m. Holiday Jingles 9, 10 and 11 a.m.	Christmas Tree Sale until 9.p.m.
Sunday	11-Dec-22	8 a.m. BCP Service Lessons and Carols Service 10 a.m. Bilingual service 10 a.m.- Parish Hall	Christmas Tree Sale 11:30 am - 6:30pm
Monday	12-Dec-22		Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Tuesday	13-Dec-22		Bible Study 7:15 - 8:45 pm
Wednesday	14-Dec-22	Wellbeing Yoga 10:30 - 11:30am	Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Thursday	15-Dec-22	Mandarin Bible Study 10 am-12 pm	Choir Practise 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Friday	16-Dec-22	Morning Prayer 9:00 am	Christmas Tree Sale 5 - 9pm
Saturday	17-Dec-22	Saturday Morning youth Volunteers	
Sunday	18-Dec-22	8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services in Church Bilingual Service 10 a.m. - Parish Hall	
Monday	19-Dec-22		
Tuesday	20-Dec-22		Bible Study 7:15 - 8:45 pm
Wednesday	21-Dec-22	Wellbeing Yoga 10:30 - 11:30am	Longest Night Service 7 p.m. In Church
Thursday	22-Dec-22	Mandarin Bible Study 10 am-12 pm	Choir Practise 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Friday	23-Dec-22	Morning Prayer	
Saturday	24-Dec-22		Christmas Eve Family Service 4:30 p.m. Candle Light Service 9:30 p.m.
Sunday	25-Dec-22	Christmas Day Service 10 a.m.	
Monday	26-Dec-22		
Tuesday	27-Dec-22		Bible Study 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday	28-Dec-22	Wellbeing Yoga 10:30 - 11:30am	
Thursday	29-Dec-22	Mandarin Bible Study 10 am-12 pm	No Choir Practise
Friday	30-Dec-22	Morning Prayer 9:00 am	
Saturday	31-Dec-22		
Sunday	1-Jan-23	8:00 am and 10 am services in Church	



St Cuthbert's Christmas Services

Wednesday December 21st - Longest Night Service 7 p.m.

This service focuses on Christ who is the Light that overcomes the darkness of loss suffering and loneliness caused by losing loved ones, through illness, death or divorce. We come together to worship in the embrace and love of the family of St Cuthbert.

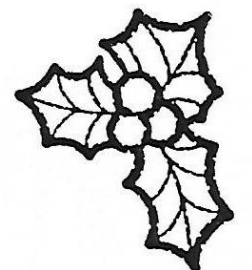
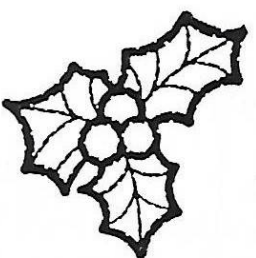
Saturday December 24th - Family Service - 4:30 p.m.

This service focuses on the family and children and is joyful and sometimes noisy!

Saturday December 24th - Candle Light Service - 9:30 p.m.

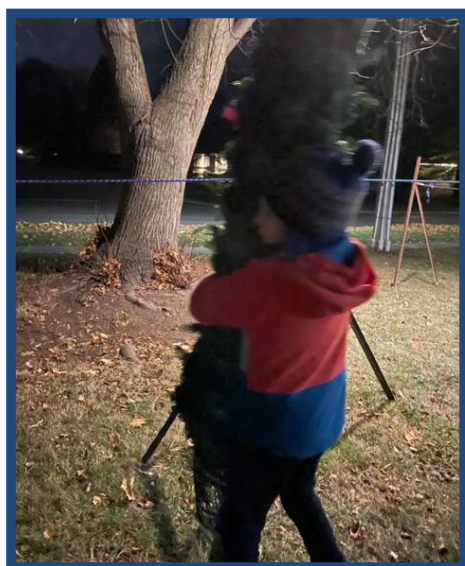
This is the traditional Christmas Eucharist when the church is lit by candles welcoming Christ the Light of the World.

Sunday December 25th - Christmas Day Service - 10 a.m.





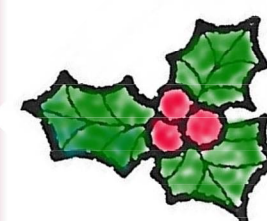
CHRISTMAS TREE UNLOADING November 25th



Thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas Tree unloading. Over 22 people of all ages turned out on a fairly mild night to help. We had pizza to start the evening. The CN truck turned up on time and we set to work. Gavin was our youngest helper with trees bigger than himself (photo left). We had helpers of all ages with several seniors. We unloaded the 600 trees in 2 hours. The 13 ft trees turned out to be much bigger than anticipated and required 6 people to lift them !



CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE St Cuthbert's Church 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. November 26/27 and December 3/4



All sorts of mouth watering baked goodies cooked by our own parishioners and youth. It seems that the youth cookies broke up when they came out of the oven and had to be eaten ! so there are not so many for sale. Also available Green Tomato Relish made by Dawn and Wendy from our own tomatoes.



Christmas decorations will also be available to brighten your homes.

