



Dear Friend of the Cathedral

It feels good to be back in town – and challenging too with the many exciting events ahead.

This will be a month of greetings and farewells. We always look forward to welcoming new members into our community and meeting the many tourists who pass through our red doors, but we expect to be meeting an unusually large number of people this September, starting this weekend with Les journées du patrimoine religieux / Religious Heritage Days when the cathedral, along with 70 other sacred spaces including St George's and St John the Evangelist downtown, will be offering guided tours. We will also have a small exhibition about the history and architecture of the cathedral and are encouraging people to attend the Oasis concert Saturday or Choral Evensong on Sunday to complete their visit. If you've ever wondered about the symbols painted on the ceiling, or asked questions about the reredos and high altar, come for a tourist visit to your cathedral. Do you know what the oldest object in the cathedral is? Have you seen the memorial to the man who died on the Titanic? Why is there a tablet commemorating Sarah Maxwell? Do drop into the cathedral any time Saturday between 10 and 4, or on Sunday afternoon, to discover some of our interesting history.

September is of course an exciting time of new beginnings for students. There will be a moment during the 10:30 service this Sunday, September 8th, when students, their backpacks and their binders will all be blessed. There will be another special service of welcome and farewell the following Sunday, September 15, when we will be welcoming our new Associate Priest, Deborah Meister, and saying thank you to Gwenda Wells who has been a great blessing to us as our part-time interim priest since Amy's departure. We will also be welcoming Bertrand back from his summer holiday.

Goodbyes are bitter-sweet. We have many wonderful young people in our community, including several on the path to ordination who must eventually spread their wings in other parishes as part of their training. We said goodbye to Jeffrey Mackie at the beginning of the summer and will be saying farewell to Ben Stuchbery during the 10:30 am service on September 15. We are grateful for their huge contributions to the life of the cathedral and pray for the Spirit's guidance on their journey.

There will be an ordination in the cathedral on September 29 when two other former cathedral members will be ordained, Joel Amis as priest and Tyson Røsborg as Deacon. The Cathedral will be hosting the reception after the service. Vivian Lewin will welcome offers of help. That's actually quite a crazy weekend because on Friday and Saturday we are celebrating Journées de la culture with a big art exhibition, concerts and work shops and on Sunday providing a hot lunch for over 100 people in need. All aspects of being a cathedral will be on show that weekend!

Do you receive the bi-weekly Diocesan e-news letter written by Nikki Hronjak? If you don't, you can sign up at programme.office@montreal.anglican.ca One item in this week's letter is an appeal from St Michael's Mission asking for donations "to help the less fortunate in the centre of Montreal." No donation they say is too small. The cathedral has long supported the excellent work done by this small powerhouse.

Cathedral member Vera Burt is also an active supporter of the West Hill Grandmothers who are organizing a fun event you might enjoy. Nine antique dealers will be displaying their wares in an antiques fair, on Saturday September 14, between 10 am and 4 pm at Westmount Park United Church. There will also be an art sale and bake sale and an appraiser on hand to tell you about your treasure. Admission is \$10, appraisals are also \$10.

Wishing you a happy September

Ann Elbourne
September 6, 2019