
UPDATE

The Anglican Church of St-Barnabas – St-Lambert



Christmas 2019



From the Rector's Desk:

Around the Desk...

The office, the desk. The meaning and significance of these two simple words. How remarkable that I would take the office of the Incumbent of St-Barnabas in St-Lambert and that the desk would be from Okill Stuart, one that he would have studied and worked behind for so many years. I was reintroduced to Okill when Joyce and I began celebrating the Eucharist services at Les Jardins Interieurs. Okill was always a great proponent of these services that we continue today as members of St-Barnabas.

Yes, the local boy and girl come home. It seems just a short time ago that Joyce and I were sent from St-Barnabas to enter this life of ministry. There were the five years of seminary, an assistant curacy at St-Peters' in TMR, a few months in Hudson and then an awakening and an aligning of our perspective to our calling as we worked in Verdun to establish epiphany|verdun into its community. And now, energized and anointed with new skills, we are back to our home... our town and church, St-Barnabas St-Lambert.

There is much work to be done if we are to remain sustainable for now and into the future. I have witnessed through ongoing training seminars with church leaders from across the nation and from our hands-on experience in Verdun, that the church must be present in the community. I believe we are called collectively to go out from the safety of our bricks and mortar, to go and witness the work of God already being done in our community. And when we do, we begin to see that the work of God is already being done by others. Our purpose is to come along side that work and in time, point to it as indeed the work of God, which is simply to love one another in all we do.

St-Barnabas with its strategic location is the gateway to a newfound spirituality in St-lambert and beyond. In time, we envision our buildings to be a haven for outreach that cares for our seniors, soothes the anxiety of the lonely and seeks to inform and encourage those who have an underlying desire to discover a purpose of discipleship in their life. There will be over time a transformation, an evolution in and of what we do, how we occupy and use our buildings, and the impact from new people in a reimagined space. And all of this is contingent on our awareness of those individuals we encounter and in what God through this interaction is presenting to us for our community. In any time of change, there is a time of trial and perhaps error, but always a time of discerning God's will through the Holy Spirit. Some change will establish itself while other change may revert to what it was. However, everything will be built upon what has been done and created from our past, always with a sense of looking forward to a new and sustainable future, a future that may look very different in the years to come but always reminiscent of the remnant that God has called us from.

So, during this season of Advent, as we gather together in our traditions, let us seek what the Holy Spirit is calling us to. Ask where you fit in your community and how you will continue to be an active and important member of the Anglican church of St-Barnabas in St-Lambert. Continue to encourage us with your prayers, support us with an ongoing and consistent presence on Sunday mornings as well as other events. Then endorse the work of God with your offerings and tithes as we begin to renovate our buildings and grow our ministries in this place where we have been called. St-Barnabas, set apart for the work to which God has called you. ^{Act 13:2}

The Reverend Brian Perron

Parish News

Farewell and thank you to Linda



Wardens Laura Prince, Paul Carter, Susan Morehouse and Jane Lawrence joined with the community to thank Reverend Linda for her service as interim priest over the past year. Her thoughtfulness and dedication were very much appreciated during this time of transition. We wish her well.

Parish Search Committee (PSC) Appointment of our new Incumbent

The Bishop of Montreal, the Right Reverend Mary Irwin-Gibson, has announced the appointment of the Reverend Brian Perron as the next incumbent of the Church of St. Barnabas, St. Lambert. Many of our parishioners will have received this news previously and share the joy of the Search Committee in having successfully completed nine months of intensive deliberations. Not all of this time was devoted to the actual search phase. Great effort was devoted to the completion of a Parish Profile which included a history of the parish and the City of St. Lambert, a Mission Statement and Goals, parish statistics and financial statements. This Profile was approved by the Bishop who then provided candidates for our consideration.

As Chair of the Selection Committee, I wish to acknowledge the sacrifice of time and unstinting effort offered by the Committee members - Paul Carter, Jane Lawrence, Marina Peter and Helen Allen. We must also recognize the contribution of Reverend Jessica Bickford who organized the Parish meetings which resulted in significant contributions to our Profile. Our Regional Archdeacon, the Venerable Tim Smart, performed a supervisory role and we are grateful to him for his encouragement and support. It had been intended that Jim Grant chair the Committee, but his illness prevented him from taking on that role; however, his thoughtful contributions and advice are duly recognized. Finally, warmest thanks to the parishioners and others who supported the Committee with their prayers and encouragement.



Now the real work begins. All members of the congregation are urged to pray for and support Father Brian as he undertakes his duties among us.

Paul Bonnell

A Wonderful Gift

How many people does it take to deliver a desk?

Well, we may explore this farther, but first let's set the stage for our drama!

Our dear, late friend, Okill Stuart, had a very handsome oak desk at which he worked daily over many years. Upon Okill's decease, his son, Colin, in performing estate duties had the responsibility of disposing of many things – the aforesaid desk was one of them. Colin approached us to ask if St. Barnabas could use the desk. It had only been a matter of a few days earlier that the Venerable Linda Borden-Taylor had commented upon the inadequate size of the desk currently in her office. Well, the gift of the desk was gratefully accepted.

Now the plot thickens. The desk is large, heavy, has a very thick, separate glass cover and located on the eighteenth floor of Les Jardins d'Interieurs. So, let's see – we will need some muscle power, a vehicle for transport and coordination with both Colin and Les Jardins folks. The following muscle bearers were pressed into service: Robert and John Labelle, Ron Harrison, Paul and Peter Bonnell. Colin helped muscle-wise but also got the Les Jardins people on-side. Peter Bonnell drove the truck provided through the courtesy of Seagulf Marine.

Okay, you would think that would close the curtain, but it was only the end of Act 1.

Try maneuvering this desk through standard width apartment doors – some had to be removed and nobody brought appropriate tools. Well, we improvised. The desk was duly guided by elevator to the waiting truck which was followed by a fleet of cars to the church. These we realized nobody had a key to the Rector's office. Thus, the desk was delivered to Memorial Hall, with thanks to all involved. Nobody brought a camera to capture the cast in action. End of Act 2.



David, Paul and Bill (and of course, Okill's beautiful desk!)

Susan Morehouse, in her role as Rector's Warden, volunteered the services of her husband, David Dienesch, and his friend, Bill Seasons. Their task would be to get the desk to the Rector's Office. So, with a date for the move and keys to doors, a strategy for the final move was devised as follows:

- Take the desk and glass top to the main front door of the church.
- Proceed up the nave and into the Sanctuary.
- Wiggle through the door beside the organ console and into the Office where the accompanying picture was taken – leave it to Susan to have had a telephone camera.

End of Act 3 without curtain calls.

There you have the answer. It takes a lot more amateurs for a move like this than you might think. Did you ever think how amused God must be when he sees how we tackle some jobs? *Paul Bonnell*

Parish Events and Community Ministries

Revive Program – Equipping Lay Leaders to be Spiritual Leaders

Explores many different avenues on how to strengthen our faith. There are 3 modules that include 6 sessions. Come for some or come for all; everyone leaves with something new that brings you closer to God.

Two sessions available: Wednesdays 10:00 am or 6:30 pm

Module 1 'Communicating with God', ends December 18th. Module 2 'Engaging in Scripture' begins January 15th.

Community Lunch Program

Wednesday, December 18th, will be our last community lunch of 2019 and will recommence on Wednesday, January 15th. The funds raised have covered the costs of this Program, as well as, the Community Garden and the Family Ministries during this time period. We could not have done it without all the volunteers and participants who support us! Thank you for making this such a well-received and successful community event! Special thanks, also, to the ARC: Assistance and Referral Centre Program for offering their drop-in time activities.

Christmas Baskets

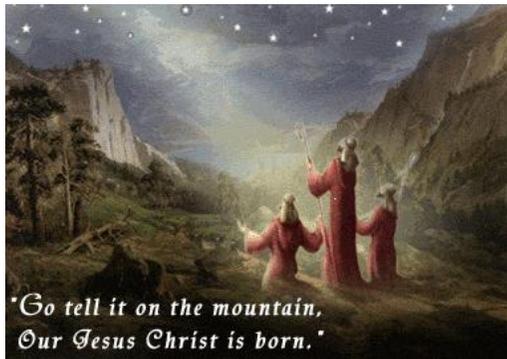
St. Barnabas is now collecting items for the Annual Christmas Baskets. We welcome your donations. Please call Wendy or refer to the bulletin inserts for the list of items required. The food barrel is always at the back of the church. Baskets will be assembled from December 17th – 21st. For more information, please contact Jeffrey Goernert.

The 3rd Annual Christmas Dinner

On December 25th, beginning at 2:00 pm, please join us for a fabulous turkey dinner prepared by our Community Lunch Team. We will begin our fellowship festivities with a brief Christmas worship service led by Deacon Jessica, followed by carolling and finally our meal at 3:00 pm. Please call the office or sign-up on the sheet in Memorial Hall to reserve.

Jessica Bickford

Men's Christmas Chorus



*Go tell it on the mountain
Men will be singing, please be there!
Please tell your friends and family
That they should be there too!*

Thirty years!

2019 marks the **30th** anniversary of the gathering of men at St-Barnabas on Christmas Eve.

Please add your voice to this very special service that is now so much a part of the St-Barnabas Christmas tradition. No experience is necessary. Fathers, sons, grandfathers, husbands and friends – all are welcome, the more the merrier.

One rehearsal will be held – **Sunday December 22nd** – (at approximately noon) following the morning service of Lessons and Carols. A short pre-service warm-up will also be held on the 24th, at 3:15 pm in Dart Hall. The choir will sing “Go Tell it on the Mountain”.

What to wear – whatever you feel is appropriate for the season. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Andrew Louson dalouson@gmail.com or Laura Prince ljprince@videotron.ca

Laura Prince

Souvenir photo will be taken after the service, in the church, so please stick around for this





Upcoming Parish Services

- December 15th** **8:30 am: Holy Eucharist Service**
10:00 am: Holy Baptism & White Gift Sunday
- December 22nd** **8:30 am: Holy Eucharist Service**
10:00 am: Nine Lessons & Carols Service – The Word in Worship & Song
11:45 am: Rehearsal for Prince of Peace Men's' choir
- December 24th** **4:00 pm: Prince of Peace Eucharist Service & Blessing of the Crèche**
- December 24th** **9:00 pm: Christmas Candlelight Worship with Choral Eucharist**
- December 25th** **2:00 pm: Pre-service to the Christmas Dinner in Memorial Hall**
- December 29th** **8:30 am: Holy Eucharist Service**
10:00 am: Holy Eucharist Service with Choir



Encourage and support the work of St-Barnabas through 'online giving'

We ask you to pray for St-Barnabas and our South Shore community as we move forward in faith. Search your heart today and consider your financial support through your offerings. Continue to support the ministry opportunities we have been blessed with here at 95 Lorne Avenue. You may donate in person, or through our 'online giving' link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/128882669RR0002-st-barnabas-st-lambert/>

Scroll through the list to find your favorite cause, including the replenishing of our building fund.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ^{2 Cor 9:7}

Contributors to this edition: Reverend Brian Perron, Paul Bonnell, Deacon Jessica Bickford, Paul Carter, Jane Lawrence, Susan Morehouse, Judy Parry-Birrell, Laura Prince

Visit our website: www.st-barnabaschurch.com or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SaintBarnabasSaintLambert

S+Barnabas - set apart -
for the work to which God has called you!