

Rector's Report to Parish Council
November 25 2014

1. Worship:

- (a)** Messy Church: November went well; families really enjoying it; need to publicize the next one (Dec. 20 – A Messy Christmas). Antigonish families will come December 7 – St. Nicholas
- (b)** Advent and Christmas:
 - i.** Lessons and Carols: dates confirmed (all evenings)
 - St. Mary's – Sunday December 7th - have arranged for a pianist
 - Holy Trinity – Sunday December 14th – Aaron Padolski will play (has moved to Antigonish for the winter so will do this service and Christmas Eve as a favour)
 - St. Paul's – Friday December 19th
 - ii.** Slight changes to liturgy for Advent
- (c)** Schedule drafted to end of February, including Parish Thanksgiving and AGM on February 15 (one joint service, not three as we tried last year). Proposed dates for church AGMs:
 - i.** February 1 – after St. Mary's evening service – snow date Tuesday Feb 3?
 - ii.** February 1 – after St. Paul's service – snow date February 8
 - iii.** February 8 – after Holy Trinity evening service – snow date Wednesday Feb 11

2. Parish situation

- (a)** St. Paul's: concern about a sense of lack of vitality in parish
- (b)** Holy Trinity: attendance holding up pretty well
- (c)** St. Mary's: some of our older people are coming to church

3. Pastoral Visits

- (a)** thirteen people visited since last meeting, primarily hospital and nursing home visits and telephone calls; scheduling visits with St. Paul's regulars.

4. Hospital & RK Ministry

- (a)** took part in the semi-annual remembrance service at SMRH
- (b)** meeting with other on-call chaplains at SMRH – expect to be part of Spiritual Care advisory committee
- (c)** continuing to visit hospital most weeks
- (d)** RK and Hospital worship services next month – RK with St. James
- (e)** Visited three Anglicans in the Sherbrooke nursing home
- (f)** RK visits booked for tomorrow

5. St. F/X Ministry

- (a)** provided input to Chaplaincy Program official response to Presidential Task Force (which recommended revision)
- (b)** wrapping up engagements with Coady and tutoring
- (c)** will plan to drop by the Study Day at Bethany December 4.

6. Diocesan/Ecumenical work

- (a)** Regional Dean
 - i.** primarily focused on Canso at the moment as they plan for ministry without a rector
 - ii.** Regional Dean meeting was primarily a catch-up; Lynn Uzans and her team will be available to do some of the Healthy Church Assessment facilitation.

- (b)** Regional Council
 - i.** co-chaired November 15 meeting
- (c)** Attended Remembrance Day service in Country Harbour this year
- (d)** Working with Rev. Smith on the joint service for St. Paul's and St. James (Dec. 14)

7. Continuing Education & Self-care

- (a)** Covered by Continuing Education Plan:
 - i.** signed up for four sessions with my voice coach in Hamilton (over the internet)
 - ii.** signed up for St. John Ambulance First Aid course Dec 11/12
- (b)** Scheduling time each month for retreat & reflection as well as gym