



THE NORTHERN LIGHT

from the

NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH OF THE PRAYER BOOK

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The Three Cantors and the BCP!

Those famous "Three Cantors" who's C.D.'s and concerts raise so much money for the Primates World Relief Fund gave an outstanding performance at St John's Ancaster recently. During their "encore" they sang a wonderful comic ditty about the trials of the church having the green book introduced. The PBS gets mention and if you listen carefully, it is a wail of why did the church do it! The only remedy given is that it would have been simpler if "only they had made the cover red". Do your best to get to see these gentlemen perform. You may not get to hear the BCP ditty unless you make sure they know there are PBSC people in the audience. You all know what that entails, wear the pin!

EVENTS

Well we thought this would be a good space to list the BCP services that go on in the diocese. Well there are just too many of them now! We would fill the whole page up with the events column. So we are just listing one special event

The St. John Nassagaweya Evening Prayer (BCP) and Barbeque.

June 8th, E.P. 4:00 pm Barbeque 5:00 pm This is a great service not only for a get together for PBSC people to get together but for Essentials members too, as the speaker is none other than the rector, Canon Charlie Masters of Essentials fame, who is being asked to speak on "Essentials".

St John Nassagaweya is to be found at 10009 Guelph Line, Burlington, just north of the Hwy 401 across from the Mohawk Raceway. This makes it easy for people from all over to get there as the highway is so accessible.

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 450 YEARS AND THRIVING



Our president, Walter Raybould, nearly lost control of his vehicle as he, and the group that were with him, caught sight of the billboard sign outside of St John, Nassagaweya. It was a case of shock, disbelief and laughter.

St John is a good old (1844) solid stone country church just north of Campbellville Ontario. They proudly claim to have hardly used the box of BAS's at the back of the church, preferring their tried and true Book of Common Prayer as the service book of choice. This sizeable congregation had asked Walter to present to their young people, the new BCP's the church had purchased. He was also asked to speak at the service on the Prayer Book Society, which explains why the church's billboard sign had the saying "Book of Common Prayer, 450 Years and Thriving, W Raybould. Just "who" was 450 years old was a great joke bantered around by all the teenagers on board the van, as it came to a halt in front of the church.

Never has such an "old" Branch President been treated so well, by so many, as our leader was by the people of St John Nassagaweya. He was given the "royal" treatment with preferential seating and all that goes with being a "big shot". He has had to go out and buy a new and bigger hat for his enlarged head!

The "sermon" seemed to go down well as the famous "Sermon Wool" was not brought out. St John's congregation, being used to good long sermons, has a tradition of having some of the ladies knit, while the sermon is given. The results are given to charity. No not the sermon, the knitting! Meanwhile, "Shades of the French Revolution", this knitting must give the willies to some of the more imaginative guest speakers! Being part of Niagara North PBSC, imagined threats of decapitation are only one of the perils endured by our brave members. It was a good thing we knew we were among friends!

... continued on next page - 450 Years

NIAGARA NORTH BRANCH NEWSLETTER

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .



Seen at a presentation of BCP's at St Luke's, Hamilton are: Walter Raybould, Brian Munro, David Thomas (the donor) and John Lennerton

Representing PBSC at the Clergy Conference at Redeemer College, ditto at the National Synod in St Catherine's, the expansion of our Northern Light to the rest of the diocese, even the Niagara North PBSC Wine Tour becoming an international search, making speeches, traveling hither and yon to meetings etc, the list goes on and on. Ladies and gentlemen the "Branch" executive can not believe the load of work that has come our way. A load we gladly shoulder. But what is all this! We were formed with the idea that struggling to promote and defend the Book Of Common Prayer was over and "They" had won! "They" may think they

have won but "We" have found out the battle is still raging and "They" are on the run as their ideas about the BCP are being put to rout . More and more people, young and old are seeking the use of the BCP, and they turn up in the most unlikely places and times. We can not lay down our arms and tattle off to the Presbyterians, we are being challenged to stand and keep our Book Of Common Prayer and all it stands for, a solid foundation of the Anglican Church. We hope that you too will do what you can in your own churches. From the simple "Wearing O' The Pin" to missives to your Worship Committee, all this adds up to being "Holy Nuisances" and who knows ? Your earthly reward might be the use of the BCP in your own church!

. . . 450 Years

The honour of presenting the BCP's to the young people was greatly appreciated by our president. To think, that these youngsters will have this wonderful reference and spiritual guide in their possession, and that hopefully all of them will come to love its cadences and wording, is just so uplifting! St John Nassagaweya has shown us one way in combating the decline in Anglicanism that seems to be occurring. We urge anyone who worries about the young people in their family etc. to make the simple gesture of giving them a copy of the Book of Common Prayer. They are available at the Anglican Book Centre for \$16.95 for the basic model. Sure to be treasured and loved !

St John is an island of BCP strength in the Diocese of Niagara. Their adherence to the Book of Common Prayer comes not out of stubbornness, but out of the love of the wording, the recognition of the solid theology and the need to pass this treasure of Anglicanism down to their children. We thank the people of St John Nassagaweya for supporting us in this wonderful way. We would advise all those looking for the kind of faithfulness and dedication in a church that seems so open and caring to visit St John some Sunday and try your hand at knitting!

THE PERFECT COMMUNION WINE SEARCH . . . CONTINUES



Boris Nusko and family have expanded the search for the perfect communion wine across the Atlantic. While on assignment in Germany (NOT at branch expense), they managed to find time to tour wine country and continue to sample local wines. Above is a view of some of the vineyards along the Mosel River in Luxembourg.

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