



Connections

Volume 1

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September 1 to 15

2019

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Matthew 11:29*

HOLY CROSS DAY



This is a major feast observed September 14 in honour of Christ's self-offering on the cross for our salvation. It was one of the twelve great feasts in the Byzantine liturgy.

The collect for Holy Cross Day recalls that Christ "was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself," and prays that

"we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him". The themes of Holy Cross Day are powerfully expressed by the hymn *"Lift High the Cross"*.

Historically, the feast has been associated with the dedication on September 14, 335, of a complex of buildings built by the Emperor Constantine in Jerusalem on the sites of the crucifixion and Christ's tomb. This shrine included a large basilica and a circular church. Constantine's mother, Helena, supervised the shrine's construction, and a relic believed to be the cross was discovered during the work of excavation.

While the question of authenticity is always a problem when it comes to relics, Holy Cross Day provides an opportunity for a joyous celebration of Christ's redeeming death on a cross.



Christ Church gardens - for flowers and bees

One of the delightful attractions for people walking on Markham Road is the sight of the flowers and the fragrance of the gardens on the church lawn. For some condo and apartment dwellers the gardens remind them of the ones they enjoyed at their own homes. Most of the fragrant plantings at Christ Church are geared to butterflies, bees, hummingbirds

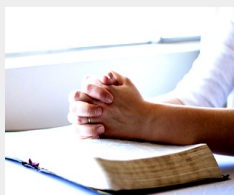
and bunnies. Fragrance is essential to any garden, especially one which wants to attract these creatures.

In a note to the Beach Garden Club, Deborah Cloakey says, "We have just put a pollinator garden in the Courtyard behind

Christ Church.. While doing this the fragrance was overwhelming and we had many visiting bees, butterflies, small birds and dragonflies.. It was lovely. We are still adding more perennials. We need some milkweed, Joe Pye weed, Purple Cone flower, and will look for them next year. We have ordered tulips and daffodils for the autumn planting. We will have a planting "Bee" as soon as the bulbs arrive." Deborah and her small band of garden enthusiasts work quietly at this very special ministry.

There are many ways to praise God and serve your neighbour. This one is beautiful.

Please pray for Deb A and her father Bob, Anne S, Annet K, Barb N, Carol M, Cathy N, Corinne P, Dushy M, Ebun D, Hannah, Joan N, John J, Myrna H, Peter F, Rozella B, Viggy M.





OUR CHOIR LEADS US IN SONG FOR ANOTHER SEASON

The CNE is winding its noisy way into the past, the children are ready for school, young adults are off to college or a first job, and we are saying goodbye to summer. Labour Day is the beginning of a lot of change, in the community and in the church.

Along with the rest of the community, we at Christ Church will rejoice in the beauty of the Fall colours and the more livable temperature. We will be glad to have our cottage-owning fellow worshippers back with us. And we will smile with love at the earnest little ones as their parents register them for Sunday School on September 8, which will start the next Sunday..

But for many of us in the pews, it is the sight and sound of our choir, as they lead the procession every Sunday, that signals a new vitality to meet the new round of activity. There will be the old familiar hymns and new ones, praise songs and quiet Taizé reflections, treasured anthems and solos. And by the time of the next issue of *Connections*, we hope to present a new Music Director, bringing his experience to the mix.

Being a choir member is one of many ways to express your faith. If you like to sing and have some ability to read music, consider joining the choir. Ask any one of our happy band of members for details, or speak to Pastor Pam.



Scripture readings for September 1:

Jeremiah 2: 4 to 13; Psalm 81: 1 and 10 to 16; Hebrews 13: 1 to 8 and 15 to 16; Luke 14: 1 and 7 to 14

Readings for September 8:

Jeremiah 18: 1 to 11; Psalm 139: 1 to 6 and 13 to 18; Philemon 1: 1 to 21; Luke 14: 25 to 33

Readings for September 15:

Jeremiah 4: 11 to 12 and 22 to 28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1: 12 to 17; Luke 15: 1 to 10



This month in Christian history

September 2, 1973 - marks the death of J. R. R. Tolkien, English philologist and novelist. A devout Catholic, he wrote *The Hobbit* and *Lord of the Rings*.

September 4, 1803 - On this day Scottish Anglican clergyman Henry Francis Lyte finished writing his last and most famous hymn *Abide with Me; Fast Falls the Eventide*.

September 5, 1802 - Frederick Oakley was born. An Anglican clergyman who turned Catholic during the time of the Oxford movement, his gift to the world was his translation of the Latin *Adeste Fidelis*, which we treasure at Christmas as *O*



Come All Ye Faithful.

September 10, 1832 - English Moravian hymn writer James Montgomery penned the words to *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord*



The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

Psalm 23:1

remembered for *The Lord is My Shepherd, Angels from the Realms of Glory* and *Go to Dark Gethsemane*.


September 14, 1741- English composer George Frideric Handel completed his work on the great oratorio *Messiah*, which he composed in just twenty-four days.



THE UN AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS

The United Nations seems to have a day, a week or even a month for almost every cause. Some are more relevant to the Canadian experience than others. Four that hit home for us are observed in September on these dates:

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY - SEPTEMBER 5



This day was established with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, NGOs, and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities. September 5 was chosen in order to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY - SEPTEMBER 8



Over fifty years ago, UNESCO named this day to promote literacy across the globe and rally the international community. Today, we

continue to observe it by involving ourselves in this important cause. Around the world, nearly 800 million people are illiterate in their own languages. Two-thirds of these people are women. Literacy is vital in many ways and it is for these reasons International Literacy Day came to be.

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY - SEPTEMBER 10

It is estimated that each day in Canada, 10 people end their life and 250 make a suicide attempt. Suicide occurs across all age, economic, social, and ethnic boundaries. The pain that leads individuals to take their lives is unimaginable, and their deaths leave countless family and friends bereaved and their communities impacted. This day is an opportunity for everyone in the community to join together to promote understanding about suicide and highlight effective prevention activities.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DEMOCRACY - SEPTEMBER 15



Day is also an opportunity to highlight the values of freedom and respect for human rights as essential elements of democracy.

The theme for this year is "Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World." Coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the

A very different time

Cyprian of Carthage was an African Roman Bishop, born around the year 200 into a wealthy family. Well educated, he was an orator, lawyer and teacher of rhetoric before his conversion and baptism at the age of 35.

He was a controversial figure during his lifetime. The church was still trying to find its doctrinal path, and there was persecution by both church and civil authorities. Cyprian was considered the pre-eminent Latin writer of Western Christianity of his time, but he also encountered strong criticism from powerful adversaries and was eventually beheaded by the authorities.

However, his strong pastoral skills and firm conduct during a great plague proved his sanctity in the eyes of the later church. The church remembers St. Cyprian on September 13.



How are we doing so far?

This is the ninth issue of *Connections*, sent to you online twice a month. It has several purposes. One is to keep you informed about what's going on in the parish and the other faith groups around us right now.

Another is to look at history in the Christian context, through the lives of saints and the memorable dates when events of timeless importance occurred. We also try to help people who cannot get to church every Sunday to participate in our fellowship by listing the scriptures for the time period covered by the issue and the names of the members of our parish family who are in need of our prayers. It is a joy to put this little newsletter together, but we need to be sure you are also enjoying reading it. Please let the office know (email address below) which items you find most interesting and what areas we might be leaving out. Our thanks to those who have encouraged us in this venture.



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