

The Nicodemus Project



An Innovative Ministry in a Rural Parish

By Debora Kantor,
Family Ministry Outreach Coordinator
Parish of Cambridge and Waterborough

Up, up and away!

Family Ministry Outreach in the Parish of Cambridge and Waterborough began in earnest on Feb. 1, 2011 with the support of the Diocesan Foundation for Life Program. This outreach ministry actually began, though, with the establishment of a prayer support team whose members are committed to praying for this ministry in our parish.

I first felt led to focus on meeting families and listening to their concerns by attending community parent and child groups, taking youth on outings and visiting families in the parish, and other families whose children attended our summer "Kids Club." In other words, I started by building relationships. A Saturday evening outing with three young girls led to the girls sharing a song and actions with the congregation the next day.

I have also purchased some resources for a lending library plus some Christian books/games to give to the children when I visit. In addition, I am asking families what the church community can do for them — some themes are beginning to bubble up.

Our rural setting also lends itself to many possibilities for children to connect intimately with God's creation.

I am a member of Threshold Ministries and graduated from Taylor College in the spring of 2010. I am very excited to be able to begin something unique in this area where there is not a lot offered for children and young families.

The Nicodemus Project is both urgent and necessary. We have asked God to transform us — as individuals and as his church — and help us re-learn the true meaning of being Christian and Anglican.



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That's e-for-everyone-news — A monthly print review of news and information contained in the weekly diocesan electronic newsletter. Subscribe to the on-line version at <http://anglican.nb.ca> Click on the "News" button on the top line menu.

Archbishop Miller hospitalized

Archbishop Claude Miller was admitted to the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton on Sunday (March 27) and is being treated for an infection. Dean Keith Joyce contacted the Archbishop's wife, Sharon Miller, to ask in what ways the people of the Diocese of Fredericton could support him and his family at this time. The family bids our prayers.

Dean Joyce offers the following prayer for personal and church use:

*O God of hope and healing,
overshadow your servant, Claude,
our bishop and brother,
with your Holy Spirit,
so that he may know your peace and strength,
and soon enjoy a complete recovery to good health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

"Cards, e-mails and other gestures are also welcomed at the Synod Office," says the Dean. The bishop's secretary, Phyllis Cathcart <phyllis.cathcart@anglican.nb.ca>, will see they are delivered to the Millers. The mailing address is 115 Church St., Fredericton, E3B 4C8. She is also the person to contact (506-459-1801 ex.1) for updates on Archbishop Miller's condition. At this time it is uncertain how long his treatment and recovery will take. Canon Tom Smith, long-time hospital chaplain is caring for the archbishop's pastoral needs, but no visitors other than family (neither clergy nor lay) will be entertained.



Appointments

The Ven. Patricia Drummond, archdeacon of Fredericton, was appointed assistant secretary of synod by Diocesan Council on March 23 and will be appointed acting archdeacon of Woodstock by Archbishop Miller on April 1. Both appointments continue until June 30, 2011, to cover the sabbatical of the Ven. Geoffrey Hall, executive assistant to the bishop, secretary of synod and acting archdeacon of Woodstock.

The Rev. Gerry Lasky's appointment as Interim Saint John Hospitals Chaplain is extended until June 30, 2011 and increased to full-time. The Rev. Roderick Black and the Rev. Douglas Painter are appointed priests in the parishes of Hillsborough-Riverside, St. Andrews-Sunny Brae, St. James and St. Philip in the Moncton area effective May 1.