

The Nicodemus Project



Messy Church?

In I Corinthians 14:30, St. Paul tells us that worship should be conducted "decently and in order." (King James and NRSV) The NIV translates this as 'in a fitting and orderly way.' So, how does a "Messy Church" fit in?

Messy Church has come about as a Fresh Expression of church (a concept which has previously been explained in these inserts). For many modern families Sunday is reserved for sports, shopping and family time. Messy Church is a way for such families, who are not already part of a congregation, to come together to creatively explore a biblical theme, to worship together, to have fun and to enjoy a meal. Messy Churches may meet on any day during the week at a time and in a place convenient for those who attend. Messy churches often meet monthly.

The first Messy Church was established in Hampshire, England in 2004, but the idea spread fast. Now there are many Messy Churches across the U.K. and in Australia, New Zealand and Canada to name just four countries.

In New Brunswick some areas are beginning to explore the idea of Messy Church and two of our clergy will be attending a one-day workshop in Burlington, Ontario at the end of the month so as to be better able to help people wishing to take the idea further. "It's about providing an alternative to worship for families that don't come back to church after their kids are baptized, often because by the end of the week they simply need time to spend together," says Di Jaggassar in *Churches Along the Ottawa*.

For more information check <freshexpressions.ca> and Messy Church books by Lucy Moore.

The Nicodemus Project is both urgent and necessary. Over many years we have moved away from being the church that God calls us to be, so now we are a church in decline. We need to ask God to transform us — as individuals and as his church — and help us re-learn the true meaning of being Christian and Anglican.



MAY 2011

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.

Health update

Archbishop Claude Miller fell ill in late March, was hospitalized in early April and has been at home recuperating since then. He is most grateful for all the prayers on his behalf and many cards and other greetings he has received. He anticipates he will be able to resume most duties in late May.

Felicitations

To the Reverends Terence and Jasmine Chandra on the birth of their son Samuel Malcolmon on Good Friday, April 22. He weighed in at a 7lb 13oz. Jasmine is the first priest active in the diocese to bear a child.

Condolences

To Peter and the Rev. Eileen Irish on the death of Peter's mother Gladys Irish on April 14.

Appointments

- Elizabeth Harding as director of Camp Medley on Feb. 26, 2011 with a two-year renewable contract.
- The Rev. Wendy Amos Binks as priest and rector of the Parish of Stanley effective June 1, 2011.
- The Rev. Ellen Curtis as Chaplain of Saint John Hospitals effective July 1, 2011.
- The Rev. George Eves' appointment as priest-in-charge of the Parish of Gondola Point extended until Oct. 31, 2011.
- The Rev. Wally Collett's appointment as priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upper Kennebecasis is extended until April 30, 2012.

Please pray for Clergy College June 12 - 17

Heavenly Father, you have given us a precious fellowship in the Mystical Body of Christ your Son; Grant the grace of your Holy Spirit upon the Clergy College of this diocese that we may all be renewed in our knowledge and love of your Son, and may enjoy ever deeper and richer fellowship with one another in Him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Medley Open House

Friends, family and camp newcomers are invited to the annual Camp Medley Open House, 1-5 p.m. on May 15. Enjoy a barbecue, tour the camp, meet with some of this summer's leaders and spend the afternoon enjoying the surroundings. A free-will offering for the Camp Scholarship Fund will be received.