

St. Edward's Church newsletter

MAY 2016 – This spring has been a time for preparation and anticipation. The Venerable Peter M. Potter chaired our AGM and facilitated our annual elections. The last touches are being made to the chaplain's apartment at Casa Benson for Fr. Nigel's arrival. Thank you to all who pitched in and helped with cleaning and packing. Heartfelt thanks to Angela Mirani and Deacon Elisabetta Tisi for their pastoral support this month.

SERVICES

Holy Communion Services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. All denominations are welcome.

Sunday School Lessons will take place on May 8th and 22nd

MAY

Sunday 1st

Easter 6 – All-Age Service with Reserved Sacrament

Officiant: The Revd Elisabetta Tisi (Deacon)

Sunday 8th

Sunday after Ascension Day – Morning Prayer & Sunday School

Officiant: Mrs. Angela Mirani (Diocesan Reader)

Sunday 15th

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) – Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Nigel Gibson

Sunday 22nd

Trinity Sunday – Sung Eucharist & Sunday School

Celebrant: Fr Nigel Gibson

Sunday 29th

Trinity 1 – Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Nigel Gibson

Special Note:

Wednesday 18th and 25th of May there will be a celebration of Holy Communion (said) at 10:30 a.m.

Pentecost Message from Father Nigel



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

How a person copes with pressures and disappointments can differ markedly. Some respond positively and can still see each new day as a fresh opportunity. Others however are just so overwhelmed that each day is a constant battle just to get through. For them everything is negative.

It has been my experience that those with faith in God fare much better when the going gets tough. It is during the dark hours, the sad moments of life that many begin to feel the presence of God supporting and uplifting them. It's when things just don't seem to be going right that they begin to feel the power of God right alongside them as Comforter, Sustainer, Guide and Friend. It is an awesome experience and one that gives people much needed renewed strength and purpose.

Many today, including some frequent churchgoers, struggle to find God. For them God is a remote figure. The development of an active prayer life, let alone a spiritual life, seems impossible. That doesn't surprise me, especially after they tell me just how jam-packed and crowded-out their life has become.

**We warmly invite all members,
family and friends**

to a Service of Licensing of

**The Reverend
Nigel S.D. Gibson**

**as Priest-in-Charge
of the**

**Anglican Church of St Edward
the Confessor, Lugano**

**Thursday 12th May 2016
at 7 p.m.**

celebrated by

**The Venerable Peter M. Potter
Archdeacon of Switzerland**



Jesus said,

"A new command I give you:

Love one another.

As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34)

**Please join us for light refreshments
after the Service
to greet our new Chaplain**

A Pentecost Message from Father Nigel

continued from adjacent column

Many spend each day literally racing from one event to the next with noise, stress and hassle at every turn. There's hardly a moment to just 'be' - and certainly never enough time to get in touch with one's inner self.

If you are struggling to find God in your prayer/spiritual life then I encourage you to cultivate and treasure the art of being still. If you work at it, especially regularly, the presence of the Comforter, the Holy One will draw near to sustain and strengthen you, just as our Lord promised. I have no doubt about that.

When visiting a Christian hospital in Hong Kong recently, I was pleased to see a rack of prayer cards at the entrance of the chapel. Prayer cards are useful, especially during a time of special need or concern for a loved one or myself. One particular card stood out that day. On the front was an image of a stunning Alpine landscape at sunrise and a verse from Psalm 46 - *Be still and know that I am God*. I must have read (and sung) those words hundreds of times before, but on that day, in that little chapel, with its numinous atmosphere, they really spoke to me. They reminded me yet again of the importance of being still in the presence of the Lord.

On Sunday 15th May the Church will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost - the annual commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church and the coming of the Spirit of God upon the apostles and upon all Christian people. The Holy Spirit is the giver of courage and strength - a Divine power cleansing our thoughts, enlightening our understanding, ennobling our ideals, and guiding us in our anxieties. He is the Lord and Life-Giver, Helper and Divine Friend, the Eternal Spirit of the Eternal Saviour, who is God Eternal.

At the start of our ministry together on Pentecost Sunday, my prayer is that the Holy Spirit will fill all our hearts and kindle in us the fire of God's amazing life-giving love. Let us be the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Fr Nigel

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 2016



For those who don't know their elected Councillors, here they are with the Archdeacon ready to serve the community:

Back row: Roger (Churchwarden) **The Venerable Peter M. Potter (Archdeacon)** Peter, Sandy (Synod rep.) **Front row:** Mary, Diana (Churchwarden) Lulu, Linda (Synod rep.) Miriam, Jenny, Jane. Two other elected members, Jennifer Jamieson and Linda Denkinger are not in the photo as they were unable to attend the meeting.

This year's AGM was chaired by our Archdeacon, The Venerable Peter M. Potter, who had once again made the long trip from Bern to be with us. Fr. Peter has dedicated much time to guiding and advising us since the Council meeting last July when he led us in our first steps towards finding a new chaplain. Throughout the following months his patient and loving pastoral care has been unconditional. The Churchwardens thanked Fr. Peter most sincerely on behalf of the community. It is a joy that he will still be with us as our Archdeacon to celebrate Fr. Nigel's Licensing on May 12th.

We recorded thanks to Angela Mirani, Reader and Electoral Roll member, for her inspiring sermons during Morning Prayer and also for leading a Service of Communion by Extension on Palm Sunday, as did Elisabetta Tisi, Deacon of the Old Catholics Church on Maundy Thursday and again at our All-Age Service on Mayday.

The many reports submitted gave a good indication of the vibrant life of our church. Mary's diligent work as Secretary, Jenny Flint's contribution as assistant warden and the ministry of the Sunday School Team were all acknowledged, as was Ernest's sterling work as Treasurer.

The wardens are sincerely grateful to all those Council and Committee members who have strived hard and dedicated time to maintain our worship and fellowship. We spoke about the giant leap forward in securing our financial future with the conversion of the first floor of CB into permanent accommodation for our resident Chaplain.

The Archdeacon thanked all those involved in this impressive project and the Churchwardens for fulfilling their duty as the Bishop's representatives during what has seemed like a long Interregnum.

Church Council 2016 - 17

Rev. Nigel Gibson	Chaplain, Chairman
Diana Dell'Acqua	Churchwarden
Roger Reissner	Churchwarden
Miriam Ankele	Lulu Cerny
Linda Denkinger	Jennifer Flint
Jennifer Jamieson	Peter O'Driscoll
Mary Palmesino	Jane Reissner
Linda Chiesa	Archdeaconry Synod Rep.
Sandy Pianezzi	Archdeaconry Synod Rep.
Ernest Jaeger	Treasurer

Retired in 2016: Jill Price, who will now continue her valuable contribution to the life of this church family as a Sunday School teacher. Wesley Duke, who made an important contribution during a four-year office as Churchwarden.

SUNDAY SCHOOL *(During the scholastic year)*

Please see Front Page for Sunday School dates. All children from the age of 3 are very welcome to join **Pebbles** for our youngest members, and **Rocks** for those with more reading ability. Children are encouraged to participate in the monthly All-Age Service. For further info contact Diana dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com

TODDLERS CORNER

Welcome bags are available at the back of the church for the youngest children to enjoy quietly during the Service.

SOUL CAFÉ

Open the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 10 am to 12 noon. For further information please contact Linda 091 605 3576.

BIBLE STUDY HOME GROUP

Thursday evenings 7:45 pm every week at the Muler's home near TASIS
zachmuler@hotmail.com

SACEP SEMINAR

The spiritual, ethical, social and political implications of **Europe's migration, asylum seeker and refugee Crisis** how do we respond **as individual Christians and Christian communities?**

Facilitated by Chris Talbot, global leader in the field of education in emergencies, protracted crises and post-conflict reconstruction.

Saturday 28th May
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. All Saints Church,
Ave de la Prairie 40, 1800 Vevey

Refreshments and Lunch: CHF 20
To register / book for lunch (please include any dietary requirements)

Contact: Revd. Hilary Jones
hilaryjones@bluewin.ch **Tel: +41 61 8133405**



Our Easter celebrations, led by Revd. Maree Wilson, began with a procession of children and teachers to see the **Empty Tomb** in the Easter garden. Following in the footsteps of Mary Magdalene and the other women, we felt the earth move under our feet and watched as Angels came to tell us that Jesus had risen! **He is alive!** The children carrying flowers, then placed them in the garden as a symbol of renewed life as we remembered Christ's promise... **He will be with us until the end of time.**

We lit the Paschal candle ... Jesus, Light of the World, bring the light and peace of Your gospel to the nations. Jesus, Bread of life, our Good Shepherd, our way, our truth, we give You thanks for Your promise of eternal life.

Alleluia Christ is Risen ... He is Risen indeed!

EASTER AT ST. EDWARD'S



CHURCH CONTACTS

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Roger Reissner 091 971 05 92

NEWS SUBMISSION

Copy for the June edition is due 14th May.

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PARKING is available during every Sunday morning Service inside the parking garage of the ProCrea Clinic next door to the church.

www.stedwards.ch