

QUEBEC DIOCESAN GAZETTE

VOL 109 Number 6 Reporting on our diocese since 1894 FEBRUARY 2003

The Diocese of Quebec ratifies the Agreement in Principle with the Government regarding Residential Schools We will contribute \$135,000 to the Settlement Fund.

On December 17th 2002, the Diocesan Executive Council met by conference call and on behalf of the Synod, authorized the Bishop to sign the ratification of the Agreement in Principle and the promissory provision to pay \$135,000 to the Residential Schools Settlement Fund. The Reverend Alan Perry of the Diocese of Montreal and a member of the Council of General Synod was invited to join in the discussion to provide an outside view. As the Gaspé Deanery has yet to elect a replacement member on the DEC, the Reverend Paul Lampman was invited by the Bishop to sit in on the council's meeting.

The single most important aspect of the Agreement is the establishment of a \$25 million Settlement Fund which is to be contributed to by the General Synod, all the dioceses in Canada and a couple of other Anglican bodies. Once signed and in place, the Agreement puts an end to the costly litigation, the \$25 million dollars will go directly to victims of physical and sexual abuse whose complaints have been validated and when the Fund is depleted the Church will have no more liability and 100% of compensation will be paid by the Federal Government.

The dioceses across the country are deciding in various ways if they will sign on to the agreement. Quebec was sixth to agree and at the time of laying out this edition of the paper a total of seventeen of the thirty dioceses had ratified. None have rejected the agreement.

The amount each diocese pays is in proportion to their 2001 income and their annual proportional gift to the General Synod for the church's national program costs. The range is from \$75,000 by the diocese of the Yukon to \$4.6 million for the diocese of Toronto. The agreement requires that payments to the fund be paid quarterly over a five-year period. However, there is a projection that the largest percentage of the money to be paid out by the Settlement Fund will be needed in the first two years. Therefore a number of dioceses have decided to pay their share as soon as they can.

In a meeting on December 20th 2002, the Central Board of Church Society authorized the payment of \$135,000 in the first quarter of 2003 from revenue of the Sabatton Trust, Church Society's only undesignated trust. Of this amount \$45,000 will be the gift of Church Society to the Settlement Fund and the remaining \$90,000 will be an interest free loan to the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec payable over five years. The DEC passed an adjusted budget for 2003 to cover that year's repayment. The new budget did not increase congregational Fair Share contributions rather it made adjustments to the Synod's expenses.

The decision to request Church Society to make the payments from reserves on hand was not an easy one but as Bishop Stavert said "I am grateful to those here at home who have spent much time this month reading, praying, thinking and meeting about our diocesan response." Quebec was not alone in wondering what was the right thing to do. The Bishop of Moosonee, Caleb Lawrence wrote regarding that diocese's decision to pay the full amount requested from diocesan reserves: "The rationale is a very simple one. We are using the resources left to us, largely by members and supporters of the diocese who have gone before us, many of whom were part of the church and nation during the time the Residential Schools were in operation, to repair and provide healing for what we now see as the mistakes and wrongs of that whole system. We then turn to those who are part of the Church today, encouraging and

Continued on page 4 "settlement"

Going down the road again... Church of the Ascension on the move

Story and photos submitted by
the Reverend Canon Rodney
Clark

For the second time in its 121 year history the Church of the Ascension has moved its church building to a new site. Following a year of quiet work, two vestry meetings, and the jumping of many hurdles, the Church of the Ascension has been moved from its perch on a rock next to the former rectory, down Gosford Road to a large, flat, grassy lot at the center of the village of Inverness.

The Church of the Ascension is an historic congregation located in the village of Inverness. The Church was built in 1881 on the 10th & 11th range of Inverness at Campbell's Corner. In 1925 the church was moved by volunteers to a new location on the western edge of the Village of Inverness, and unfortunately placed on a foundation built half on rock, half on clay next to the Rectory.

The congregation of the Church of the Ascension began to repair and up-grade their church in 1998, and through generous contributions and much volunteer labour, managed to repair the roof, to up-grade the wiring, to replace the interior lights, to cover the exterior of the church with vinyl siding, and to refurbish a two-manual harmonium received from the Jeffery Hale Hospital when their chapel closed. Most of this work was accomplished using local resources, with modest participation from the Fondation du patrimoine religieux du Quebec/ Québec Religious Heritage Foundation

These repairs were necessary, as the congregation was, for the first time in a generation, growing. In 1990 when there was a full-time cleric in the parish, the congregation worshipped 9 times with an average attendance of 13. The contribution to the incumbent's stipend was \$400.00. In 2001, with a less-than-half-time cleric, the congregation worshipped 25 times, with an average attendance of 30; and contributed \$2000.00 towards their incumbent's stipend. This congregation is growing by worshipping bilingually, by



having an energetic musical director, and by welcoming non-practicing English & French Roman Catholics who feel very much at home with our sung liturgy, and our excellent hymnody. The renewal of this congregation had, however, a few significant problems to overcome, namely, the lack of a washroom, no parking space, poor easier access into the church, and no space for youth and children's activities. The congregation decided to address these needs as well as a problem of the structural instability of the foundation as an opportunity for growth and renewal.

Plans were prepared to build a foundation on the present site, but due to a number of challenges including a higher construction costs associated with the need to remove 120 cubic meters of rock, and a boundary dispute with a neighbour, the corporation and vestry decided to move the church to a lovely, large, flat, lot, at the center of the village where access, parking, youth animation and con-

struction would all be made much easier. A gift was received from a private foundation to purchase the new larger lot, 45 000 square feet with lots of space to play, picnic, and fly kites, and following numerous delays, the building was moved on December the 10th.

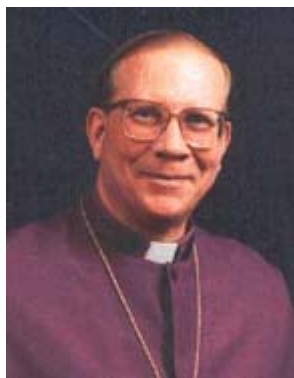
Approximately 65% of the cost of this project has been provided by the Fondation du patrimoine religieux du Quebec/ Québec Religious Heritage Foundation. Luckily the project was fast-tracked because of the serious structural concerns about the old foundation. The balance of the moving costs has come from numerous other foundations. Two of the gifts, which the Church of the Ascension has received for this project, have come with strings attached. The Church of the Ascension is obliged to do youth and child animation in the community of Inverness such as vacation bible schools, youth group activities, start a cub pack, and it is required to open its doors for heritage tourism. These strings are not seen as burdensome as both of these obligations were opportunities for growth and renewal which the congregation had wanted to pursue. The congregation at the Church of the Ascension is looking ahead with clearer eyes towards a future, which they are building for themselves and for those who will continue to worship in years and generations yet to come.

Continued on page 2



Church of the Ascension on the new foundation.

From the Bishop's desk:



The sun was bright and the skies were blue for visitors from Quebec and New Hampshire during the first week of January. Brian Wharry, our Companion Diocese Committee Chair, Kay Hartwell, its Secretary, and I joined four others from New Hampshire, including Bishop Doug Theuner, in Ireland to do some planning for the future life of our companionship together with the Diocese of Limerick and Killaloe.

After a very wet and soggy autumn and early winter the weather in the west of Ireland cleared for us and for all but one day we enjoyed cool clear weather for some touring about and walking. On Saturday, January 4, a bunch of visitors went on a full-day's tour about and on Sunday we were at church in a variety of places to celebrate Epiphany and had opportunity to meet lots of people and talk about our part of the world. I was at the church in Castleconnell and St. Flannan's Cathedral in Killaloe. Brian spoke at three churches in Adare and the surrounding area. Kay had the opportunity of an ecumenical experience and attended a Methodist church in Adare which is near where she was staying in Kilbreedy. Kay read the lessons in the service. On Tuesday Brian was in St. Nicholas School in Adare and met all the school and talked about youth work and camping in Quebec and about Canada in general.

On Monday afternoon we all gathered in Adare, one of the really charming beauty spots of the south-west of Ireland, to do some sharing of dates about important upcoming events in each diocese, some evaluation of our companionship over the last almost five years and some planning for the future. It looks like there might be a group from Ireland coming to visit New Hampshire and Quebec in the autumn and perhaps a trip planned the other way next year with some emphasis on studying and visiting holy places related to Celtic spirituality. We heard that the new replica ship, the Jeanie Johnston, originally built in Quebec City in 1847 is finally sailing for North America in the spring and will likely reach Quebec sometime in October.

We decided we needed to be more intentional about letting people know about the companionship we have between the three dioceses and what this partnership is about and could be. So watch for quite a lot more information perhaps in the *Quebec Diocesan Gazette*.

Brian, Kay and I experienced the wonders of warm Irish hospitality, friendship and joviality for these days and are so grateful for all we did and saw and most important the people we came to know or with whom we renewed acquaintance.

+Bruce

BISHOP'S CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2003 – MARCH 2003

Feb. 1	Quebec Diocesan Gazette Board	Québec City
Feb. 6-8	Programme Committee	St. Augustin-de-Desmaures
Feb.14-15	Quebec Community Group Network Taskforce	Montréal
March 6-9	Anglican-Roman-Catholic Dialogue	Toronto
March 11-18	Lower North Shore Visitation	
March 21-23	Clergy Spouses Conference	Québec City

**This is your diocesan paper.
Let the diocese know what is happening in
your local church.
Please submit your parish news.**

"Ascension" continued from page 1

Work will proceed on the new parish hall, to be located under the church, through the winter months. A service to celebrate the restoration of the Church, and to bless the new location, will be held on Ascension Day, Thursday the 29th of May, at 7:00pm. The Bishop will preside, and the guest preacher will be announced at a later date. The congregation will also unveil a memorial arbor, recognizing the numerous persons and foundations, which have made this project possible. The congregation of the Church of the Ascension hopes that you will join them on the 29th of May, and that you will stay after church for refreshments, which will be served in the parish hall. If you wish to make a donation to support



Ellis Clarke, Synod member Lyman White, Warden Daniel Trepannier and the Reverend Canon Rodney Clarke discussing the repositioning of the pews

Ascension c/o Mrs Winnifred Trepannier, P. O.Box 31, Inverness, QC, G0S 1K0.

this project, please address your cheque to the Church of the



PWRDF NEWS

By Cecily Hinton

Many thanks to all who supported PWRDF in 2002 by your prayers, donations and purchase of Christmas Cards and cd's. A sincere thank you as well to all who serve as Parish Representatives for PWRDF.

Diocesan donations to PWRDF in 2001 were \$18,849; in 2000 \$18,892 and in 1999 \$18,013. Donations from our diocese placed us 26th out of 30 Dioceses in 2001. Total donations across Canada for 2001 were \$3,226,943.

A PWRDF regional meeting was held in Montreal November 15 & 16, 2002. Diocesan representatives from Montreal to Eastern Nfld. and Labrador, the president Janet Dench, two representatives from the national PWRDF office as well as many local

Montreal parish representatives attended. Kirsten Mercer for Youth gave a presentation, we sent messages to an upcoming conference where our youth will be represented with the theme 'Another World is Possible'.

We shared what our Dioceses are doing, and were given updates on new resources, donation profiles including the success of the Offering Envelope Program. A new youth resource will be available very shortly, and a tentative video resource catalogue is out. For more information on any of this, please contact me.

It would be good to have a PWRDF refugee coordinator for the Diocese, as well as a Youth coordinator. If you are interested, or know someone who is, please contact me. Also please let me know if your Parish representative has changed so that I can keep the list up to date and that you are receiving the resources that you need.

A PERSONAL NOTE

Many of you will be aware of the death of our daughter Karen. Although she died on 17th September 2002, we were not able to hold the funeral until her body was released in November, and we are still awaiting the inquest.

We shall probably never know what really happened. We are however very grateful for the flood of loving support that we received by personal contact, letter, telephone and e-mail.

We have been asked "But who gives the clergyman care when he needs it?" The answer is "Pretty-well everybody!" Thanks and thanks again.

Peter and Ailsa Spackman.

Quebec Diocesan Gazette A Ministry of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec

Founded in 1984 by the Rt. Reverend A. H. Dunn. Published by the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec ten times a year. Subscription rate is \$20.00 per year.

According to the Diocesan Canons the mandate of the **Gazette** shall be to serve as a means of encouragement, communication and community building among the regions of the Diocese, with special emphasis on regional activities and matters of concern for both laity and clergy. It shall provide an opportunity for the Bishop to address the people of the Diocese directly and seek to cover items from outside the Diocese that bear on its corporate life.

The Gazette is a member of Canadian Church Press. It is printed and mailed by Signal Star Publishing, a division of Bowers publishers Limited, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 4B6

The Editorial and Business office for the **Gazette** is located at Church House, 31 rue des Jardins, Quebec, Quebec, G1R 4L6. phone: 418-692-3858 fax: 418-692-3876 e-mail: synodoffice@quebec.anglican.ca

On-line versions of the paper from November 2002 onward, can be found at: <http://www.quebec.anglican.org/gazette/gazette.html>

James Sweeny, interim Editor, phone and fax 819-837-2835 We welcome diocesan news, deadline the 1st of the month prior to publication. Please e-mail submissions to diocesan gazette@quebec.anglican.ca

Please send undeliverable copies, address changes and subscriptions to: Quebec Diocesan Gazette, Anglican Journal Circulation Dept., 600 Jarvis Street, Toronto ON M4Y 2J6

Passages

This periodic column is to advise the whole diocese of happenings in our collective life. Due to the size of the Diocese of Quebec sometimes information does not reach all regions. It is hoped that this column will help to overcome that problem.

Appointments & elections

The Ven. Dennis Drainville has been appointed Archdeacon of Gaspé effective September 1, 2002

The Rev. Susan Hutchinson has been appointed Incumbent, Greater Parish of Gaspé effective September 1, 2002. She replaces The Ven Hugh Matheson who has moved to the diocese of Keewatin.

The Bishop has appointed **Mr. James Sweeny** as Interim Editor, **Quebec Diocesan Gazette** as of July 1st, 2002. The Gazette Board is to begin the search process for a new editor.

On October 1st, 2002, **the Rev. Canon Curtis Patterson** was elected Rural Dean of St. Francis Deanery

The Rev. Claude Lamarre was received as a Priest in the Anglican Church on December 1, 2002 and appointed Assistant, Paroisse Tous les Saints with a mission to begin francophone ministry in La Mauricie

In October 2002 the DEC appointed **Mr. Mark Franklin** and **Mrs. Barbara Matthews** to be members of the **Quebec Diocesan Gazette Board** until the next meeting of Synod.

As of January 1st 2003, **the Rev. Canon Rodney Clark** has been appointed by the Bishop a Canon of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity

Military Chaplains

In September 2002, **Lt. (N) the Rev. Marcel Dumont** moved from CFB Valcartier to CFB Bagotville

Capt the Rev. Blair Ross, on leave to the military from this diocese, moved in January 2003 from CFB Trenton, Ontario to CFB Valcartier *Welcome home, Blair!*

Long Term Disability

As of September 30th, 2002, **the Rev. Canon Tony Hitsman** has taken long term disability leave and has moved to Kegaska.

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Willa Grace Scott Coffin**, who died quietly November 29th after a long illness, surrounded by family. Her funeral took place at St. Paul's, Gaspé at 2 pm on Monday, December 2. As many of you remember, Willa was a driving force in both the parish and the diocese and an extremely devout woman.

Pray also for the soul of Phoebe Rose Brazel (nee Bertrand) who passed away peacefully at her residence in Nepean, Ont., on Sunday, January 5th, 2003. Phoebe Brazel was the beloved wife of the Rev. James Harold Brazel. The funeral took place on Wednesday, January 8th at the Cass Funeral Home, Lennoxville, Que. The Reverend and Mrs. Brazel served in various parts of the diocese including Sept Iles, Sherbrooke (St Paul's/Advent), and Thetford Mines.

Awards

The Reverend Doctor Patricia Peacock had a busy August 2002, not only did she pass her flight exam as a pilot but completed her doctoral thesis at Concordia University, Montreal. She received her doctorate in November, her thesis is titled, *Seven Women: Seven Pioneers – The Stories of Seven Women and their Influential Roles in the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches in the Province of Quebec at the End of the Twentieth Century.*

In November 2002, **James Sweeny** was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for his significant contribution to Canada, to his community and to his fellow Canadians. His name was put forward by Scouts Canada and organization he has served in as a volunteer for 27 years.

Published

Dr Meb Reisner, our diocesan historian, has published a new book **The Measure of Faith, Annals of the Diocese of Montreal 1760-2000**. The book was commissioned by the diocese of Montreal to celebrate its 150th anniversary and is published by Anglican Book Centre Publishing.

Kay Hartwell picked up the following Irish meditation to share with the diocese while visiting our companion diocese in Ireland in early January along with Brian Wharry and the Bishop. The full story of their trip, complete with photos, is planned for next month's **Quebec Diocesan Gazette**.

GOD CALLS US ON A JOURNEY,
AS SARAH AND ABRAHAM WERE CALLED FROM THE CITY OF UR, SO WE ARE CALLED TO BE PILGRIMS.
AS MOSES LED THE PEOPLE OUT OF SALVERY AND MIRIAM DANCED AHEAD,
SO WE ARE CALLED TO JOURNEY WITH GOD.

BEING A PILGRIM MEANS BEING WILLING TO VENTURE, RISK AND DARE,
LEAVING THE SECURITY OF THE OLD WAYS
STEPPING OUT INTO THE UNCERTAIN
AND BEING OPEN TO THE SURPRISE AND NEWNESS OF GOD.

BEING A PILGRIM MEANS JOURNEYING THROUGH SOME DRY AND ARID PLACES.
THROUGH TIMES OF CHALLENGE AND DISCOMFORT.
IT ALSO MEANS DISCOVERING, ON THE JOURNEY, POOLS OF CLEAR,
REFRESHING WATER,
WHERE WE CAN DRINK DEEPLY AND SPLASH AROUND IN JOY.

BEING A PILGRIM MEANS SEEKING TO COMPANION OTHERS,
SHARING JOYS AND BURDENS;
BEING WILLING TO RECEIVE AND GIVE;
SEEING CHRIST IN OTHERS AND ALLOWING CHRIST TO LOVE THROUGH US.

BEING A PILGRIM MEANS HAVING AN OPENESS TO CHANGE,
ACCEPTING ALL THAT CHRIST MEANS WHEN HE SAYS, 'FOLLOW ME';
LETTING GO OF THE PAST, FULFILLING THE PRESENT
AND WELCOMING THE FUTURE IN ORDER TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL OF THE LIVING GOD!"

Diocesan Executive Council Roundup

A meeting of the Diocesan Executive Council (D.E.C.) was held via Conference Call on Tuesday, December 17th, 2002. Other than the items reported elsewhere in the paper the following items were discussed and decided.

Lawsuit Update: No judgement has been rendered since the last meeting of the D.E.C. regarding the cases brought against the Synod and the Bishop by Mr. B. Husk. It has been 14 months since the motion for dismissal was heard in Quebec Superior Court.

As reported in the September **Diocesan Gazette**, St. Luke's, Magog, has settled with an out of court agreement. Since then, the Bishop created a covenant of peace and reconciliation. Although vestry passed it unanimously, it has

not yet been signed by one of the two wardens. If the covenant is not signed, then the parish may fail to live up to their financial and legal obligations. Correspondence was circulated from St Luke's asking that a portion of its diocesan Fair Share obligations be forgiven. A motion was past that this be tabled until after the covenant for peace and reconciliation is duly signed and deposited with Church House.

La Tabatiere Jubilee Debt Forgiveness: This congregation has not requested debt forgiveness under the Synod's offer and that offer has now expired.

Financial: A request for a salary adjustment by Ms. Lorraine Damecour was referred to the Finance Committee with instructions to report to the Spring DEC.

The treasurer deposited a re-

vised 2003 Synod budget that reflected the commitment to pay our share of the Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and the creation of the new French speaking Deanery of St Laurent. Deanery grants for 2003 will be North Shore: \$47 000, Gaspé: \$15 000, Quebec: \$ 15 000, St. Francis: \$ 15 000 and St. Laurent: \$ 7000.

Quebec Health and Social Service Network membership: it was decided to accept the nomination of the Holland Resources Development Corporation and the English Speaking Catholic Council for the Diocese of Quebec to become an active member of the Community Health and Social Services Network. The Bishop was authorized to appoint a representative to sit on the QHSSN.

Dates for the Spring meeting of DEC were discussed and are to be announced later.

ACW Meditation

This meditation corresponds to Bible Study 5 in the ACW booklet. If you would like a copy, please ask your ACW delegate to the last Biennial, or contact Cecily Hinton

Amos 8:4-6, 11

The prophet Amos spoke these words in about 750 BCE. It was a time of peace and prosperity. Amos warned the people to change their ways. The good times of Amos' day meant suffering for others. Let's look at ourselves and our own times. Let's examine our shopping habits. Do we look for fairly traded coffee and other items, or do we go for 'the specials' and then boast about our 'bargains'. The Fair Trade logo says 'People before profits'.

Amos had the same idea. Do we?

Prayer: Heavenly Father bless those who have been hurt

By the selfishness and greed of others.

Give us all penitent hearts for our part in these injustices,

And generous hearts to meet the victims where they are in their pain.

May we heed the words of Amos, and see that the Bounty of Your Grace

Is for all to share, and that we are all Your beloved children.

Amen.



The Bishop and Diana were given a surprise painting for their wedding anniversary at a reception held at the Cathedral after Thursday noon Eucharist, on June 20th. The gift was paid for by friends from across the diocese.

A Grain of Salt



Take Care of Me Till I Die

I observe that a lot of churches are in trouble and are sliding down the slippery slope to death. What makes me say that? I observe that their membership is seriously declining, that their membership is aging and that they lack the ability to attract new and younger members into their midst. I remember visiting a little church on the Gaspé coast many years ago. They had a great congregation - about twenty in church every Sunday. The people were warm and welcoming and I felt that the worship had drawn me closer to God. But the people were all over the age of eighty. I went home wondering what would happen to that church in the next ten years. You guessed it. The last one died and their church closed its doors.

A lot of churches do a lot of good things but we are forgetting that the church is always just one generation from extinction. What is so sad is that many people in the pews don't seem to care. They are simply busy making sure that things don't change and that they are comfortable every Sunday morning. "Just take care of me until I die" seems to be the attitude. It is an attitude that is so contrary to the commission that the church has been given. Jesus said: "Go and make disciples of every nation..." As long as we have breath in our lungs we had better be about the business of working for the future of the church. It is a hard challenge. It means change, it means risk and it means becoming a little uncomfortable.

What is more important to you - being in your comfort zone on Sunday morning or fulfilling the great commission?

Editor's note: when we sent out a call for material for the diocesan paper the Reverend Richard Salt, formally of this diocese, replied that he had, for several years been writing a bi-weekly article for the local paper and a monthly column in the *Huron Church News*. These columns are called "A Grain of Salt" and he offered to share them with us. The article above ran in those publications in November 2002. The *Quebec Diocesan Gazette* is looking to broaden its base of contributors and is suggesting a series of columns, one of which would run every month. If you wish to be part of this cycle please contact the editor at diocesangazette@quebec.anglican.ca

"Settlement" continued from page 1

challenging members to use our insights, gifts and resources to build a transformed Church community. It needs to be one which values and includes those different cultures, languages and spiritualities in a shared mission to a broken, damaged and alienated world in which the Christian gospel has never been more relevant".

A number of people in the diocese are interested in contributing directing to aid in the payment of our diocesan share. Thus at the request of the DEC the Central Board also decided to establish a fund to receive donations towards our diocesan participation in the Settlement Fund. Any donations received would reduce the burden on Synod and Church Society and tax receipts will be issued to donors. Those interested should mail their cheques, payable to Church Society, to Church House 31 rue des Jardins, Quebec QC G1R 4L6 and mark on the back of the cheque "Settlement Fund"

General Synod Communications has produced a new resource that provides an in-depth explanation of the agreement the Anglican Church of Canada has reached with the federal government concerning native residential schools litigation. Entitled **Towards a New Beginning**, the booklet explains the agreement and describes the historical and political context in which it was reached. **Towards a New Beginning** is an in-depth companion to **The Agreement in Brief**, a basic resource and interpretation published in mid December. Both resources and others including the text of the agreement are available for viewing and to download from the Residential Schools area of the General Synod web site found at www.anglican.ca.

Canons, canons and more canons

Our next diocesan Synod is to be held at the Orford Arts Centre October 16-19, 2003. The DEC has created a canons sub-committee to assist delegates who wish to make amendments to the diocesan canons. That committee is beginning its work and must report to the spring meeting of DEC in early June. If you have suggestions for them please forward them to the chair, James Sweeney, registrar@quebec.anglican.ca

Perry-Gore Found Guilty

First discipline trial in diocesan history Bishop removes his licence as a priest in good standing in the Diocese

The Diocesan Board of Triers unanimously found the Reverend Perry-Gore, a retired priest living in North Hatley, guilty of the ecclesiastical offence of "contemptuous or disrespectful conduct towards the bishop of the diocese in matters pertaining to the administration of the affairs of the diocese."

The Bishop was presented with the Board's proceedings, judgement and recommended sentence December 13th 2002 and on January 15th 2003 issued a canonical sentence of deprivation upon the Reverend Walter Keith Perry-Gore.

Ecclesiastical offences and the penalties are set out in the canons of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. Deprivation of office or ministry means that Perry-Gore remains a priest but is incapable of holding any office or performing any function in this or any other diocese in the Anglican Church of Canada. As a retired priest he held a licence for occasional services and could perform marriages and burials but those privileges has been revoked. The sentence does not affect his pension received from the General Synod Pension Plan.

On September 5th 2002, Perry-Gore wrote a widely circulated letter addressed to Bishop Bruce Stavert that included the statement "... Such a remark comes with full knowledge that your Canons are flawed, and would not stand up in court - ecclesiastical or civil. Furthermore, how a priest in the Diocese can be "canonically obedient" to you in the present circumstances is beyond comprehension: perhaps you have injected into some of the priests the kind of toxic absolute obedience witnessed in Nazi Germany as exemplified by the Hitler Youth to Adolf their Fuhrer"

The following week, as required by diocesan canons, Bishop Stavert summoned Perry-Gore to

appear before him and explain the possible ecclesiastical offence. Perry-Gore refused to meet and the Bishop then determined, based on the letter there was sufficient evidence to proceed with a trial.

Perry-Gore upon being served with the notice of the trial had the right to choose the five Board of Triers from among those clerics elected to Board pool by the clergy at the 2001 Diocesan Synod. As Perry-Gore declined his right to select, the Bishop appointed the Board from the same list.

On November 26th the Board of Triers met for the first time in diocesan history. Perry-Gore did not attend the trial nor send counsel. Since 1877 the diocesan canons on discipline have directed that if the respondent does not appear at the trial the plea of "not guilty" is entered and the trial continues. David Blair, Church Advocate, introduced various pieces of evidence to the court and the Bishop was sworn in as a witness. The Bishop stated in his affidavit that the letter from Perry-Gore "contains statements that are entirely untrue, and very hurtful to me personally. Furthermore certain statements are defamatory, libellous and have caused harm to the reputation of the Diocese in the eyes of the public and to my authority as Bishop"

Perry-Gore came to the diocese in 1971 and at that time he, like all priests in the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, took oaths of allegiance and canonical obedience. In part these stated that he would "willingly subscribe to and declare that I assent to and abide by, the Canons which have been, or shall be, from time to time, passed by the General Synod, the Provincial Synod of Canada, or the Diocesan Synod of Quebec" and that he would "swear I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Quebec, and his successors, in all legal and honest com-

mands" These vows were renewed upon his moving to the Parish of North Hatley, Waterville and Eustis in 1974. Perry-Gore also was one of five Canons of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, a position and title he lost upon retirement in 1999.

The right of Synod to create an ecclesiastical court system was granted by the civil legislature of Canada in 1857, under Act 19-20 Victoria chapter 141. In paragraph 1 it states "...The Bishops, clergy and laity, members of the United Church of England and Ireland in this Province [the name of the Anglican Church at that time], may meet in their several Dioceses, which are now, or may be hereafter constituted in this province, and in such manner by such proceedings as they shall adopt, frame constitutions and make regulations for enforcing discipline in the Church, for the appointment, deposition, deprivation or removal of any person bearing office therein..."

These courts are faster and less expensive than the civil courts but lack the power to award financial damages. In two recent Quebec civil court actions awards of \$18,000 and \$40,000 have been made for damages resulting from comparisons to Hitler.

The Bishop stated in the letter regarding the sentence that "the church is the family of God and in any healthy family there is a need for both discipline and loving care. At my ordination as Bishop I undertook to 'guard the faith, unity and discipline of the Church'"

"The level of respect owed by a priest to his bishop is much, much higher than the degree of respect that I owe you as a citizen," said David Blair, diocesan Chancellor.

Perry-Gore can appeal the verdict and sentence to the Provincial Court of Appeal of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

St Andrew's, La Tuque Plans Patronial Day Blessing



On November 30th, 2003, St. Andrew's Day there will be a Blessing of site of St. Andrew's Church La Tuque. The Archbishop of Montreal Andrew Hutchison, Metropolitan of Canada and Archdeacon Jim Boyles, General Secretary of the General Synod will be in attendance.

Started as a railway mission

the Right Reverend Walter Farrar, Assistant Bishop of Quebec came up to preside at the event. Unfortunately the windows were not ready in time but the dedication went ahead anyway with dryer felt covering the openings. There were 45 at the morning service and 37 at night.

The building is one of the oldest in the community and part of the region's heritage. It has served as the church home for all protestants in the area. In April 1989, a fire destroyed the parish hall and badly damaged the church and it took over a year to restore the building. Everyone is invited to attend the blessing, mark it in your agendas now.

Quebec Diocesan Archives photo 1938

in the 1909, the congregation first met in local homes. The church was built in the summer and fall of 1910. Plans were set in place to have the dedication on January 1st 1911, and