

FIECTION DAY

We cannot be unaware that there is an approaching National Election, and that it will be held on Monday, 21 October. It is very important that everyone who is able 'gets out' to vote. It is a democratic privilege and right.

It has not always been this way. Early election right into the19th century could be public where on announces in public one's preference. Often voting areas were 'gerrymandered' so that the government could sweep the election by 'adjusting' constituencies by examining the voting preferences of areas and where they received large majorities could be added to less salubrious constituencies. This would ensure that they would likely receive another seat.

Soon we will be acknowledging Remembrance Day, a solemn day set aside to recall those of our citizens - many Acadia students - who died that we would have this vital freedom, not only in voting, but in governing. Thinking upon this, it can be seen as a duty for each citizen to cast a ballot.



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An Interim-Interim

Next Saturday our beloved interim will be leaving on a long-planned visit to Europe. He will be flying to London over-night and staying Sunday evening in the Channel port of Southampton. The passengers then will board the RMS Queen Victoria Monday morning. It will head on Monday through the Bay of Biscay to Cadiz, and then around via the Gibraltar Straits to the Western Mediterranean.

After two weeks of this excruciating torture, he (and the ship) will sail back to Southampton. That will provide an opportunity to stay with friends for a few days in Tewkesbury, and then go on to London and visit friends there. He will even see the London production of Come from Away. The vagabond will return to Wolfville on 10 November, just in time to conduct with the Legion chaplain the annual Remembrance Day Service in Convocation Hall.

The chapel and services during this hiatus will be under the care of the Rev'd Dr. John Churchill, known and loved by us all. He is a Baptist clergyman and has been, now retired, a professor of finance in Acadia's F.C. Manning School of Business Administration. As he likes to say, he is the 'Interim-Interim.' We joyfully welcome him



to the chapel community. He will be in the chaplain's office at 10 a.m. each weekday.

Services at the chapel will remain the same save for the week-day evening service, which will not be held in the meantime. We are reminded that the weekday morning services are held from II:30 to II:50 a.m. Do welcome our 'interim-interim' as he takes office.

THE EWERS AT COMMUNION



People may have noticed the two Communion vessels which are used at such services in the Manning Memorial Chapel. They are hand-crafted in Grand Pre and were given to the chapel by the last Rev'd William Bishop, a long-time supporter of Acadia and the chapel.

These earthenware vessels are a beautiful example of local craftsmanship, and they represent the devotion and care of Mr. Bishop. He lived in the last remaining home at the corner of Acadia Street and Highland Avenue. Mr. Bishop, an Anglican clergyman, was long an educator, particularly in the Bahamas.

The two vessels are similar, save that one is marked with an A, for aqua and the other with a V, for vino. When the chalice is prepared for communion, the 'vino' (grape juice) is first poured into it, representing the blood of Jesus on the Cross. Then a little water is added, representing the water that poured from his side with his blood (v. St. John 19: 34).

The dramatic moment can be heard as well as seen: the sound of the water mixing with the grape juice (unfermented wine). Think on these things as we view the drama before us each service of Holy Communion.

THANKSGIVING DAY

Thanksgiving has a long history. Some say the first Canadian Thanksgiving Day was held by Sir Martin Frobisher in 15y8. Of course, aboriginals had feasts celebrating harvests long before this.

In 1606, Champlain introduced a Thanksgiving dinner on 14 November. It celebrated Poutrincourt's arrival at Port Royal in Nova Scotia.



The celebration first involving the North American turkey, squash and pumpkins was introduced into Nova Scotia in the 1750's. This spread to the rest of Canada by the 1780's. It was not proclaimed an official holiday by Parliament until 1957 'as a day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest.'



This weekend, it celebrates the harvest, especially important to the Annapolis Valley, but also is a time for family reunions and special occasions. Wherever you are, give thanks to God for the many blessings we receive from Creation.

Thanksgiving