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Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

Social Justice and Advocacy Update October 2018

NEWS FOR OCTOBER 2018

1. **Outreach & Advocacy Conference - Last Chance to Register!**
2. **Municipal Election Resources Available**
3. **Advocacy Campaigns: Have your Say!**
4. **Parish Survey - Still Seeking Responses**
5. **Upcoming Events**
6. **Outreach and Advocacy Prayer Cycle**

1. Outreach & Advocacy Conference - Last Chance to Register! "Transformed Hearts, Transforming Structures", our Outreach & Advocacy Conference, will be held **Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at Havergal College, 1451 Avenue Rd., Toronto. Keynote speaker André Lyn brings extensive experience in research and community development to address poverty, homelessness and racial injustice, along with his deep Anglican faith. The conference will also feature a wide variety of workshops on different outreach ministries and justice issues, a hot lunch with opportunity to network with Anglicans from around the Diocese, displays from our FaithWorks ministry partners, and worship to send us out into the world with prayer, and song. The venue has ample parking and is fully accessible. Childcare is available on request. Cost is \$30/\$15 for students and low-income. Don't miss out - register at www.toronto.anglican.ca/outreachconference before **Oct. 12, 2018.**

2. Municipal Election Resources Available: On Monday October 22, communities across Ontario will elect their municipal governments. Local governments have a significant impact on the daily lives of our neighbours and ourselves. Visit www.toronto.anglican.ca/sjac for our downloadable guide to justice issues at stake in municipal elections, see your local municipal website for information on candidates in your community, look for chances to engage the candidates on the issues, and don't forget to **vote!**

3. Advocacy Campaigns: Have your Say!

- **Ontario government consultation on Cap-and-Trade:** The Ontario government has introduced legislation to cancel the cap-and-trade program, yet carbon pricing, either by means of a carbon tax or cap and trade, is the only market-based way to

reduce greenhouse gases. Not only that, but it creates incentives for companies to innovate, further stimulating the economy. **Before October 11, 2018**, take the time to submit your comment on the proposed legislation at the provincial government's link [here](#).

- **Speak out on Social Assistance:** The Ontario government is also currently conducting a review of social assistance programs, to be completed by November 8. The Minister of Social Services, Lisa MacLeod, has said "we need to do more than just help people remain mired in poverty" and instead "help stabilize people in need and support them to succeed". We agree! Learn about measures that can help achieve that goal, and send a message to Minister MacLeod, by visiting this [link](#).
- **Tell Senators: Support the Rights of Indigenous Peoples!** Bill C-262, an act to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, has passed the House of Commons and is now before the Senate. This was the subject of our Vestry Motion campaign in 2017. Visit this [link](#) to send a message to Canadian Senators to support this important legislation.
- **Toronto Residents - Have your Say on Plastic Waste:** The City of Toronto is conducting consultations until October 28, 2018 on measures to reduce and restrict single-use plastics. You can participate in the survey [here](#).

4. Parish Survey - Still Seeking Responses: Nearly 70 parishes have completed our Outreach and Greening Survey. If yours hasn't, visit this [link](#) to fill out the 10-question survey, which should take from 10-15 minutes. The responses will give us a fuller picture of outreach, advocacy and greening activities in the Diocese and help us produce resources and programs to support you in these aspects of your parish ministry.

5. Upcoming Events:

- **Sat. Oct. 6, 2-4 p.m. Nonviolent Direct Action training**, St. Stephen in the Fields, 365 College St., Toronto. This training will cover some of the basic skills and strategies for nonviolent direct action. There is no charge, but donations are welcome. Please register by e-mail to ststepheninthefields@gmail.com.
- **Oct. 9-11: Indian Residential School Survivors Legacy Project Celebration**, Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto. Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre is hosting a three-day celebration, featuring traditional performances and teachings and unique audio-visual events, to mark the unveiling of the "Restoration of Identity" sculpture at Toronto City Hall. For more information visit www.irsslegacy.com
- **Events celebrating the canonization of Oscar Romero:** Archbishop Oscar Romero, who spoke out against injustice in El Salvador and was martyred while saying Mass in 1980, will be canonized by Pope Francis on October 14, 2018. Visit www.romerohouse.org for details on events this month to celebrate Romero's legacy, including the following at Anglican parishes:
 - **Sun. Oct. 14, 1 p.m.**, Ecumenical Liturgy at San Lorenzo Church, 2981 Dufferin Ave., Toronto
 - **Sun. Oct. 14, 7 p.m.**, Rock Eucharist with guest preacher Mary Jo Leddy at Church of the Redeemer, 162 Bloor St. W., Toronto
 - **Thurs. Oct. 25, 6 p.m.**, "Dispossession and Exclusion in Our Time: Transforming our Reality with Monsignor Romero", with Fr. Juan Vicente Chopin at Church of the Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, Toronto
- **Weds. Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m. "Love, Henri: Letters on the Spiritual Life"**, a dramatic presentation with music, at the Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. W., Toronto. Hosted by the Henri Nouwen Society and Emmanuel College. Tickets (\$20/\$10 + HST) available at www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/coned
- **Sat. Oct. 20, 9-5:30, "Learning to Animate Racial Justice Workshops,"** a full-day training from the Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network of the Canadian Council of Churches. The training will be held at the Toronto School of Theology, 47

Queen's Park Cr. E., Toronto. Cost is \$125 (\$75 students/low-income.)

Please [register](#) by **October 4, 2018**.

- **Thurs. Nov. 1, ISARC Religious Leaders' Forum at Queen's Park.** This full-day event will feature keynote speaker George Thomson, chair of the Income Security Reform Working Group, and panellists with lived experience of poverty as interfaith advocates gather to discuss the future of income security in Ontario. Contact me at egoulden@toronto.anglican.ca if you are interested in attending.

6. Outreach & Advocacy Prayer Cycle for October 2018:

October 7, Pentecost 20 / Thanksgiving: *Pray for* St. Peter, Scarborough, its work with St. Ninian's food bank, and its prayer shawl ministry;

for St. Peter and St. Simon, Toronto, its after-school program, support of Codrington College in Barbados, and the local food bank, and its work with St Simon's Shelter for homeless men;

and for St. Philip, Etobicoke, its monthly community lunch, Christmas hamper program, and support of the Dorothy Ley hospice and the Weston Area Emergency Services food bank.

October 14, Pentecost 21: *Pray for* St. Philip-on-the-Hill, its participation in refugee sponsorship, and its support of a local breakfast club and ecumenical Christmas program;

for St. Saviour's, Toronto, its Bread of Life grocery card program, and its participation in Centre 55's Share a Christmas program;

and for St. Stephen, Downsview, St. Stephen's Community Ministries, the homework club, mentoring, and recreation programs of the Downsview Youth Covenant, and the St. Stephen/St. Felix Café, providing free lunches to those in need.

October 21, Pentecost 22: *Pray for* St. Stephen, Maple, its community pantry and community garden;

for St. Stephen-in-the-Fields, Toronto, and its weekend community breakfast program, community garden, and environmental and anti-poverty advocacy;

and for St Theodore of Canterbury, its weekly Thursday community drop-in, daily preparation of snacks at RJ Lang Elementary and Middle School, summer and fall food drives and Christmas fundraiser for the North York Harvest Food Bank, annual backpack and school supply drive for the Salvation Army, and monthly music outreach at the Thorne Mill retirement home.

October 28, Pentecost 23: *Pray for* St. Thomas à Becket, its support of SHARE

Halton/Peel, the Deacon's Cupboard food bank, Open Door ecumenical centre at Square One, and other local outreach initiatives;

for St. Thomas, Brooklin, its Food Cupboard, AIDS response team, back-to-work

bursary, and its support of St. Vincent's Kitchen, The Refuge, and North House Shelter;

and for St. Thomas, Huron Street, Toronto, its weekly meal program for the homeless and marginally housed, and the parish garden which helps to supply it.

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