



# ANGLICAN ORDINARIATE FOR THE CANADIAN FORCES

Bulletin/Volume 7, No 4 **Advent & Christmas 2010/ Epiphany 2011**

## **BISHOP ORDINARY TO THE FORCES** **The Right Reverend Peter Coffin STB, MA, DD**



### **NEW ARCHDEACON FOR THE CANADIAN FORCES**

On 1 November 2010, the Feast of All Saints, our Bishop Peter Coffin announced that he had appointed Canon John Fletcher as the Archdeacon of the Anglican Ordinariate. Our former Archdeacon, Karl McLean, has been assumed to the rank of Brigadier General and made the Chaplain General of the Canadian Forces and along with the pressures and workload associated with that office there were also some 'conflict of issue' concerns, and so it was with great delight that our Bishop Peter announced that Padre McLean would become Archdeacon Emeritus of the Ordinariate, but that the yoke of the Archdeacon's office would be passed to Canon Fletcher.

John was installed as Archdeacon at our home Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa - the cathedral of the Diocese of Ottawa and the Anglican Ordinariate - on November 14th, 2010 at the morning service.

Colonel the Venerable John Fletcher has been a leader with the Ordinariate and the wider Anglican Church of Canada for many years. He was appointed Canon Pastor by the Bishop in 1999 and given the special role of providing pastoral care to Anglican chaplains and advising the Bishop on pastoral issues arising within the Ordinariate. He was elected to on several occasions to represent the Ordinariate at General Synod, and served for one three year period as a member on the Council of General Synod (COGS). It is COGS that, along with the

Primate, House of Bishops, and the National Office Staff conduct much of the "business" of the Anglican Church of Canada. COGS oversees, delegates and receives work from the various departments, committees and councils of the National church structure. John also served for two triennia on the Communications, information and resources Committee of our National Church, and continues to serve as a member of the Board of directors of the Anglican Journal.

So what is an Archdeacon? Yes, an archdeacon is a senior clergy position – but the Bishop has several specially designated advisors called Canons. An archdeacon is often responsible for administration within an archdeaconry, a territorial area within a diocese. Many dioceses also have an Administrative Executive Officer who assists the bishop and this position too may be an Archdeacon. The most senior diocesan priestly position, the Archdeacon is often called the Oculus episcopi, the bishop's eye. In the absence of the bishop, due to illness or travel, or following the bishop's retirement and prior to a new Bishop's appointment, the Archdeacon is often named as the Episcopal Commissary – with full authority to act in the Bishop's stead. It is analogous with the Roman Catholic honorific "Monsignor".

#### **ARCHDEACONS**

**Col the Ven J. Fletcher, CD**

**BGen the Ven K.R. McLean, CD**

#### **CANONS**

**Cdr the Rev'd J. Wilcox, CD**  
**CANON SECRETARY**

**Cdr the Rev'd B.D. Park, CD**  
**CANON RECRUITER**

**LCol the Rev'd N. Shaw, CD**  
**CANON TREASURER**

**LCol the Rev'd G. Thorne, MMM, CD**  
**CANON RESERVIST**

*This Bulletin, for the Anglican Ordinariate of the Canadian Forces, is an informal document for the members of the Clericus. Its purpose is to provide the membership a means of communication and an expression of our fellowship. It is issued under the jurisdiction of the Bishop Ordinary for the Canadian Forces (Anglican). To submit an article please email text to: [dmgcag1@msn.com](mailto:dmgcag1@msn.com).*

## A WORD FROM OUR BISHOP

Some Reflections for Advent - 2010  
"Where meek souls will receive him still..."

Dear Friends:

Grace and peace to all of you as we begin this Advent Season of joyful expectation and prepare ourselves to encounter Jesus anew in advents that happen day by day. He is Emmanuel - God with us! May we be open to his gracious presence and in the house cleaning of repentance and with the expectation that comes of faith let us invite the One in who stands at the door and knocks.

In that Advent, which we celebrate at Christmas, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us". (John 1:14) "He came unto his own and his own received him not...but to those who did he gave power to become the children of God." (John 1:11-12). Wanting to be one of God's children, which indeed I am through the graces of baptism, I find myself, like the wandering prodigal son, with a need to get back home. In the Christmas story God initiates the homecoming because "he first loved us" and he seeks hearts longing to receive him. Phillips Brooks beautiful carol 'O Little Town of Bethlehem' has within in it both profound truth and a personal prayer:

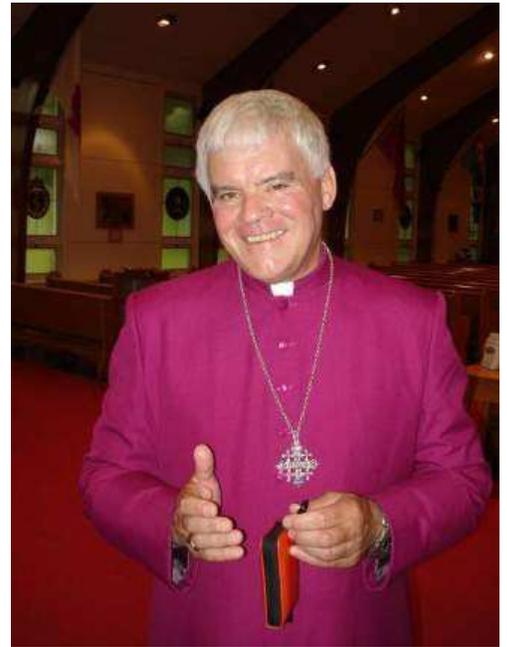
*No ear may hear his coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in*

*O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel.*

So may this Advent season be time of penitence - clearing away those barriers that would exclude Jesus - so that our Lord may indeed find a welcome place within us personally and within our homes and our faith communities.

Advent is also a time when the Church thinks of the time when "He will come again in glory". Some of the faithful go to great pains to say that the 'end times' are near or at least to speculate when such a time will take place. In the Second Epistle of Peter (2 Peter 3:3-4,8-9) it is said that "scoffers will come and will say: 'Where is the coming he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation....'" As for the time, Jesus says that our only concern should be to live our daily lives worthy of God and - to quote our baptismal covenant: "When we fall into sin repent and return to the Lord". Ponder the beautiful Advent Collect:

*A Note: Phillips Brooks - 1835-1893 - was the rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, when he made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1865. He was so moved by Bethlehem that he wrote 'O Little Town on Bethlehem' with his Sunday School in mind. The organist and Sunday School superintendent, Lewis Redner, awoke on Christmas Eve with an idea for the music. The Hymn made its debut on Saint Stephen's Day, 1868. The tune was named 'Lewis'. For the last three years of his life Brooks was the Bishop of Massachusetts.*



*Almighty God  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and put on the armour of light  
now in the time of this mortal life  
in which your Son Jesus Christ  
came to visit us in great humility,  
that on that last day  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who lives and reigns... Amen*

The scoffer quoted in the Epistle has it wrong. God has kept his promises and nothing is the same. God has come; returning in Pentecostal wind and fire to dwell with us forever in the advent of a new era. Jesus invites us into new encounters day by day, as a new dawn from on high, "to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the ways of peace" (The Benedictus - Luke 1:78-79). As for the 'end times', we may not know what the future holds but we know who holds the future. He is Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, who dwells among us.

*O Come to us, abide with us  
our Lord Emmanuel*

May you have a Holy and Blessed Advent and Christmastide and beyond.

*+Peter*  
Anglican Bishop Ordinary

## A word from our Archdeacon...

### COLLATING AN ARCHDEACON

I have sometimes been "copied", frequently been "sorted", and at least once -- thanks to Michelle -- I've even been "stapled", (which is kind of like being "sorted", only politer). I have never before, however, ever been "collated". Our Bishop tells me the origins of this particular verb -- "to collate" -- are shared with those of the French verb -- "coller" -- which means "to stick", and although this piece of linguistic trivia brings to mind many new images concerning my collation, none of these images gives me much more of a sense of what exactly this new appointment as your Archdeacon might mean for me, or for the Ordinariate.

What I can say with certainty is this: I am deeply grateful, both to Peter our Bishop, and to Karl our Archdeacon (emeritus), for the very strong pastoral leadership they have so graciously, and so consistently provided us. I have been honoured to serve with them as member of Chapter, and within our clericus; and I have been personally strengthened and supported by their care and council, as I know many of you have also been.

I am grateful, as well, to all the members of our chapter and clericus for the collegiality and the fellowship we share within the Ordinariate; I am grateful to our wider church family for upholding us so faithfully, and so fulsomely in this ministry, as evidenced by the November issue of our Anglican Journal and the "Silent Night Project", which is engaging the whole church; and above all I am grateful that God -- working both in us and through us, and perhaps even some days in spite of us -- is transforming us and the world we are called to serve.

I am humbled by our Bishop's call to be your new Archdeacon, and if anything is "to stick" as I am collated, I sincerely pray it will be these very things for which I am so deeply grateful. I pray that my service will somehow help to strengthen our mutual care and council; that it will assist in enriching our collegiality and fellowship; that it will work to nurture and deepen our connections with the wider church; and that it will serve, in all things, to honour God.

In the season of new beginnings, I wish you a blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas, and I look forward to serving with you as your new Archdeacon in the new church year that lies ahead. God Bless,

*John+*

Archdeacon, Anglican Military Ordinariate



*Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Forces, Peter Coffin lays his hands upon the head of the new Archdeacon, Padre John Fletcher while the Chaplain General, Archdeacon Emeritus Padre Karl McLean looks on.*

*Photo: Art Babych, Editor, Crosstalk – used with permission.*

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## FROM OUR CANON TREASURER

I wish to thank you for your gifts to the Ordinariate Fund this year. We have made significant progress towards being financially self-sufficient but there is still some distance to go. If you have not yet made a gift for the 2010 taxation year or would like to 'top up' you can still do so by making a cheque out to The Anglican Military Ordinariate of Canada and sending it to me before December 31st at:

**LCol Nigel Shaw, D Chap Strategic Support  
Office of the Chaplain General  
National Defence Headquarters  
101 Colonel By Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K2.**

Or you can use Canada Helps.Org (to be found on the internet).

## The Silent Night Project and the Anglican Journal - Thank You

We are so grateful to our Primate for envisioning the 'Silent Night Project' to raise consciousness of the Anglican Military Ordinariate and, by extension, all of the Branch Chaplains and the members of the Forces and their families who we serve and with whom we serve. The proceeds will go towards the Bishop Ordinary Trust so that in the future we might ensure a bishop, at least half time, for the Ordinariate and also some support services.

I am grateful to those chaplains and their people who have produced such excellent and sometimes unusual presentations of this beloved carol. And, of course there are wonderful videos from around our beloved Church. Thank you so much! This project has given us a golden opportunity to share this ministry and the vocation of our military members with the Church.

I am grateful to Padre David Greenwood who has taken the lead within the Ordinariate. He enabled us to come together with Lisa Barry of Anglican Video for some 'clips'; encouraged us to get our own presentations online and simply kept us apprised. It has been a substantial job. Thank you David! And thank you, Lisa!

We are all grateful to Kristin Jenkins, editor of the Anglican Journal and her staff for a marvellous November issue in which the Ordinariate was featured. Our national church newspaper has been very kind to us as have been all of the staff of General Synod. Special mention must be made of the good people of The Anglican Foundation which administers our trust fund. You might like to become a member. Just check out the website. Archdeacon John Robertson, in charge of General Synod's Planned Giving programme has been a particular support and a blessing. You will note a large advertisement in the November issue for the Ordinariate.

In short, we in the Ordinariate have cause to be grateful to so many for their support and encouragement in this ministry of the Gospel that we share.

The carol 'Silent Night' is indeed beloved and the story of its inception is well known. You may not be familiar with the Christmas Truce of 1915 when both sides of the conflict ceased fire to meet in no man's land much to the chagrin of their commanders. If you check the 'Silent Night' videos and make your way to the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada's video you can hear the story told by Bishop Percy Coffin (Western Newfoundland). You can also Goggle.

May the day be hastened when nights may be silent of the tumult of war; when all is calm and the brightness is that only of the stars. Such nights will be Holy ones.

+Peter

Anglican Bishop Ordinary

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### “SUPPORT OUR TROOPS: Task Force 1-10/5-10 Prayer Service”

*Submitted by Rev. Sandra Easter, St. George's Chapel*

St. George's Protestant Chapel in Petawawa has taken to heart the task of praying for our troops during this current Afghanistan deployment. St. George's Chapel, in conjunction with St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Chapel, hosts a monthly prayer service which focuses on the simple task of praying for our soldiers, their families, and our military leadership. After five months of regular gatherings, this service has become an important part of the Chapel ministry on the Base, and within the surrounding community. Local church laity and leadership, Military Christian Fellowship members, and military families of deployed soldiers have come to join with the chapel community for worship and prayer. Email connections with our deployed chaplains, in theatre, have insured that they and we, praying together, are able to do so in a relevant and specific manner. There is a strong belief that through what happens in this hour together, in some simple and yet profound way, we truly are able to support our troops... even as they support us, Canada and NATO.



*Members and friends of St. George's Chapel praying for those deployed. Photo used with permission.*

## **A MAJOR ROLE** by the deployed captain-chaplains of TF 1-10

A system of differing roles and responsibilities is nothing new to Anglican's within the church or the military; but sometimes the question is posed "just what does the chaplain who is a Major do?" The Afghanistan Roto Task Force 1-10 (TF 1-10) chaplain team leader, Major the Reverend Maude Parsons-Hörst, filled many different roles in a recent deployment to Afghanistan. Starting with an Imposed Restriction (IR) posting to Petawawa, Padre Parsons-Hörst arrived with a positive attitude wishing to foster a team spirit that would get us through our tour. Her focus was to allow each team member to 'play to their strengths' and encourage growth. Through our autumn deployment planning and throughout our participation in Exercise MAPLE GUARDIAN held in California, January through March 2010, Padre Parsons-Hörst was a facilitator between the team and Canadian Military Training Centre (CMTC) chaplain staff, an advocate for the team within the Petawawa base, and in communication with the "then deployed" Team Leader "chaplain-majors" in theatre asking questions and seeking lessons learned information.

When the TF 1-10 team arrived in theatre, the TFK Senior Chaplain, Major Andre Gauthier, was already in place. Part of the task of the TF 1-10 team leader was to link with and support this 'overall chaplain team leader' which was accomplished through facilitating team meetings, participating in Next of Kin (NOK) visits, filling the TFK Major role while he was on HLTA, taking silent hour duty calls on a weekly rotational basis etc etc. Part way through the TF 1-10 tour, Major Grahame Thompson came in as the TFK Senior Chaplain. Major Parsons-Hörst provided the continuity link for this transition as she continued her previous supportive roles.

Both majors provide links with the chaplain net back in Canada. The regular work of Monthly Reports, Professional Development Reports (PDR) and Chaplain Evaluation Reports (CER) all continue, as do chaplain postings and course requests. The Majors do this mentoring/administrative "office type work" while continuing to serve as chaplain to their own units, the Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (OMLT) – pronounced as *omelette*, Military Police, and the Task

Force Headquarters (TFK HQ) staff. They also provide chaplain support to Kandahar Air Field (KAF) based soldiers and Units while other chaplains are working outside the wire. With regard to the deployed chaplain team, the majors supervise with professional critical thinking; think and act in terms of the larger team; anticipate and adapt to changes and challenges, and exemplify professional integrity in all they do.

Any special visits such as NOK family or VIP's were a welcome and meaningful ministry of the senior chaplains. Requests were received throughout the tour for special services such as dedications of plaques to the TFK Memorial or services for anniversaries of a death by a family member working in KAF. Attendance and presentations at weekly Coalition Chaplain meetings as well as representing the Canadian chaplain team at Coalition Ramp Ceremonies (often held in the early morning hours) all fell within the majors' responsibilities. Regular Sunday church services also were frequently handled by the majors as captain chaplains, scheduled for services, sometimes found themselves called away for operational needs.

The pastoral support provided by Major Parsons-Hörst in remembering the chaplains who were "out and about" in prayer and connecting with them through email, played a vital part in energizing the ministry of the team. Simply keeping track of who was where and who was available was a challenge at times, but essential to support the ministry needs of our deployed members

Sometimes it is easy to look at the role another person plays and be the armchair quarterback. It is good to remember that much more goes on behind the scenes of anyone's work than first glance might have you believe. Heading up and mentoring TFK and TF 1-10 chaplain teams certainly was *major* work.



*Padre Grahame Thompson and Padre Maude Parson-Hörst were the two Canadian Forces senior chaplains assigned to ministry with the troops in Afghanistan.*

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## **ORDINARIATE PRAYER LIST**

Compliments of Padre Catherine Askew, the Ordinariate now has a daily Prayer List for the year Sunday 28 Nov 2010 (Advent I) to Saturday 26 Nov 2011, the last week of the Season of Pentecost. Each Sunday is dedicated to praying for our Primate, our Bishop Ordinary and our Archdeacons. As well each Sunday focuses on our CF chaplain colleagues of all

denominations and various specific units of the CF across the country. Weekdays focus on various concerns of evangelization, ministering to all, responding to human need, safeguarding the integrity of creation, peacemaking, conflict transformation and reconciliation.

Please pray for each other on 6 Dec – St Nicholas Day – the day of the Patron Saint of the Ordinariate.

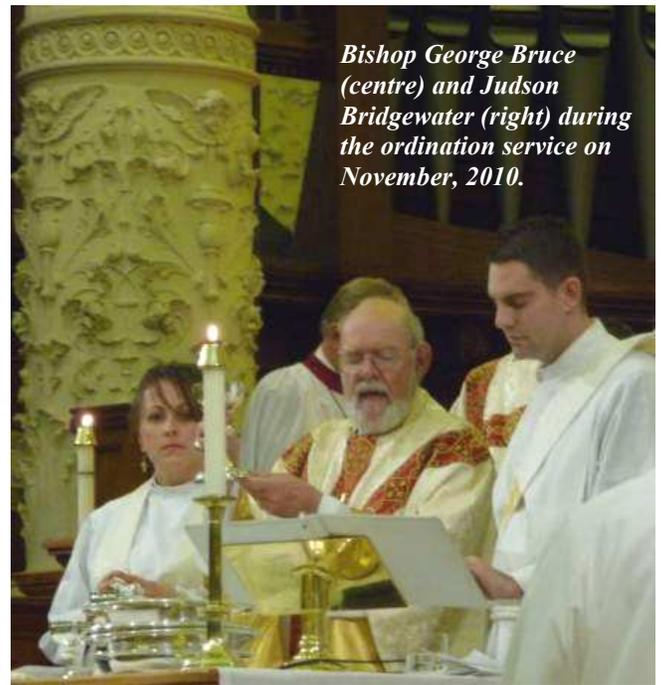
## JUDSON BRIDGEWATER ORDAINED



On the Feast of Christ the King, 21 November 2010, Colonel (Ret'd) the Rt Rev George Bruce, Bishop of Ontario, ordained Captain Judson Andrew Bridgewater, to the Sacred Order of Deacons at St. George's Cathedral in Kingston. Archbishop Douglas Hambidge, retired Metropolitan of British Columbia and the Yukon, delivered the homily on Isaiah 42: 1-9.

Judson is one of the three Anglican seminarians

sponsored by the Office of the Chaplain General to study for Holy Orders and eventual ministry with the CF under the Military Chaplain Training Program (MCTP). Upon ordination, Judson will serve in part-time ministry at the Parish of Loughborough in South Frontenac Township until May 2011, when, upon graduation from full time studies at Trinity College, he will be appointed priest-in-charge until the summer of 2013 when he will enter service in the chaplain branch.



*Bishop George Bruce (centre) and Judson Bridgewater (right) during the ordination service on November, 2010.*



## INTERNATIONAL ANGLICAN WOMEN'S NETWORK

*by Cynthia Greenwood IAWN-CANADA Military Ordinariate Rep*

When you read this article we will be well into the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign. If you take part in a gathering in your community or at your chapel, please send me a picture and a short article about the event. I will pass on your contributions to our national IAWN coordinator as well as the editor of this publication.

The following is an excerpt of a news article currently on the IAWN website:

### International Anglican Women's Network - News

#### **04-Oct-2010 Partnership formed between women's organizations in TEC to combat violence against women**

Known as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign, the campaign starts on November 25, International Day Against Violence Against Women and runs for 16 days until December 10, International Human Rights Day, in order to emphasize that gender violence is a violation of human rights. This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including November 29, International Women Human Rights Defenders Day, December 1, World AIDS Day, and December 6, which marks the Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre.

The Episcopal Church version of the campaign will recognize that the dates will overlap with Advent and will begin on (US) Thanksgiving. There will be opportunities for people and churches to write and share prayers and liturgies celebrating both Christ's coming into the world and the elimination of violence against women. Our campaign will be shared with other provinces within our Communion on the International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN)... IAWN considers the elimination of violence against women to be its number one priority.

During the 16 days of activism, churches will be encouraged to participate through prayer, special services to mark the occasion, sermons to emphasize the issue, speakers or films at adult forums, articles written in church and diocesan publications, and many other ways.