



The Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch
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Dear members and friends of the PBSC Toronto Branch,

First of all, hearty thanks to all of you who came through so generously with donations last December, to put the branch back onto a healthy financial footing. Together with your contributions, and thanks to an unexpected and most generous bequest of \$10,000, we were able to meet all of our current financial obligations, as well as send Sue Careless the remainder of her writer's fee for volume III of "Discovering the Book of Common Prayer – A Hands-On Approach". We were also able to repay the national PBSC the loan of \$5000 which they had earlier advanced to us for the printing of the book. At this stage we are in a healthy financial situation as we begin the new year, and can move forward with confidence with all of our ongoing programmes.

Our first upcoming event, our annual Lenten Quiet Day, will be held on April 2 and will feature as the speaker the Revd. Gethin Edward, the recently ordained son of our past national chairman (Michael Edward), newly appointed as rector of the parish of Tisdale in Saskatchewan. Gethin has long been a Prayer Book enthusiast, and served as a counsellor and teacher at our St. Michael's Youth Conference for three years, 2000-2002. With his infectious enthusiasm and piety, and his droll sense of humour, I am sure he will be a stellar leader for this event.

As you will see in *The Lamp*, this year's Quiet Day will have a slightly different format from that of previous years. Instead of ending with our customary service of Evening Prayer at 4:00 PM, we will be offering those in attendance the opportunity to participate in a service of sung Holy Communion commemorating the passing of the Revd. Dr. Robert Crouse, which is being jointly organized by PBSC-Toronto, St. Thomas's Church and Trinity College. As most of you will know, Dr. Crouse, who departed this life on January 15, was a guide and pillar of the PBSC from its very beginning. He fostered a love of the Prayer Book and classical Anglicanism in countless students and young people during his 32 years as a professor of classics at King's

(Please clip this coupon and enclose it with your donation in the envelope provided.)

THE PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY OF CANADA – TORONTO BRANCH

The work of the PBSC Toronto Branch is important to me! In support of it during spring of 2011, I enclose a cheque made out to the "Prayer Book Society of Canada – Toronto Branch", for:

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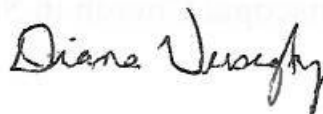
College in Halifax, and was tireless in promoting the understanding and use of the Prayer Book in his writing and in numerous speaking engagements (for example, he led our Quiet Day in Toronto in 2004). He was a theologian of the highest calibre and an internationally recognized authority on St. Augustine and on Dante, and yet found the time to mentor many fledgling Prayer Book enthusiasts, myself among them. This will be a solemn occasion, as we mourn the loss of a great man and reflect upon our own mortality, and yet a joyful one as we take comfort in the fellowship of Dr. Crouse and of all those faithful souls who have gone before. I hope that many of you will be able to come. You may choose to attend either, or both, of the Quiet Day and the commemorative service; if you attend both, you may opt to skip the parish services of Morning Prayer and Holy Communion prior to the Quiet Day, and arrive for coffee and the start of the event at 10:30 AM.

A brief update on current events in the wider Anglican Communion. As I noted in my previous letter, a meeting of the Primates of the provinces of the Anglican Communion was convened in January in Dublin by the Archbishop of Canterbury. As expected, a large number of Primates from the Global South (about one-third of the total number of Primates) did not attend this time, most of them because of the presence of the Presiding Bishop of the American Episcopal Church. While re-affirming their commitment to the Anglican Communion, these Primates have said that because agreed-upon decisions taken at previous meetings to resolve the current crisis have not been followed up, it would be “quite pointless” for them to spend the time and money to attend this meeting. An article in the Church of England Newspaper opined, with uncharacteristic bluntness, that the absence of these Primates is a reflection of their view that the Archbishop of Canterbury is unable or unwilling to resolve the current crisis. The challenge to Archbishop Williams’ leadership is clear, and apparently he has already been in conversation with the Primates of Kenya and Nigeria in an attempt to mend relationships.

I look forward to seeing many of you on April 2! And as ever, we will be relying on your financial support as we move into our branch activities for the coming year.

With best wishes for a holy Lent,

Yours faithfully,



Diana Versegby.

We welcome your comments!
