



From the office of the Archbishop of Algoma Anne Germond

**Announcement of the 2022 Certificates of Appreciation for lay members of the
Diocese of Algoma**

**On the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist
October 18th, 2022**

Dear people of God in Algoma,

Our church is richly blessed by hundreds of gifted lay people, co-workers and partners in the Gospel who serve our congregations faithfully year after year. Some are wardens, treasurers, lay readers, or serve in other positions of leadership, but many of them have never held a formal title or sat on a church board.

Yet through their devoted and loving ministry the mission of the church has carried on, and because of their constancy it continues to do the gathering work of Christ in communities right across Algoma. His love is made visible in and through the work of their hands and the light that radiates from their hearts.

Wanting to find an appropriate avenue to recognise these wonderful people I invited incumbents and their wardens to nominate three individuals in their congregation whose servant hearts and dedication to the Church have enriched the faith community in which they have served, therefore enriching our common life in Christ. Countless hours of time, talent and treasure have been generously and sacrificially given by these faithful people of God. I am grateful for each and every act of reconciliation or service, for each kindness offered, for every meal prepared, for every person visited, for every letter written, for every prayer said.

Apparently, the assignment was a difficult one for our incumbents who shared that they could have sent in a dozen or more names. Such is the richness of Algoma's laity.

Over the last four months the names of more than 80 members of our diocese have been received in the Synod office and these will be the recipients of the first annual Certificate of Appreciation. Signed by myself and the incumbent of the parish they are given in gratitude for the generous spirits, passion, joy, hard work and dedication of these faithful stewards of the church.

The wording on the Certificate reads:

“Because you have served the Lord in his church through the faithful exercise of your gifts, and because the Body of Christ has been enriched by your faithfulness, we award this certificate of appreciation to you.”

I am pleased to announce the names of the 2022 Recipients of the Certificate of Appreciation in the Diocese of Algoma

Algoma Deanery
St. Saviour's, Blind River
Yvonne Plant
Marie Kirchmeir
Richard “Dick” Horton

Church of the Redeemer, Thessalon
Real Levesque
Grant King
Ernie Stopes (Posthumously)

Emmaus, Sault Ste. Marie
Max Grandinetti
Edie Leblanc
Alison Weir

Holy Trinity, Sault Ste. Marie
Donna Komhyr
Ross Lay
Geoff Meakin

Parish of St. Joseph and St. George
Jennifer Falkins
Fred Court
Arthena Hecker

St. Luke's Cathedral, Sault Ste. Marie
John Cockburn
Jo Anstess
Dene Clarke

St. Paul's, Wawa

Beverly Boyd
Anne Owen

Muskoka Deanery

Christ Church, Gregory

Lynn McBride
Mary Ellen Kirk
Jim Boyd

Christ Church, Windermere

Conrad Tucker
Sonya Tucker

Church of the Good Shepherd, Emsdale

Lois Clark
Judy Strood
Margeruite Gilpin

St. John's, Eagle Lake

John and Joyce Kellough

St. George the Martyr, Magnetawan

Marjorie Hobson

Grace Church, South River

Gladys Gough
Leona Loney

Trinity Church, Parry Sound

Canon Betty Whetham
Karen Jewell

St. Thomas, Bracebridge

Peter May

Trinity-All Saints', Bala

Patricia Gidley

St. James, Gravenhurst

Elaine Smith
Derek Shakespeare

All Saints', Huntsville

Philip Morehead
Louis Tusz
Ruth Fink

Sudbury-Manitoulin Deanery
St. John the Divine, Copper Cliff

David Stamp
Joanne Stamp
Lesley Flowers

Christ Church, Lively

Winston Hardacre
Yvonne Hardacre
David White

St. Alban the Martyr, Capreol

Valerie Tryon
Dale Hartley
Gil Hartley

Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury

Philip and Mary Hopkins
Gilles Tessier

Church of the Ascension, Sudbury

Dave Fowler
Marie Vitone
Philip Balson

All Saints', Gore Bay

Hugh McLaughlin
Rene Proulx
Nancy Panton

St. John the Evangelist, Kagawong

Dianne Fraser
Charlene Chambers
Mary Buie

St. Paul's, Manitowaning

Leslie Fields
Jane Prosser
Deb Robinson

St. Francis of Assisi, Mindemoya

Lynda Peever
Audrey Jones
Dorothy Anstice

Holy Trinity, Little Current

Ursula Paxton
Robert Paxton
Vicki Collins

Temiskaming Deanery
Christ Church, North Bay
Bob Franklin (Posthumously)
Vern Morrison
Joy and Eric Magill

Northern Lights Parish
Brian Park

St. Simon's, Temagami
Edna Erwin
Wayne Johnson
Betty Louks

St. Brice's, North Bay
Bill Burton
Aase Jensen
Eva Black

Thunder Bay-North Shore Deanery
St. Stephen the Martyr, Thunder Bay
Gail Olofson
Jeffrey Pike
Carolyn Skinner

Mission to Seafarers, Thunder Bay
David Stephens
Irene Wyrozub
Brad Yeo

Gathering Table, Thunder Bay
Carol Kostyniuk
Margaret Boone
Sharon Corston

St. George's, Thunder Bay
Janet Creighton
Ingrid Koropeski
Doug Hutchison

St. John's, Schreiber
Shirley Hamilton
Louise Stefurak
Sharon Roen

St. Paul's, Thunder Bay
Alison Arthur
Ernie Tilbury
Christopher Willie

The Certificates of Appreciation have been mailed to Incumbents and will be presented to them in their parish one Sunday morning in the coming weeks during Holy Eucharist. I have prepared a Rite which may be used. The Rite is based on Luke 4: 18-19 where Jesus announces his purpose and mission to a people in need of the gospel – good news.

I have chosen these verses for my 2023 Motto:

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

On Sunday 6th November at 7pm I would like to invite all the recipients, incumbents and members of your parish family to attend an online Service of Evening Prayer so that I can offer my personal congratulations. This will also be an opportunity for Certificate recipients from around the diocese to meet one another. Liz Hamel will send out a Zoom invitation to incumbents.

There will be an annual awarding of these Certificates of Appreciation. Incumbents and Wardens are asked to prayerfully consider who the worthy recipients will be in 2023 and to submit their names to Liz Hamel by April 15th so the Certificates may be prepared for distribution. In parishes where there is no incumbent the Territorial Archdeacon or Interim Incumbent will work with the wardens to nominate three individuals.

Hearty congratulations to the 2022 recipients of the Certificate of Appreciation. May you know how much your faithful and devoted service has meant to the Church. May the abundant blessing of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit be upon them and may they continue to be strong in faith, courageous in witness and persistent in good deeds all the days of their lives.

With gratitude and affection,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Germond". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "With gratitude and affection,".

The Most Rev. Anne Germond
Archbishop of Algoma

**Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation
Diocese of Algoma**

***“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who bring good tidings.”
(Isaiah 52.7)***

Officiant

My siblings in Christ, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose today is to honour (N) and (N) and (N) with a Certificate of Appreciation from our Archbishop, and to give thanks for their faithful and devoted service which has enriched our common life. In the mission of Jesus Christ, we are constantly brought together and sent out. We are gathered by God around font, word, and table, and we are sent out to share in God’s work of healing, justice, reconciliation, and peace.

The Incumbent and wardens invite the recipients forward and say a few words about why they are being honoured.

Officiant Let us pray

After a moment of silent prayer, the Officiant continues,
We bless you, O God, and we praise your holy name.
You anointed your own Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit
to preach good news to the poor,
to heal the broken-hearted, to comfort the sorrowful,
and to announce the year of the Lord’s favour.

We thank you that in our time
you anointed (N) and (N) and (N) with the same Holy Spirit
and that through their ministry they have been for our church
messenger(s) of salvation and peace.

We thank you for blessing them with the gifts of your Holy Spirit
and for guiding them with the power of your grace
to undertake the ministry entrusted to them.

We thank you that through their words
the voice of Christ has been heard,
drawing others to the gospel through them.

We thank you that through the work of their hands
love has been given and received,
lives have been touched and hearts transformed.

We thank you that through their knowledge, wisdom, and understanding the mission and ministry of the church has continued to grow and flourish.

We give thanks for their love of you and for all they have given.
We pray you will pour down the abundance of your blessing upon them and that through your life-giving Holy Spirit they continue to be strong in faith, courageous in witness, and persistent in good deeds all the days of their lives.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Congregation prays the Prayer of Christian Life in unison:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

(BAS page 682-3)

Or the song "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" ("The Prayer of St. Francis") may be sung.