

June 1, 2018

The Rt. Rev Susan Bell
Bishop of Niagara

Dear Bishop Susan.

On this your first day on the job, let us from St Mark's NOTL again congratulate you on all that has come to pass for you to now be our Diocesan Bishop. We look forward to a fulfilling, blessed ministry together in Niagara, and to your visit here sometime soon.

This letter is also to nominate Allan Magnacca for the Order of Niagara. We understand the nominations need to be in soon for the Order to be bestowed later this year.

Allan Magnacca is in the second year as my Rector's Warden and has served me well in this role since I came to St Mark's in 2017. I often refer to him as Senator Magnacca with the abundance of 'sober second thought' he provides. Allan was also Rector's Warden during the incumbency here of The Rev'd Ian Dingwall, and served with distinction. He is greatly admired and respected by all members of the parish.

As well as providing this leadership role in the parish, Allan has consistently been conscious of and committed to the Diocese of Niagara, regularly attending diocesan services, events and functions, including the Bishop's Company.

In addition to his active participation in the life of the church Allan has also served many community organizations, including:

- * Niagara College Foundation (now a Lifetime Honorary Director)
- * Niagara Police Board (member and chair)
- * RiverBrink Art Museum (serving also as Treasurer)
- * Shaw Festival Theatre Guild (Lifetime member)
- * Lt. Col (Retired), Royal Canadian Artillery (awarded Canadian Decoration & Bar)

Allan was a volunteer at the Walker Family Cancer Centre in St. Catharines and created a program that ensured patients waiting for treatment would not wait alone. His wife Betty was treated there before her death in 2015. It concerned him to see people waiting alone in difficult circumstances and so he created a volunteer program that provided companionship.

He once told me that his favourite hymn is 'Breathe on me Breath of God'. Both in the Anglican Church and in the wider community of Niagara, he breathes new life and helps us to sing:

*Breathe on me breath of God, fill me with life anew
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldest do.*

Sincerely,

The Rev'd William Roberts
Rector. St. Mark's NOTL