

The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto



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Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Dear friends at St. Barnabas,

Since the announcement by the Reverend Jeannette Lewis of her retirement earlier this year, I have been working closely with your churchwardens – Gary Davenport and Teresa Johnson – to discern the next priest and pastor for your parish. Along with a small group of parishioners, they have done an exceptional job in working with me to attract excellent candidates, undertake interviews, and then prayerfully discern the best fit for your parish.

I am delighted to announce today that the search is over. **I am very pleased to appoint the Reverend Louise Dightam as your priest-in-charge, beginning September 1st.** Louise is exceptionally gifted. Following a very successful career in the Ontario Public Service, Louise undertook theological studies at Trinity College in Toronto. She served a number of parishes in our Diocese, including St. Cuthbert's, Leaside; St. Peter's, Erindale; and as Interim Chair of the Board at All Saints' Church Community Centre – a ministry serving some of the most vulnerable people in our city. Louise has extensive experience in management and communications, and a heart for the ministries of outreach, social justice, diversity and community engagement. She currently serves as the Priest-in-Charge at the Church of the Prince of Peace, Wasaga Beach, where she has overseen significant growth in Sunday attendance, stewardship and the church's online and social media presence. I believe Louise is an excellent fit for St. Barnabas, and I look forward to your new ministry together.

The process that has brought Louise to St Barnabas means that she is being appointed Priest-in-Charge of the parish for one year. At that time, with the mutual agreement of the churchwardens, Louise and me, that appointment can become an indefinite incumbency.

Friends, it has been a great joy and honour to work with your leadership in this process, Again, Gary and Teresa have served you so very well in this prayerful discernment. May God continue to bless the parish of St. Barnabas, and Louise, and this wonderful new ministry that is about to begin. Be assured of my continued prayers.

Yours faithfully,

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