



The  
**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - WEST TORONTO

FOUNDED 1881

Humberside and Quebec Avenues

CLERGY

The Rev. Gordon D. King - 283-9552

The Rev. Robert Kennedy - 766-9847

Church Office: 763-2393



**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

at  
**ST. JOHN'S**

ADVENT: ADVENT 3; December 11th ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

(Hanging of the Greens) 3:30 p.m.  
Parish Dinner 5:15, Entertainment  
This is our Church School Party. Parents are  
invited to attend and the Children may bring  
friends.

ADVENT 4; December 18th 11 a.m. LESSONS & CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE: 7:30 p.m. Choral Eucharist  
(7:00 p.m. Recital)

11:00 p.m. Choral Eucharist  
(10:45 p.m. Carol Sing)

CHRISTMAS DAY: 8:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST  
11:00 a.m. CHORAL EUCHARIST

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends of St. John:

This is the last letter that I will share with you before Christmas and the New Year.

Christmas is such a wonderful time in most of our lives - a time of family, friends, the hustle and bustle of shopping, the joy of Christmas carols, and above all, the time we remember the birth of Christ.

God sent his son, Jesus Christ, to be born into a world of strife, fear and anxiety. The birth of a Child in a manger brought a message of "peace" from the angels. I need this message in my life today and every day. God loves me so much he gave his son to be a light in the darkness.

Don't let the materialism of Christmas dim this light. Let the light, the Christ Child, be the centre; and the rest - the presents, the cards, the family will all fit into place.

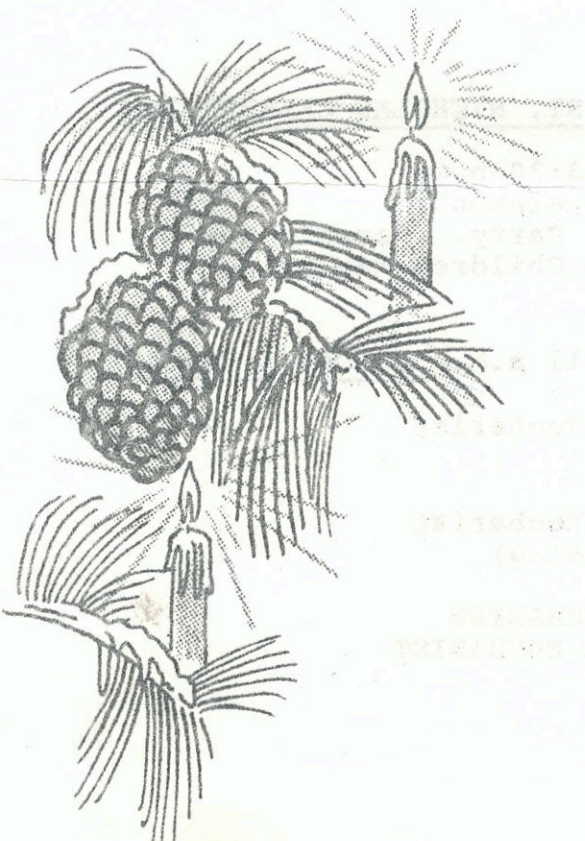
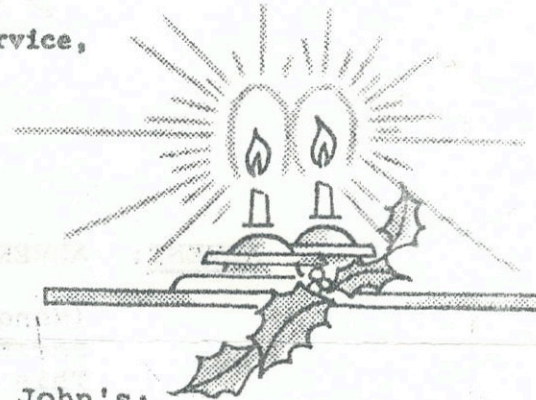
Love Christmas, all of it, but make His Peace, Love and Joy the first gift you open and the rest will shine with His love.

God bless you and your friends and family and may you have a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year.

Yours in His Service,

Gordon D. King

FROM ROBERT KENNEDY



Dear Friends at St. John's;

I am looking forward to being with you on Christmas Day to share that wonderful love God gave to us in the gift of His Son.

God Bless you and thank you for all your prayers and support.

Robert Kennedy



## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM KENYA

In our last issue, we introduced a young Kenyan girl named Joyce Gatonga. Joyce's education in a private girl's boarding school is sponsored by St. John's A.C.W.

The school is located in Meru, Kenya and is called the Materi Girls' Centre. Each year at Christmas, Brother John Koczka, principal of the school, sends a letter to the sponsors:

Christmas 1983

Dear Friends,

Another year has literally flown by for us at Materi Girls' Centre, our tenth birthday at the Centre and my own seventeenth year in Africa. To be honest it has also been a good year, thanks in great measure to YOU, for your sacrifice and encouragement. Academically our national examination results improved more than 100% over previous years, and the teaching staff has been strengthened by the addition of two new graduates, both local Africans. Again, we were able to give more needed attention to practical subjects like Home Economics and Typing, which pleased me to no end. Theory is fine, but we also need the nut-and-bolt studies too, especially here in the Third World and its rural communities. Popular is not the word for the School. Just a few weeks ago we held interviews for next year's primary class. Would you believe it: more than 1534 children, all with pencil in hand, turned up to vie for the only 80 places available in January, 1983!

This year we also added a beautiful chapel to the Centre, two new staff houses, and a lorry-bus, our dream-come-true, a bus that proudly reads, "A gift from our parents and friends." No, we didn't forget you. I'm also happy to say that the long-awaited Community Garden is now off the ground. The first twenty village families, all landless and unemployed, are now happily at work on their one-acre plots, plots that are watered and supervised by the Centre and its personnel. We hope, no we know the project will provide not only food and nourishment for the local people but also, and very importantly, much needed income and inspiration. Like the Child Care Unit which caters each month for over 1300 infants and pregnant mothers, the Community Garden is low-keyed but so vital. That the Centre and its many friends, especially YOU so very far away, care for this Kenyan community, believe me this is a Christmas gift all in itself every day of the year.

No, we don't need the latest Astroid game to keep us happy. Besides, where would we plug it in! But food, a healthy body, a little security and peace of mind - what gift could top these? In the coming months we must complete three new classrooms, increase the number of poultry as well as add a pig or two, and plan for our up-coming village seminar in nutrition and preventive medicine for the heads of local families in this area.

For your prayers, your love, your concern and your generosity, we say THANK YOU, THANK YOU again. Do have a blessed Christmas and Peace-filled New Year in 1984.

Sincerely,

Brother John Koczka



AN INTRODUCTION TO

THE REV. ROBERT KENNEDY

Bob Kennedy, our assistant Priest-in-Charge, has had a very interesting career. He comes from Lindsay, Ontario and was a pilot in the R.C.A.F. during World War II. He studied Engineering at the University of Toronto and graduated in 1949.

From 1949 to 1962, he was an engineer with Ontario Hydro. He received a B. Th. from Huron College in 1965. Since then he has been as assistant and honorary assistant at St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario, and then an

honourary assist-nt at St. Clements, Eglinton. In 1970, Bob returned to Ontario Hydro as a Thermal Station Manager until his retirement in 1983.

He feels very enthusiastic about his appointments to St. Mary's and St. Cyprian's, and to St. John's. He is all in favour of team ministry.

Bob described his family as consisting of one wife, three daughters, three sons-in-law and four and one half grandchildren.

Welcome to St. John's, Bob!

FROM THE PARISH REGISTRY:

We welcome to the fellowship of St. John's;

Mr. & Mrs. S. McCabe ✓  
Pam and Lauren Hansen ✓  
Betty and Daniel Rothing ✓  
Mr. & Mrs. D. Toner ✓  
Mrs. M. Smallman and daughter ✓  
Mr. & Mrs. V. Green and Matthew ✓  
Mr. & Mrs. M. Reid ✓



*Your God is King*

NOTE: Have you returned your pledge cards for 1984? It's not too late and will help the Wardens with their planning.

### ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

Under the umbrella of A.C.W., the women of St. John's have enjoyed a year of Fellowship and Financial success. Three of the groups - St. Anne, St. Elizabeth and St. Mildred, (Chancel) have been quite active; with St. Helen's participating in the Bazaar, social service night and other functions. Also, we are indebted to the associate members and the men of the congregation, without whose help we would not be able to function.

As one of more than 200 ACW's in the Diocese, we attended the Council meetings and contributed our share of the Diocesan A.C.W. Outreach commitment of \$70,000 to the Diocesan and General Synod's Budgets.

Our Purpose: "To strengthen personal, family and community life by including women in Worship, Learning, and Service."

Watch for our summary in the Annual Report Book.

Irene Munroe.

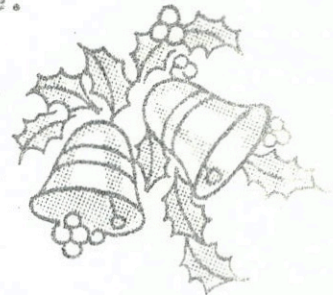
### MIRACLE MART DEMONSTRATION - COME ONE, COME ALL!

Don't forget the interesting evening coming up on Tuesday Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. Sherry Haynes promised we could get at least 100 people out, so let's not disappoint her! There will be draws, refreshments, a demonstration by a butcher with all kinds of good tips for proper food preparation. Men and women welcome. See you there!

### ST. ANNE'S UPCOMING EVENTS:

RUMMAGE SALE: Saturday January 21st, 10 a.m. - 12 noon;  
Bake Table, Flea Table, Clothing.

VALENTINE BRIDGE & EUCHRE: Sat. February 11th, 2-4 p.m.  
Refreshments at 1:30; Tickets \$4; Prizes



### HANGING OF THE GREENS - ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION:

On Sunday, December 11, at 3:30 p.m. one of St. John's nicest traditions will take place. It is the "Hanging of the Greens" - a particularly exciting event for the children of the Parish. There will be decorating, carol singing, presents and a meal in the Parish Hall at approximately 5:15. Children are invited to bring friends along, and we hope to have everyone participating.



*The night is far spent the day draws nigh*

### VARIETY CONCERT TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY:

St. John's choir will sponsor a Variety Concert in February, so break out the tap shoes, dust off the violins and come join us for an enjoyable evening of entertainment! The concert will help defray the costs of new choir gowns. All of you talented people out there should contact May Webster at 763-7556.

DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Brownies	2	3 Choir Party
ADVENT II 8:30 & 11 Eucharist Jesse Tree 2-5 One Parent Christmas Party	5 Cubs & Scouts	6 Pathfinders Rangers <u>OUTREACH</u> <u>EVENING 8 p.m.</u>	7 Kids' Club Guides Bible Study	8 Brownies	9 Choir	10
ADVENT III 8:30 Eucharist 11 Mattins 3:30 St. Nicholas Celebrations 5:15 Parish Dinner	12 Cubs & Scouts	13 Pathfinders Rangers	14 Kid's Club Party Guides Bible Study	15 Brownies	16 Choir	17
ADVENT IV 8:30 Eucharist 10 Runnymede 11 Lessons & Carols	18 Cubs & Scouts	20 Pathfinders Rangers	21 Guides Bible Study	22 Brownies	23	CHRISTMAS EVE 24 7 Recital 7:30 Eucharist 10:30 Carol Sing 11 Eucharist
<u>CHRISTMAS DAY</u> 8:30 & 11 a.m. Choral Eucharist The Rev. R. Kennedy	25 PREPARE VESTRY REPORTS	27	28	29	30 PREPARE VESTRY REPORTS	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 CHRISTMAS II 8:30 & 11 Holy Eucharist	2 VESTRY REPORTS DUE	3 Rangers Pathfinders	4 Guides Bible Study	5 Brownies	6 EPIPHANY 8:00 P.m. Eucharist & Hymn Sing	7
8 EPIPHANY I 8:30 & 11 Holy Eucharist	9 Cubs & Scouts	10 Rangers Pathfinders	11 Guides Bible Study	12 Brownies	13 Choir	14
15 EPIPHANY II 8:30 & 11 Holy Eucharist	16 Cubs & Scouts	17 Rangers Pathfinders	18 Guides Bible Study	19 Brownies	20 Choir	21 Rummage and Bake Sale 10 - 12 St. Anne's Group
22 EPIPHANY III 8:30 & 11 The Rev. R. Kennedy Annual Vestry, St. Mary's, G. King	23 Cubs & Scouts	24 Rangers Pathfinders	25 Guides Bible Study	26 Brownies	27 Choir	28
29 EPIPHANY IV 8:30 Eucharist <u>VESTRY MEETING</u> Following 11:00am Service. Light Lunch	30 Cubs & Scouts	31 Rangers Pathfinders				