



# PARISH NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - WEST TORONTO

FOUNDED 1881

Humberside and Quebec Avenues

Mr. & Mrs. M. Ramsey  
448 Glenlake Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario  
M6P 1C8

NEWSLETTER

No. 5 June, 1984

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. JOHN'S

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL  
St. Anne's & Associates

Saturday, June 25, 1984      2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Tickets, which can be purchased at the door, are  
\$2.50 Adults  
\$1.00 Children

A FAMILY STRAWBERRY TEA, with strawberry shortcake,  
coffee, tea and soft drinks for the children.

Please bring along your favour goodies for the BAKE SALE, and also any home grown fruit or vegetables you can spare - they always find ready customers. We are hoping for a good crowd.

## MAY MART

Many, many thanks from Milly Bateman, convenor, to everyone who helped in the preparation and on the day itself, and also to those who gave prizes for the raffle. The proceeds for the day totalled almost \$1400, so it was certainly worth all the work.

## THE DEACON'S CUPBOARD

With this project we hope to accumulate a supply of canned goods to be given to needy people in our own area as and when required.

You may have noticed the yellow box in the Narthex on Sunday last. We hope that you will add an extra item to your shopping list each week to drop into our Deacon's Cupboard on Sunday mornings. Obviously, canned food will be the easiest to handle and to keep. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

### USED POSTAGE STAMPS

The Downtown Churchworkers Association are raising funds by selling used postage stamps to dealers and collectors. If you are not a collector yourself, please take a moment to remove stamps from your weekly mail and drop them into the box in the Narthex. (Please leave about 1/4" border around the stamps for easy handling). The stamps are sold for \$3.75 for 5lbs - special stamps are sold separately. Last year the Association raised \$1200 from this source which helped to fund such programmes as summer camps for underprivileged children. Moorlands is one of the camps; altogether 600 children a year are given this much needed opportunity to have a summer holiday.

### NEW MEMBERS FOR ST. JOHN'S

We are happy to welcome the following new members to St. John's:

Dean and Laura Samaras  
Mrs. Rose-Ann Snake  
Lynn Sparling

Mrs. Pauline Warr and Tasha and Jeremy

and we welcome back:

Mrs. J. Swackhammer

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 1984

As you know, work starts early in the year for the annual Christmas Bazaar. One of the items the ACW hopes to have for sale then is a RECIPE BOOK made up of all our favourite recipes. Some had already been collected in previous years but we shall need many more - any kind of dish, salad, dessert or cake. Please hand them in to Milly Bateman or anyone involved in the bazaar. I'll be giving you more information on how the finished book will look; in any case, please be sure to give your name so that it can be included.

### BRIDGEHEAD TEA AND COFFEE

Just a reminder that throughout the summer the tea and coffee supplies will be available after service. Outreach looks forward to your continued support.

### INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be in August and will have lots of information about the activities coming up - don't forget about the Fall Dinner and Dance on September 29. If you have any news items, amusing articles, or information on events, please call me at 767-8945.

### HI! MONA

When you read this, Mona, please be assured of the best wishes of everyone at St. John's for your speedy recovery.

### "THANK YOU" TO ST. JOHN'S

This picture and note was given to me by Mrs. Keller at the May Mart last week. Last Christmas she was happy to receive the Christmas cake at the Bazaar. (we had all made valliant attempts to guess the weight). In December, the Miracle Food Mart made a generous gift of food to Mrs. Keller following the Food Demonstration at St. John's.

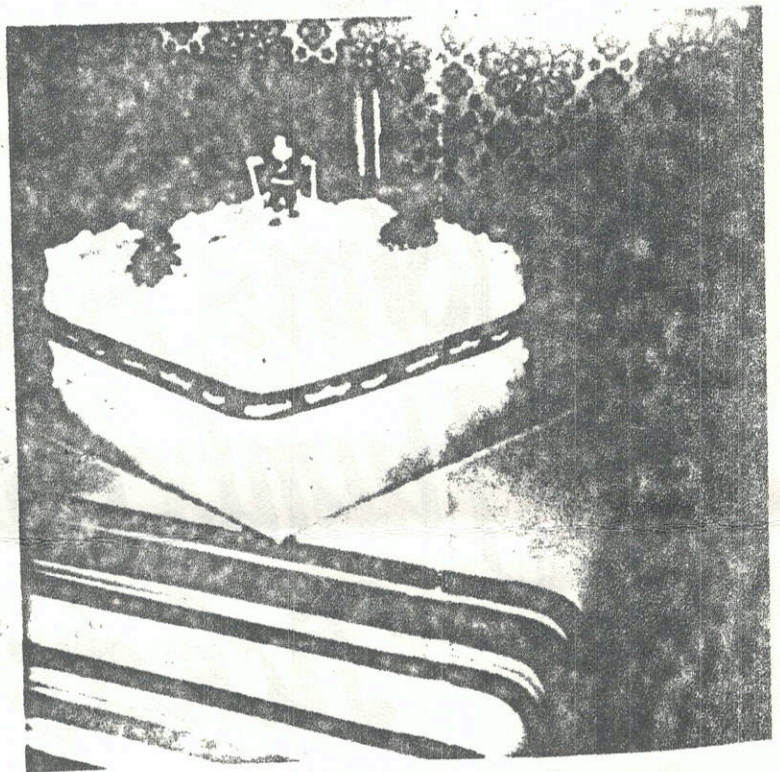
Mrs. Keller told me of her great appreciation for these gifts which meant a lot at a time when the employment situation for her husband had been most difficult.

Our thanks also to Miracle Food Mart, for helping us to help the members of our community.

(A happy footnote is that the job news is good for the Keller family now and they are looking forward to better times.)

Thank you for the cake!  
It was delicious and also  
was my boy's 5th birthday  
cake (Dec 25th), also thank  
for the food champions  
& the violet.

Many thanks!  
from the  
Keller  
Family



### ST. JOHN'S CHOIR

The Choir would welcome new members - all voices. Please think about it over the summer and if you have any queries call Choir Director, Sandra Nemenyi 233-6511 or Organist Wendy Greene 763-7567. Thursday evening practices recommence in September.

Yours in fellowship  
Joyce Ramsey  
Editor



# Family Strawberry Tea & Bake Sale



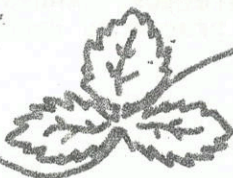
Saturday, June 23/84 ~ 2pm

at

St. John's Anglican Church  
288 Humberstone (at Quebec)

Tickets \$2.50

Children's portions available



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH -- West Toronto

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

TELEPHONE: 763-2393

288 HUMBERSIDE AVENUE  
TORONTO, ONTARIO M6P 1L5

The Rev. Gordon D. King  
Office 763-2393 Home 283-9552

The Rev. Robert Kennedy  
Office 538-9151 Home 766-8847

Dear Friends of St. John:

I am writing you this note immediately after returning from three days at Trent University at a conference on Evangelism called by Archbishop Garnsworthy. What an exciting time! Meeting with old friends, meeting the young men that are just starting their ministry, sharing the struggle that the older Priests are going through, and seeing the joy and thrill of new life in the young men and women that are just starting their ministry. (All services that were held were from the new expression of the liturgy, and were done so sincerely and beautifully by the young men and women that officiated.)

We had a real struggle with Evangelism, and real conflict with one of the speakers and what he attempted to share with us.

The Rev. A. Wayne Schwab shared with us a view of Evangelism that I found exciting and challenging. A view that would make me as your Parish Priest, and you as a fellow minister with me in the work of God, examine our faith in the light of Scripture, Baptism, the Eucharist, that we would become freed up to express this faith amongst ourselves, and share it with God's people in His world.

It excites me that when we have a new member, or family join our church that, along with the fellowship we have to share with them we could share with them a real meaning of the faith.

There are several questions you and I have to ask ourselves:

What was our purpose in the past? (Where have we been?)

What is the purpose as you see it To-day at St. John's,  
(Where are we at?)

What do we see as our Purpose in the future? (Where are we going?)

When I look at where you have been I see all the wonderful ministries that have taken place in this Parish: Baptisms, marriages, confirmations, the thousands and thousands of dollars to Outreach. As I sit in the office and think of the hours and hours of counseling, etc. etc. What a wonderful past. You should be, and I hope, you are PROUD of it.

But what of To-day?...we can't live in the past no matter how great and wonderful it was!

I want to say what a wonderful congregation you are, and despite the fact many of you are elderly you are young at heart. You have held in with all of the changes that I have brought about, and

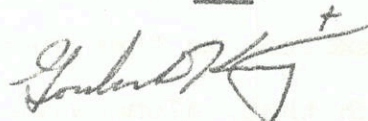
let me say that I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support you have given me. I know that you may not understand or like some of the changes, but you have supported me in your prayers, and your attendance, and you'll never know what that has meant to me.

What of the future? I pray that I am not the only one, but I feel that there is a great future for St. John's. It is not going to happen overnight. We are going to see small, but steady

improvement. Many of those who are looking at St. John's at the moment are not from Anglican backgrounds. We have Lutherans, Methodist Roman Catholic, United, Greek Orthodox joining in our worship, and I thank God for them. I pray that we can make them feel a part of our Church Family, and I do feel that the New Liturgy and it's expression of the faith is one of the items that makes them feel at home at St. John's.

Daisy and I will be away during July enjoying our trailer up north of Superior, but I can tell you that there will never be a day go by that I will not uphold you in our prayers, and be thinking about the great opportunities that God has given to me through Him to bring New Birth and Life into our Church, and our lives.

God bless you and keep you...Keep the Faith...and  
WE WILL OVERCOME THROUGH HIM.



# The perfect service

by George R. Henaut

An Anglican parish wanted a perfect service, a "super special" where everything was right and everyone was pleased.

An Anglican parish decided that it would like to have a service of worship that would be very special and long remembered as a perfect service. This service would be out of the ordinary, a real "superspecial", a service to live in the hearts of parishioners for generations. Later generations would recall the service with: "Oh, yes, that was the service that captured the real spirit of worship", or "My grandfather said that no service could ever surpass the one held in his day", or "It was, indeed, a perfect service".

One of the first decisions made by the parish in bringing the notion of a perfect service one step closer to reality was to request a full parish meeting to discuss the proposed service. Evidently the response was overwhelming, a packed church hall gathered to breathe life into an idea.

It was proposed by the rector, seconded by the wardens, and unanimously approved by those present that the theme of the service be "That All May Be One".

Having settled upon an appropriate theme, the meeting enthusiastically settled down to wrestling with the basic details of the service.

The first detail to be solved was the time of the service. Many felt that the summer would be the most suitable time since the weather and roads were more predictable and energy costs were less. However, others pointed out that God goes on vacation for July and August and might not con-

sider favourably having to tune into such a service while enjoying summer frolics. Others pointed out that churches were too stuffy in the summer and wondered why others had not thought of such an important consideration. At this point, another group proposed that a winter month be considered, but this soon received negative comments because it is difficult to get to church in winter snow, ice, and cold. Another group decided that a compromise was in order, and therefore, suggested that either the spring or fall be considered. It was, however, pointed out that the fall is already busy enough with school re-opening, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, and then before you know it Christmas. How could anyone consider the spring with March Break and Easter taking up so much time and energy?

It was agreed to leave the season decision to a committee for consideration. There did seem to be a general concern that it might be desirable to have the service mid-way between Christmas and Easter so that some parishioners would feel more comfortable with the presence of poinsettia and/or lilies since many only saw the church so arrayed. Someone suggested that the service be held to coincide with red hangings because they were the most attractive.

The group then attempted to resolve the desired hour for the service. Some suggested nine o'clock as the most desirable hour, but there were those who felt that

this was too early for those who watched the late show or who went partying. It was suggested that it might be better to consider eleven o'clock. This brought forth some concern that such a service, if lengthy, might "cut in" to midget hockey practice or the usual Sunday recreation. The suggestion that the service be held in the evening startled many who had not realized that provision is made for evening services in the prayer book. This suggestion was soon abandoned since Sunday television is family night with such favourite programs as: "Crime Today", "Desire on the Beach", "Take a Bribe", and "Lotto Today". This dilemma was also given to the committee for deliberation.

The length of the service caused some concern. Many felt that one hour was sufficient and that anything else would simply encourage the glorification of verbosity. Some felt that a good sermon should only be five minutes; others disagreed. There was even a recommendation that a perfect service would omit the sermon. The group agreed that the length of the service would depend on the individual items in the service and so moved on to considerations of the same.

The type of service to be used was then discussed. It was recommended that the service be a communion one, yet there was strong resistance against this. It was pointed out that the communion service would be too lengthy. Some sage suggested that the rec-

tor be assisted in the administering the chalice but there were those who would have none of that foolishness. The recommendation to invite a neighbouring clergyman to assist did not bring favourable response as well since many felt that no "outsiders" were needed to assist them in their service.

Suddenly the motion to have a morning prayer service was brought forth, but this was soon put aside as impossible since the Te Deum posed such a problem for the congregation to sing. Many would not agree with a said version, describing it as tedious.

It was at this point that someone suggested having a new rite communion service, but many wanted no part of that heresy. After all, this service was to be a time of reflecting upon the past glories and there was no place for the present or future in the church. Besides, most of the devout realized that Elizabethan language was infinitely more familiar to God than modern jargon. It was good to see reason prevail.

Someone from the back row of the church hall suggested having a folk mass but no one really took him seriously. Such a notion smacked of Rome!

The group agreed that this important decision could not be sent to a committee who already had more than enough to consider. Consequently, the group favoured sending the matter to the bishop and it was generally agreed that at least this would involve him in a matter that be relatively harmless.

The choir director asked for suggestions for special music. Some suggested there be special anthems. Others felt that no anthem would be special. There was general disagreement on the choice of traditional or contemporary music. Many felt that only the "blue" book should be used. Someone suggested that the

"red" books would be more in keeping with the red hangings should they be used. Someone suggested that only hymns written by Anglicans be used and that this apply to both music and lyrics. There seemed to be a lot of discussion on Beethoven's religious affiliation since many wanted JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE as the processional, although there were those who thought it would be better as a recessional. It was agreed that one exception could be made so that Beethoven's music could be used; this was seen as a means of making the service more ecumenical.

The mere mention of the word "ecumenical" brought forth many comments. The question of who was to attend the service arose. Many felt that only the faithful should attend. Some felt that other denominations might be invited to share the experience; however, many felt "that their ways are not ours" and it could dilute "the faith." After all, God is an Anglican, and would He appreciate the inclusion of others!

As discussion began to wane, a former warden suggested that in order to provide a perfect service they should profit from past experiences. Obviously, they all knew what was not a perfect service. Quickly, everyone was given pencil and paper and an opportunity to list favourite "beefs" with services. The top five dissatisfactions were then reported. These were the responses:

1) No small children should be permitted in the service because they cause too much commotion. They can wait until they are adults.

2) The junior choir should not participate because they deprive

the seniors of their seats, and after all, the seniors have earned their seats; they have sat on them much longer.

3) The rector should be careful to adjust his stole properly; there is nothing as distracting as an uneven stole.

4) The choir should not turn and face the congregation for the anthem because first of all; this is not proper in an Anglican church and secondly it would be better to have the choir face the altar and sing to God who is the object of their worship. God can hear best if you face him.

5) The entire service should be printed in booklet form so that no page flipping will be necessary as is the case with searching for psalms or collects in the prayer book or, even worse, in that new rite.

There appeared to be a general satisfaction with the dissatisfactions! Consequently, the group moved on to very serious considerations such as the possibility of a lunch. It was felt that a lunch of sweet breads would be most suitable as long as jams were supplied. The men agreed to serve if the ladies baked. There was a brief moment of discussion about stereo-typing in the list of duties for lunch but this was soon dismissed.

Feeling that much had been accomplished it was agreed to adjourn until reports were received from the bishop and committee.

It appears that closed door discussions in the committee room have not yielded a uniform position as yet. Of course, the delay in changing from a committee of the vestry to that of the Parish Council took its toll. As soon as the committee reports their suggestions, all will be made available to you. It is important that we strive to be one!

George Henaut is a Lay Reader at Christ Anglican Church, Stellarton, NS.