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# The PARISH NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - WEST TORONTO

FOUNDED 1881

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NEWSLETTER

No. 6 October, 1984

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. JOHN'S

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, December 1st 11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Please contribute what you can in the way of home baking, sewing, crafts, woollens, dolls and toys, Christmas decorations .... and bottles! This year there will be a stall containing bottles of all sorts containing Perfume, Wine, Shampoo, Homemade Sauces ... whatever can be put in a bottle.

Lunch will be served - lots of good things to eat.  
So please come and bring your friends.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE REVEREND GORDON KING

Dear Friends of St. John's,

Over the past two months Daisy and I have celebrated two important anniversaries in our life: On October 28th we celebrated the 28th Anniversary of my Ordination to the Diaconate, and on September 1 we celebrated the first year of our ministry at St. John's.

Naturally, at times like this we look back and evaluate the past, and consider the future. (In another part of the Newsletter, I want you to read the article "God's Days")

I have enjoyed my ministry. God has given me the privilege to be involved over the years with ten Churches and also in establishing group homes for juveniles. I have met a tremendous number of wonderful loving people and I thank God for them and the ministry He has performed through me.

What about my year at St. John's, as I look back?

It has been a year of getting to know the "ins and outs" of St. John's, a year of

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evaluating finances, repairing buildings, and attempting to establish a new and challenging ministry to this parish. I am happy with what has been accomplished: our new Organist, Wendy Green and our Choir Director, Sandy Nemine have done a wonderful job with our music for worship; Jack Howard, our caretaker, also has done and continues to do a great job. As you may know, our secretarial work is now being done on computer!

Our Church Building is almost in excellent shape: the tiles on the roof have been repaired, our boiler is now in good shape, our drains have been unplugged, repairs to the plasterwork have been made in our Parish Hall, and the downstairs area has been painted, along with my office. We still need fans in the ceiling, fire detection units installed, and the roof of the Bell Tower repaired.

THE RECTORY: We have spent \$24,000 on the Rectory, which is now in good order. There is a new furnace, all the windows have been replaced, both bathrooms on the second floor have been renovated and a new bathroom installed on the first floor, and the ground floor has been jacked up. The Rectory is now rented by the Order of the Holy Cross.

THE PARISH HOUSE: The Parish House is also rented by the Order of the Holy Cross and negotiations are presently in process between Synod, ourselves and the Holy Order to sell the house to them in the near future.

CHURCH WORSHIP: We have moved into contemporary liturgy; we have moved to the Eucharist at every service - as a friend of mine says "The Lord's Service, on the Lord's day". I know that there have been and are still mixed feelings in the parish; some love it, some are lukewarm, and a few find it very difficult.

I know that we are the only Church in this Deanery that has moved in this direction. I also know that the new alternate Book of Common Prayer is expected to be available in the Spring of 1985. We, by that time, will have gone through our struggle of change in liturgy and I still hope that we can attract new people from this community to this Church because we are interested in moving into a new future, a new life, a new spirituality.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE? I am so pleased to have the support and love of Holy Cross and in particular Brother Brian who is now on staff with the Rev. Bob Kennedy and myself. He is full of enthusiasm and has some great plans and dreams about his ministry here. What he needs to feel is the support of the parish, not behind him pushing, not in front leading, but beside him to walk with him as he brings this new ministry into our Church.

I have asked him to look after our Christian Education and he has already developed a team to help him.

Some of our excitement stems from the 9.15 a.m. service which we have held during the past few weeks. This service was developed for families with children to see how they would function around the Eucharist. Brian and I are pleased and excited by what we have learned and want to share it with the 10.30 a.m. service and also develop it in our Church School. On the first Sunday of each month, we will have a Family Service, when the children will be with us in the Church for the whole service. All other Sundays, the children will go directly downstairs where Brother Brian or I will lead them in singing, or reading a lesson, telling the Gospel story, prayers of the Church, and so on. The children will then come into the Church at the time of the offering.



Following this letter will be an outline of a new programme for our children and our congregation. I hope and pray that you will also become excited about it, as Brian and I open it up to you in the future.

And now, all I want to say is HANG IN, LOVE THE LORD, PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH, PRAY FOR OUR MINISTRY, know that God will bless us if we keep up our end of the faith.

Yours in His Service

Gordon King

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A LETTER FROM BROTHER BRIAN, ORDER OF THE HOLY CROSS

Dear Parishioners,

My first weeks at St. John's have been a great joy to me. The possibilities for ministry by the people of St. John's are endless. An opportunity to minister to the community congregation, the Diocese and National Church, cannot be taken lightly. The consequences are too great. I see our Church as one that is looking ahead and using our past 100 years of ministry to live the present in the real sense.

I am honoured to be a part of this witness of a God alive and working through us at St. John's to accomplish marvellous things for our benefit and his Glory.

We need you at St. John's on Sunday mornings; we have a place for you ..... we guarantee it.

If you have not been for some time, come back again.

Brother Brian  
O.H.C.

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ADVENT STUDIES

"HOME TO BETHLEHEM"

December 5, 12 and 19 7.30 - 8.30 p.m.

A study to look more deeply at the routes of our faith and to grow in our ability to express it in our own way and in our own words.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4th  
10.30 a.m.  
FAMILY SERVICE

"Children and the  
 Eucharist"



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11th  
10.30 a.m.  
REMEMBRANCE DAY  
 The Rev. Richard  
 Vaggione. O.H.C.



*Lest We Forget*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th  
10.30 a.m.  
ANNIVERSARY

106 Years the  
 PEOPLE OF GOD  
 103 years  
 FIRST BUILDING  
 60 years  
 CARILLON  
 40 years  
 CONSECRATION

## ANNIVERSARY SERVICE



A COLD BUFFET LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25th  
10.30 a.m.  
 LAST SUNDAY AFTER  
 PENTECOST  
 (New Years Eve)  
 SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE  
 ADVENT





CHILDREN ..... NURSERY .....CHURCH SCHOOL ..... EUCHARIST??????????

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD      WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST      WE ARE THE CHURCH

WE... CHILDREN ... WOMEN ... AND MEN ...

WHEN DID WE or I become the PEOPLE OF GOD?

IN MY BAPTISM

WHEREIN I WAS MADE A MEMBER OF CHRIST

A CHILD OF GOD

AN INHERITOR OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

WE, every baptised person, is a CHILD OF GOD

He is our FATHER, we are his CHILDREN

HE is our FRIEND as revealed through JESUS CHRIST

HE is our COMFORTER - Surrounding us with HIS LOVE through the  
HOLY SPIRIT

Not one of us fully understands THE MYSTERY

WHY DOES HE LOVE ME SO MUCH?

WHY DOES HE LOVE ME SO MUCH HE CAME IN THE FORM OF JESUS?

WHY DOES HE CONTINUE TO LOVE US THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

It is a MYSTERY ?????????????? IT IS THE MYSTERY ?????????????? NOBODY knows all the answers, not even a BISHOP, not even a PRIEST, not even a MONK, not even an ADULT, not even a CHILD.

It is only when we come to HIM with the simple faith of a little child, (Mark 10) and reach out in Faith, Trust, and Love, that the mystery begins to unfold and through our reason and practice, and love of each other, that we begin to see, however dimly, the mystery unfolding.... and unfolding ..... and unfolding.

WE ARE ALL HIS CHILDREN

WE ALL NEED TO BE FED

THROUGH PRAYER.....

THROUGH A REASONED APPROACH TO HIS HOLY WORD

THROUGH HIS SACRAMENTS ..... BAPTISM and THE SUPPER OF OUR LORD

These sacraments are like the Lord's summary. It is not love God and/or your neighbour, and/or yourself. It is LOVE.. GOD.. YOUR NEIGHBOUR... YOURSELF. It is BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER .. one leads into the other ... one is completed in the other ... they are one as the hand is to the foot, as (we pray) a husband is to a wife, or as a popular song of the past puts it "LOVE AND MARRIAGE go together" BAPTISM and EUCHARIST GO TOGETHER.

### "GOD'S DAYS"

There are two days in the week upon which and about which I never worry; two carefree days kept sacredly free from fear and apprehension. One of these days is Yesterday, with its cares and frets and pains and aches. All its faults, its mistakes and its blunders have passed forever beyond my recall. It was mine; it is God's.

The other day that I do not worry about is Tomorrow. Tomorrow, with all its possible adversities, its burdens, its perils, its large promise and performance its potential failures and mistakes, is far beyond my mastery as is its dead sister, Yesterday. Tomorrow is God's day; it will be mine.

There is left then, for myself, but one day in the week: TODAY. Any person can fight the battles of Today. Any woman can carry the burdens of just one day; any man can resist the temptation of Today. It is only when we wilfully add the burdens of these two awful eternities - Yesterday and Tomorrow - such burdens as only Almighty God can sustain - that we break down.

It isn't the experience of Today that drives people mad. It is the remorse of what happened Yesterday and the fear of what Tomorrow might bring. These are God's Days; leave them to Him.

St. Paul's Chronicles;  
Claremore, Diocese of Oklahoma

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### "ANGLICANISM"

There are moments when I pause to think about that creature known as "Anglicanism". I find it of interest that a great many people continue to come into the Anglican Church, some from other traditions and some from no traditions at all, yet all find a spiritual home in our midst. We have never been very good at either proselytizing others or 'going after' them. I don't know whether this is good or bad, but it is one of our characteristics.

I ask myself what is there in Anglicanism that is attractive to me? I know that I am attracted by the worship of this Church, with its balance of word and sacrament. To be able to share in the Eucharist week by week, whether in a new or Prayer Book form, has always attracted me because it speaks so deeply to the needs of my life, as I think it does for others.

The second attraction for me is the Anglican treatment of scripture. We take the Bible very seriously. In fact, if you look at the Prayer Book, two-thirds of it is scripture. However, we have never been a tradition which worshipped "the Book" nor have we allowed ourselves simply to be literalists who leave our minds outside the door when we read the Bible. Anglicanism in its long history has produced some of the best scholars in Christian studies; and these resources of study and knowledge have been very significant in the life of the whole Church. The balanced emphasis on preaching and reading of scripture has given us roots and the ability to grow as Christians.



Again, I am an Anglican, I suppose, partly because this tradition gives me freedom to use my mind. I like this freedom to question, to listen and to wonder, with no one compelling me to accept a set answer to every subject. But, with all that freedom, the Anglican tradition constantly keeps before me the guidelines of the creeds. They are landmarks of Anglican tradition. For me the balance of faith, reason and Christian tradition provides the right mosaic, where I can be at home and serve God.

The Most Rev. Lewis Samuel Garnsworthy  
Archbishop of Toronto  
(From The Anglican, Canada)

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### OUTREACH

Sherry Haynes is happy to report that after all expenses were met, the proceeds of the dinner dance held on September 29 amounted to \$700. This is a significant amount towards our Outreach goal for the year, and Sherry thanks everyone who helped to make it a success.

If you have questions, as I do, about how the money is spent that Anglicans across the country raise for Outreach projects, Sherry can provide many of the answers. For instance, what projects are Anglicans in Mission involved in in Latin America, Asia, and Africa?

Answer: \$700,000 has been allocated for work in these areas, for developing indigenous Ministry, strengthening Christian communities, supporting regional initiatives and contributing towards physical resources.

There will be available at the back of the Church each Sunday, leaflets which give details of particular projects undertaken. Look out for NOTES on MISSION MATTERS.

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For several years, Mrs. Sharon Barnes (nee Weston) has been the mainstay of the nursery at St. John's Church. Sharon worked as a daycare supervisor during the week, so her expertise with young children was well appreciated by the young families of St. John's.

This year, Sharon has taken on new responsibilities for developing a programme for visually impaired children. She is also solely responsible for the Brownie Programme at St. John's (any volunteers for an assistant out there?) and therefore, will be unable to continue her position as supervisor of St. John's Sunday School.

The following is a copy of a letter sent to Sharon by the Advisory Board of St. John's to let her know how very much all of our members appreciate the time and effort she devoted to the children of our parish.

" Dear Sharon,

The Advisory Board of St. John's Church would like to thank you for your loyal and excellent service in teaching and caring for the children in our nursery. Our young families were so happy with the nursery programme and your efforts.

- 8 -

We are sorry to hear that you won't be able to continue as our supervisor; however we are pleased that you will be able to help out from time to time.

Your contribution to the well-being of our parish is most appreciated, and we you well with your new endeavours this year.

John Bateman, Chairman  
on behalf of the Advisory Board,  
St. John's Church

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A WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wan

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A LAST WORD TO REMIND YOU OF THE DEACON'S CUPBOARD

We are happy with the response in providing food items for the Deacon's Cupboard and hope you will remember to add that extra can or packet to your grocery list so that we can continue to help the needy, either through the Stop 3 programme, or directly to people in our own area.

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Yours in fellowship

Joyce