

# ST. JOHN'S



# CHURCH

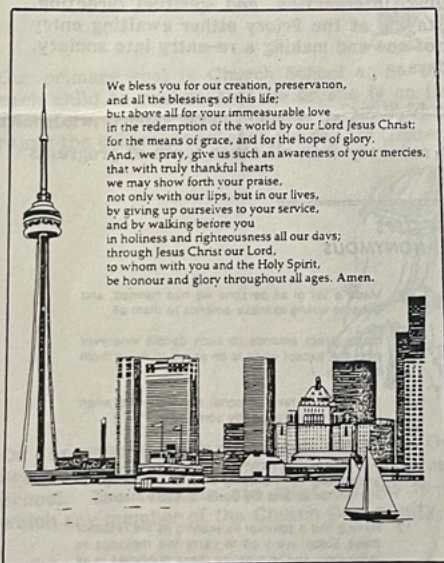
NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1987

## rites of inclusion, commitment, and passage

The events of Baptism, Marriage and Burial are an integral part of the individual Christian life and the life of the Community of the Church. They are rites of Passage for both the individual and the Community.

Baptism is the Sacrament of both new life and inclusion into the Body of Christ. Baptism is the beginning of our life in Christ. The normal place and time for this celebration is in the midst of the congregation at the Sunday Eucharist. Baptism is the Sacrament of Commitment and Eucharist is the sacrament of nurture and growth.



The Sacrament of Holy Marriage is the commitment of a man and a woman to be one flesh under vows. The couple are the celebrants of this sacrament and the priest blesses this public witness. The purpose of marriage is the love, caring, support and if possible the raising of a Christian family. It is the basic unit of society and the basic community of the Church. The norm for Christian marriage is in the midst of a Eucharistic assembly after preparation by a priest and takes place in the Church.

Christian burial is the celebration in thanksgiving for the life of a Christian Communicant. It is appropriate that Christians plan their funeral in consultation with their parish priest just as they would make a will. The normal place for a Christian Funeral is the parish church in the midst of a Eucharistic Assembly. Christians believe the power of the Resurrection overcomes the sting of death.

In future articles in this newsletter we will deal with both the practicalities and theology of these rites of passage. Baptism, Marriage and Burial and the major turning points in Christian living. They are sustained and nurtured by Eucharistic living and celebration in word and sacrament.







### A.A. a Major Outreach at St. John's

Alcoholism is a major medical and societal problem in Canada. One in ten persons is physically and psychologically addicted to the drug ethal alcohol. Each alcoholic intimately affects the lives of four to six other persons. Alcoholism is tearing apart the lives of people and families who live in West Toronto.

About a year ago St. John's opened its doors to the Fellowship of Men and Women of Alcoholics Anonymous. The group has grown and fulfills a unique and needed ministry in the area. On many Sunday nights the open A.A. Meetings will have as many people as our Sunday morning Services. Men, women and young people come not only from West Toronto but from all over the city to find strength, hope, courage and support as they seek to live new lives in the place of addiction, despair and a slow form of suicide.

Sunday nights at 8:30 p.m. there is an Open Meeting with a speaker, Alcoholics and non-alcoholics are welcome. On Fridays at 8:30 p.m. there is a closed discussion meeting for alcoholics only. The only requirement for membership in A.A. is a desire to stop drinking. A.A. groups are fully self-supporting.

In the 1930's an Episcopal priest in New York City, the Rev. Samuel Shoemaker, helped the two founders establish A.A. From the very start Anglican Churches have been supportive of "the Program" and have offered meeting space.

Robert and William both offer alcohol counselling, intervention, and spiritual direction. There are almost always one or two alcoholics staying at the Priory either awaiting entry into a rehabilitation program or just coming out of one and making a re-entry into society. These people usually worship at St. John's on Sundays.

Members of A.A. try to live by a rule of life— "The 12 Steps".

It is a Spiritual Program and has a higher rate of recovery than all other types of programs combined.

#### THE TWELVE STEPS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable           | 8 Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all   |
| 2 Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity              | 9 Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others   |
| 3 Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him | 10 Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it   |
| 4 Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves                                  | 11 Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out |
| 5 Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs    | 12 Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs                   |
| 6 Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character                       |   |
| 7 Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings   |   |

By providing meeting space, the resources of William and Robert, and your prayers and support of A.A. — St. John's is involved in a direct outreach healing ministry in our neighbourhood and city.

William, O.H.C.



O God, you have taught us through your blessed Son that whoever receives a little child in the name of Christ receives Christ himself: We give you thanks for the blessing you have bestowed upon this family in giving them a child. Confirm their joy by a lively sense of your presence with them, and give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they seek to bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure, lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable, following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
*Amen.*

A Prayer for Families



## WELCOMING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOLERS!!

On Sunday September 13, the Sunday School Teachers were commissioned. Sunday School classes will commence on Sunday, September 20.

The class divisions and teachers are as follows:

0 - 2½ yrs.

Nursery



Carolyn Kerr - Co-ordinator  
looking for volunteers to sign up in advance  
for one or more Sundays.

2 - 4 yrs.

Toddlers

Teachers will  
share the  
blessings of the  
Eucharist and share  
in the profound work

Kathy Gower every Sunday  
Sheila Crummey  
looking for one more on a rotating basis

4 - 5 yrs.

Pre-School



Linda Craine every Sunday  
Jim Crummey  
looking for one more on a rotating basis

6 - 7 yrs.

Primary

Cynthia Stoddart-Webster and  
Anthony Ruta on a rotating basis

8 yrs and over

Intermediate



Michael Mitchell and  
Dean Samaras on a rotating basis



Our primary goal in Church School at St. John's is to create an atmosphere which helps each child to realize that he or she is an important member of the Church Community. Therefore, Sunday School classes gather in the church for the focus at 10:30 and the classes rejoin the congregation each Sunday for Consecration and Communion.



On the second Sunday of each month in October, November and December the Sunday School classes will attend the entire service. Please have your children join the Sunday School. The teachers are most anxious to answer any questions and discuss any matter which any member of the Church Community wishes to raise.

Dean Samaras - Chairperson  
Christian Education Committee



THE LOGOS INSTITUTE  
Anglican Diocese of Toronto Lay School  
135 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1L8  
416-363-6021

ST. JOHN'S WILL  
HOST LOGOS INSTITUTE  
SEVEN WEEKS BEGINNING  
TUESDAY OCTOBER 20

TOPIC:  
"CONTEMPORARY  
FAITH  
ISSUES"

Spread the Word

...the Old and New  
...permeate our daily living.

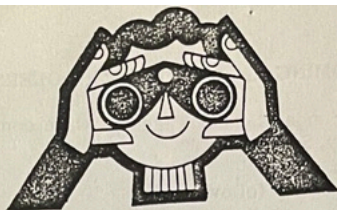
...e, as brothers and sisters in  
...when it is extended in both  
...ork and in society.

...with the "Bread of Heaven"  
...s, and our care and feeding  
...aristic meal in daily living.  
...make our own tables places

...serve the Lord".

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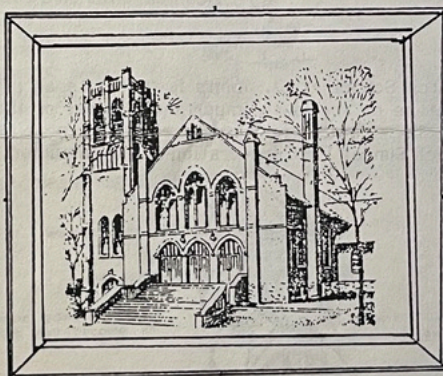
### WILLIAM GOES TO AFRICA

One of the vocations of the Order of the Holy Cross is its international, multi-cultural, and inter-racial character. Holy Cross has been involved in missionary work in West Africa for over sixty years, first in Liberia and now in two areas of Ghana.

William will leave on October 7th and return on October 11th. In Ghana he will visit Philip Quaque Monastery and Noviate, lecture at St. of Men and Theological School, founded by the Order in Cape Coast, and visit the new house and parish of the Order in Kumasi. He will also preach in several parishes and missions as well as one school.

Mrs. Patricia James, an Associate and Companion of O.H.C., will accompany William on the trip. Pat will be making a video cassette of the Mission work to be shown in Canada and the U.S. for educational and fund raising purposes. The work of the Anglican Church in West Africa is thriving with full churches on Sundays. The church in the Province of West Africa is beginning the process of developing a contemporary African Liturgy with native music and drums.

St. John's will be prayed for on October 11th at the Anglican Cathedral in Cape Coast. You'll hear more about the trip when William returns with a sun tan!



### A Good Friend

For the past several months we've been praying for Milly Woodcock. Milly is now in Sandown Nursing Home in Scarborough, and frequently spends the weekends with her son Glenn and his wife Connie and their two little girls. Gladys Graham goes to see Milly every week and Helen Titherington goes out also.

It's been a very difficult year for Milly, leaving her home, spending weeks in the hospital for assessment and diagnosis and then moving to a nursing home. Throughout the trial By providing meeting space, that the future would be and of dealing with diminished memory support of A.A. - St. John's is with the utmost graciousness and courage. It is possible, because people when it comes to talking about herself, to overlook the working in Milly's life. It hasn't been easy to adjust to a life dependency upon others, but Milly is doing just that and she is ady, quick, and faithfull pleasantness that characterized her St. John's.



O God, working on a coloured print of the parish which we will have whoeverlly. Over and over I have heard her say, "I love my Church." Christian love shines most brightly - in love and concern for their joy give them bring this pure, lov following Amen.



## IT'S SCHOOL TIME AT ST. JOHN'S

(For Adults)

William, O.H.C.

St. Benedict describes the monastery as "a School of Religion". By extension Benedictine (Anglican) Spirituality practiced in local congregations means "the Parish is a School of Religion". Men and women need intellectual as well as emotional growth if they are to be fully human and fully Christian.

Opportunities are available at St. John's for both intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth. The Home Eucharists this Summer provided times to reflect on the gospels as well as make Eucharist and share in fellowship. The Sunday Sermon is the most ancient and perhaps the most profound way of proclaiming and challenging people in the Christian Way. This Fall, LOGOS, the Diocesan Lay Training Program, will hold eight sessions on Tuesday nights beginning October 20 at St. John's. The childrens focus at the Eucharist probably says as much to adults as it does to the kids. The study program in Lent is still another opportunity for adult Christian education in the parish.

This Fall, Winter and Spring we want to provide a monthly Adult and Continuing Education Program in the context of the Sunday liturgical experience. The third Sunday of each month we will have a special preacher/speaker for the sermon. After the Eucharist and brief coffee/tea time the guest preacher will conduct a forum in the North Room for those who wish to participate. The forum will be limited to thirty minutes and will be in dialogue form.

The 3rd Sunday Seminar/Forums will address contemporary issues of concern for the Christian and the church. Subjects will include: the Global Village; the Church's Missionary Task; Christian Medical Ethics and AIDS; Christian Responsibility in Politics; Alcoholism and Chemical Addiction; Human Sexuality; Canadian Racism; Ecumenism; Developing Personal Prayer; the Christian in the Work Place. These are all issues and concerns we face in our lives either directly or indirectly.

Already Fr. John Rye of the African Desk at Church House; Dr. Sally Saunders of the Addiction Research Foundation; and Dr. James Crummey of St. John's have agreed to participate.

We hope you will spend one half hour a month in continuing Christian Education on the 3rd Sunday following the Eucharist in the North Room.



LITURGY AND LIVING



Unfortunately there is a gap for many people between what we do in Church and what we do at home, the office, school, the work place, in political and economic matters, as well as in social life. We need to make the connection between liturgy and living.

We gather Sunday by Sunday to proclaim and respond to the Word of God. As the people of the new covenant we need to be formed by the scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments. We need to break open the Word of God and let it permeate our daily living. Reading and doing God's Word is a daily activity.

In the Eucharistic Liturgy we greet one another in the Peace, as brothers and sisters in Christ, as living sacraments. The Peace is a sacramental act when it is extended in both liturgy and living. Peace is a sorely needed thing at home, at work and in society.

Around the Lord's Table we are fed and we feed one another with the "Bread of Heaven" and the "Cup of Salvation". Our meals at home, in restaurants, and our care and feeding of the poor are many real acts of the extension of the eucharistic meal in daily living. As we receive hospitality at the Lord's Table so we are to make our own tables places and experiences of hospitality.

"I will go unto the Altar of God". "Go into the world to love and serve the Lord".

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In the liturgy we are fed by the Word of God, by each other in the Peace, by the Lord in the sacrament of His Body and Blood in order that we may go and do likewise to those in the world. Ministry and service is the vocation of every Christian who dines at the Holy Table of the Lord.

When we work for "justice, freedom, and peace" in the political and economic areas of society we are doing Christian Ministry. When we feed the poor, clothe the naked, heal the sick, we proclaim the Kingdom until he comes again. When we share the Faith with our children, our neighbors and our friends we are doing the work of Christ.

The connection between liturgy and living, between what we do in church on Sundays and what we do the six other days of the week, is essential if our Journey in Faith is to be real and meaningful.

William, O.H.C.

### CONFIRMATION

Confirmation or the Episcopal Laying-on-of-Hands, will be offered in the parish during the coming year. Confirmation is a Sacramental action performed by the Bishop to those who seek both to reaffirm and be reaffirmed in their commitment to the church and to the living of a Christian life. Unlike Baptism which confers full membership, Confirmation is a repeatable sacrament, and may be requested by any baptized Christian in our tradition at differing and important times in their life.



For those who would like to be Confirmed a series of classes will be arranged and will be held on Saturday mornings. If you are interested, please, contact the church office.

Baptism will be offered in the parish on the following days:

The Feast of All Saints	November 1
The Feast of the Baptism of Christ	January 9
Holy Saturday/Easter Eve	
Easter I (Low Sunday)	
Pentecost Sunday	

(Summer dates by appointment)



### A MINISTRY OF MUSIC

St. John's has a long history of enthusiasm and excellency in its music and choirs, and the present is no exception. We meet every Thursday to practice the music for the Sunday Eucharist, as well as prepare for special events, such as carol services, variety nights, and ecumenical events. While the time commitment for this ministry is quite demanding, the members give generously of their time and talents, and the benefits reaped are immeasurable.

We welcome everyone to this ministry who has an enthusiasm for music. **It is not necessary to be able to read music to be an active member of the choir!**

Rehearsals for this season will commence on Thursday, September 17 at 6:15 p.m. with a pot-luck supper, followed by a practice. If you are interested, please contact Sandra Nemenyi at 233-6511.



### ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

On November 22nd, Anglican Church Women in the Diocese of Toronto will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of their incorporation as a charitable organization under the laws of the Province of Ontario.

Archbishop Garnsworthy has given his blessing and it is hoped a Corporate Communion in each parish in the Diocese will acknowledge and give thanks for the work and continuing ministry of women in the Church.

Four Diocesan groups brought their members into the new structure: Chancel Guild, Federated Women's Church Year, Mothers' Union and the Woman's Auxiliary, as well as many parish Guild groups.

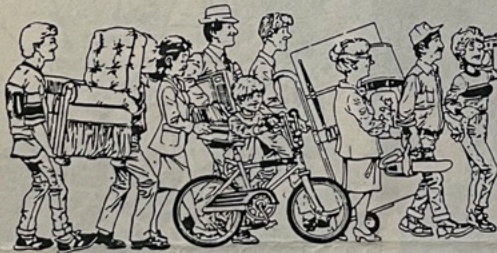
At this time, we would like to quote an excerpt written by the Chaplain of the Diocesan Chancel Guild, which appeared in the ACW Newsletter. The theme of this message was "Ye shall indeed drink of my cup".

The first part of the article told about a work of art which portrays a large chalice being held up by huge hands. Reflected on one side is the congregation, and on the other side, a landscape representing the Eternal City. The face reflected at the focal point is that of Jesus.

"Chancel Guild members might well pause as they are cleaning the silver and brass, to think how the old things they touch and prepare give a framework to their lives. Reflect on how all the church buildings and the people in it are gathered in the cup visually by mirroring; how Jesus gathers us together in reality and gives us the opportunity to enter into His life, including 'drinking His cup'. We can think, too, of the people who have been reflected in the silver of this place (our parish church, chapel, or wherever it is) over the years; of those who have gone before and will come after and who are all gathered into one company of the 'drinkers of the cup'.



St. John's Church Guild has functioned for many years and its leadership was just one of Ruth Shortt's responsibilities. Every Saturday, one (sometimes two) members attend to the preparation for the Sunday communion service and arrangement of memorial flowers. Meetings are held prior to special functions and special church seasons. The group is small at present and new members would be very welcome. If you are interested please contact Father Robert or Joan Devitt.



### RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE

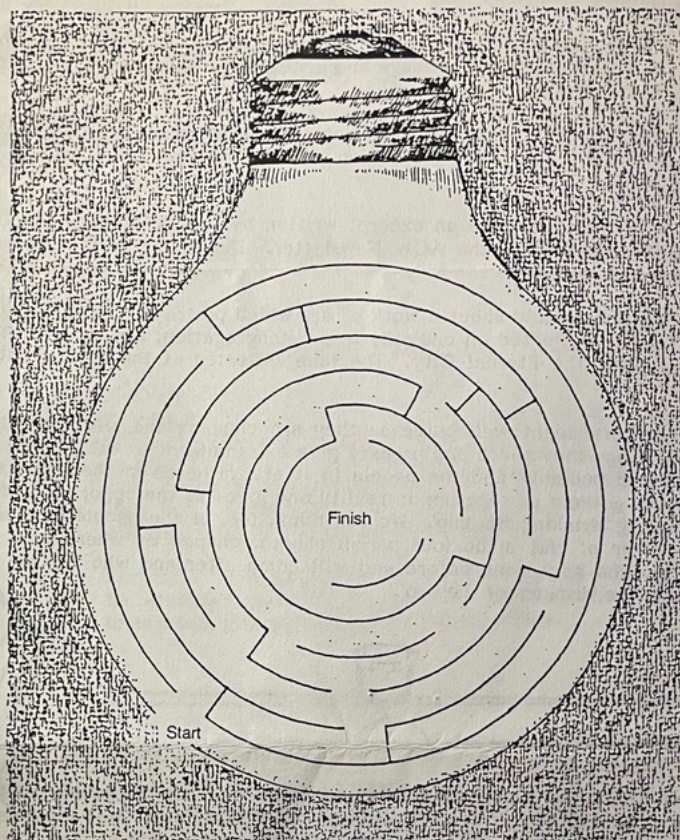
The St. Anne's group of the A.C.W. will be holding a RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE on SATURDAY, 26th. SEPTEMBER from 10.00 a.m. until 12.00 noon and will be grateful for any donations of good used clothing, and other saleable items, which can be brought to the church any morning Monday to Friday between 9.30 a.m. and noon. Baked items can be brought in on the preceding Friday evening or the Saturday morning.







## LITTLE PEOPLE'S PAPER



(Find your way out of the darkness.)



The Bible tells us that Jesus said,  
"As long as I am in the world,  
I am the light of the world."  
This means that Jesus is a helper to everyone.

John 9:5 adapted



## AUTUMN CALENDAR

Thursday	SEPTEMBER 17th	First Choir Practice
Saturday	SEPTEMBER 19th	A day outing for the Servers fishing and and fun at Glen Haffy.
Sunday	SEPTEMBER 20th	Wardens Meeting 9:15 a.m. Commissioning of Servers and Choir
Wednesday	SEPTEMBER 23rd	First Meeting and planning session for weekly Bible Study Group 2 p.m. North Room  At 8 p.m. there will be a Holy Land Tour presentation with wine and cheese in the North Room.
Saturday	SEPTEMBER 26th	Rummage and Bake Sale
Tuesday	SEPTEMBER 29th	Advisory Board meeting 7:30 p.m.
Sunday	OCTOBER 4th	Harvest Sunday and dedication of the Shortt Family Memorial
Sunday	OCTOBER 11th	National Thanksgiving Sunday
Tuesday	OCTOBER 20th	First session of LOGOS
Sunday	NOVEMBER 1st	All Saints Sunday and the Celebration of Holy Baptism
Sunday	NOVEMBER 8th	Dedication of the Rose Family Memorial plaque
Saturday	NOVEMBER 21st	Holly Tea
Sunday	NOVEMBER 22nd	ACW Anniversary and Commissioning of the Chancel Guild

**2nd Sundays** - Families are encouraged to worship together on second Sundays. It's important that children be part of and exposed to the worship of the church, music, hymns, readings, etc.

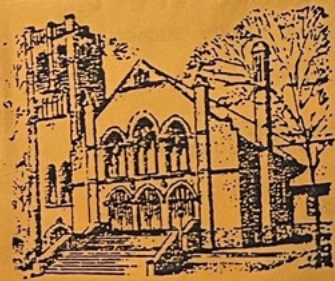
**3rd Sunday** - Guest Speakers and forum Sunday. See article in this issue.

**3rd Sunday** - Every 3rd Sunday, St. John's holds a Eucharist for the residents of Runnymede Hospital at 2 p.m. Over the summer attendance averages between 12 and 15. We need help-readers, chalice bearers, singers, and a pianist to maintain and enhance this important neighbourhood Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

### WEEKLY EVENING SCHEDULE

Monday	Cubs
Tuesday	Pathfinders and Beavers
Wednesday	Guides
Thursday	Brownies and Choir Practice
Friday	A.A. Discussion Groups (closed)
Sunday	A.A. Speaker Meeting (open)





St. John's Church, West Toronto  
288 Humberside Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M6P 1L5  
Church 763-2393

