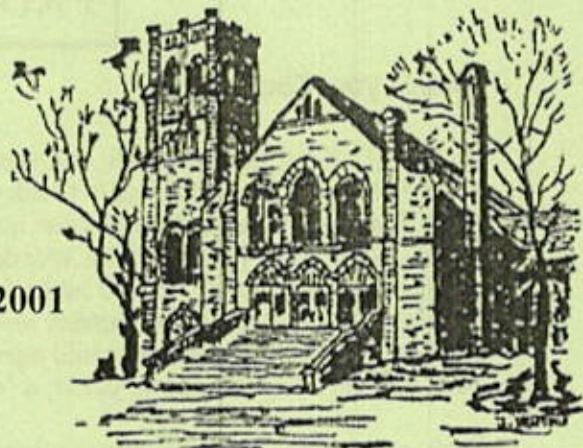


St. John's Journal

St. John's Anglican Church, West Toronto
288 Humberside Ave. (at High Park Ave.)
www.toronto.anglican.ca/parish/stjohns/
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August 2001



More so than January, the Fall seems a time for endings and new beginnings. How appropriate that we now say farewell to our wonderful Interim Incumbent Jack Adam and we welcome Gary van der Meer to our parish. This is also a good time to reflect on where we are in our spiritual journeys and where God is calling us this year.

From our Interim Incumbent Reverend Canon Jack Adam

Dear People of St. John's West Toronto:

The life that you and I have shared at St. John's over the last ten months has been for me an experience of grace. God's grace has come to me as we have shared in prayer, in liturgy, in study, in counselling and the making of decisions to further the life and ministry of the church.

Grace has come to me as my own spiritual journey of faith in Christ has been supported and enriched by the testimony, wisdom and generosity of spirit which have been shared with me.

What I have found particularly encouraging has been the integration of personal faith and concern for social justice and the well-being of the local community and the larger society.

I am indebted to all of you for the gifts you have given me, but I ask your indulgence in making some particular references. My special thanks to the church wardens, Evelyn Butler, Anthony Ruta, Iain Newbiggin, Greg Los; and to Sheila Crummey, Chair, and the other members of the Canonical Selection Committee. Although my contact with Gary van der Meer, our new Incumbent, has been limited, I feel confident that our Selection Committee has chosen well.

Last, but by no means least, I should like to express my gratitude to the members of our Pastoral Team who have played a major role in our shared ministry. Lynda Ward, James Bailey and Bruce Alton have each made their own unique and substantial contributions not only to our shared ministry but to my own spiritual journey.

May God out of the inexhaustable treasury of his love and power continue to bless you all in your life and ministry.

Blessings,

Jack Adam

FROM THE WARDENS

Thank you Jack!

On behalf of the entire Parish, the Wardens would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Jack Adam for his tireless efforts as our interim priest. When Jack first met the Wardens to talk about his being interim, he said he had no interest in being a "caretaker" (in on Sunday morning, out by noon). I am sure everyone would agree that Jack was anything but, as he put it, a "caretaker".

Jack, as we bid you bon voyage, we want you to know that we are thankful for your ministry at St. John's and our prayers are with you and Margaret as you move on to your new life in your new home.

God Bless,

The Congregation of St. John's Anglican Church,
West Toronto

P. S. You've gone and done it again. You've worked your way out of yet another job!!!!!!!!!!!! ☺

Pre-Authorised Giving Programme

Although we are off to a slow start, the Wardens are hopeful that more parishioners will take advantage of the convenience of this programme. As we all return from holiday, we need to remember that the Church does not get a holiday from its expenses, but many of us do forget to make up our giving for the period of time that we were away.



Welcome to Gary van der Meer!

We are very excited that the Rev. Gary van der Meer will be joining us as our new priest on September 2! We welcome him into our church family very warmly and hope that he will let us know what we can do to make him welcome. One of the most obvious ways in which we can welcome Gary is to set aside time to simply get to know him. Consider a coffee with Gary and if you can manage it - a meal in your home. I was lucky enough to host a dinner in my backyard this summer for the Selection Committee and Gary and found him to be a delightful person - eager to get to know us - and a comfortable person to talk with. We have much to look forward to in the months and years ahead!

Sheila Crummey

Painting and Lighting

The Church will receive a much needed overhaul of its lighting and a new coat of paint on the heels of a successful capital programme to raise the funds to have both projects completed. Thank you to those who gave so generously to bring these projects to fruition.

The lighting will be done first as it will affect the colour chosen to paint the church.

Wardens:

Anthony Ruta	416-763-2876 on.course@sympatico.ca
Evelyn Butler	416-604-8692 bdunford@pathcom.com
Iain Newbiggin	416-767-9533 sally.iain@sympatico.ca
Greg Los	416-766-4331 gnlos@home.com

Welcome Back! Homecoming BBQ - September 16

After the 10:30 a.m. Service

Drop by to say "Hello!", exchange summer stories and make new friends. St. John's tradition of good food, great conversation and fun times continues. Don't forget to sign up for the Christian Education program. All are welcome.

To help with the barbecue or to offer a potluck contribution, contact Bill Dunford at 416-604-8692 after Labour Day Weekend.

