

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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EASTERTIDE 2003

An occasional Newsletter for Parishioners and Friends of Saint Thomas's Church, Toronto

NEW MINISTRY BEGINS AT SAINT THOMAS'S

FR MARK ANDREWS INDUCTED AS RECTOR

Based on a report by Kim Yates

On February 2, 2003, the induction of our new Rector, Father Mark Andrews, was part of the Candlemas Evensong, which celebrates the Feast of the Purification and Presentation. Archbishop Terence Finlay and the Ven Colin Johnson Archdeacon of York, participated, and many visiting clergy were present, both in the sanctuary and in the congregation.

The service began as priests and servers entered the darkened church bearing lighted candles, and spread the light through the church as the choir sang Charles Wood's anthem "Hail Gladdening Light". Evensong continued with the appointed psalms and lessons, and the beautiful Taverner *Collegium Regale* settings of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, both of which canticles are particularly meaningful on Candlemas.

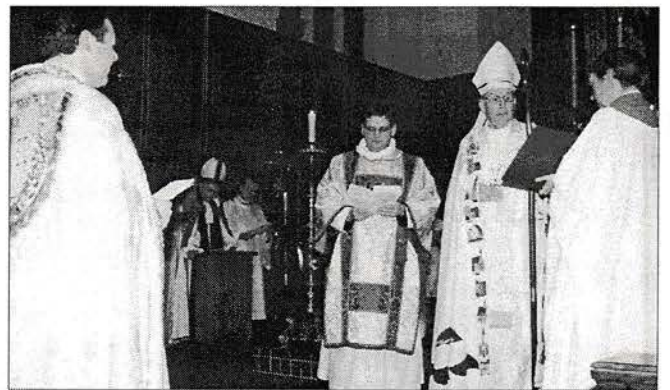
The homily, delivered by The Rt. Rev'd Michael Bedford-Jones, Bishop of York-Scarborough, offered a warm introduction to Fr. Andrews and the promise of an exciting and inspiring ministry. The choir, churchwardens, and clergy then processed through the church, stopping at the Statue of Our Lady for prayers, and at the Baptistry and the Rood, where Archbishop Finlay elicited promises from Fr. Andrews to lead prayers, arrange regular services, study and read scripture, and diligently and frequently celebrate the Eucharist.



Our new Rector after his Induction, supported by the Selection Committee: (l-r) Mary Suddon, Pat Kennedy, Diana Versegghy, Nigel Wright, Marilyn Ramsingh, Earl Barnsley

Photo Credit: Elizabeth Barnsley

The Induction, led by Archbishop Finlay, began with a covenant between the new Incumbent and the members of the parish to share in the ministry of the parish. The churchwardens then presented Fr. Andrews with the keys to the parish, acknowledging him as the lawful pastor and priest in charge of the parish. The service ended with a Benjamin Britten setting of the Te Deum, sung by the choir.



The Archbishop of Toronto charges the Rector-Designate: February 2, 2003

It was an emotional service. There was some sadness, as the many parishioners from St. Aidan's, where Fr. Andrews last served, said their goodbyes and wished him well at St. Thomas's. But mostly, there was a palpable sense of joy throughout the congregation as Father Andrews took his place in the Rector's stall. The church was filled to capacity, the choir sang magnificently, and Fr

Andrews wore the beautifully embroidered Angel Cope, the finest of St. Thomas's collection of vestments. After the service, all present joined in a reception in the parish hall, where tables were laden with platters of savouries and sweets.

St. Thomas's welcomed its new Rector in high and traditional style. Substantial portions of this memorable service can be viewed on the St. Thomas's web site: www.stthomas.on.ca

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News from the Society Of Mary

by David M. O'Rourke

Busy Year for flourishing group

This has been a rather heady year for Our Lady of Hope Ward of the Society of Mary. Although we are not limited to St. Thomas's parish but rather, cover all of the Toronto area, the major happenings seem to have been mostly at St. Thomas's.

In November we held the annual Requiem Mass for deceased members of the Society. Fr. Ross, our Chaplain, preached a very instructive sermon on Purgatory, a concept which suffers from a great deal of misunderstanding. Before the Mass two new members were inducted into the Society, both from this parish.

On Feb 2, Fr. Andrews' first day as rector, we had the satisfaction of seeing the candle rack before the Statue of Our Lady finally go into use after a few years being in the works.

Then, on the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, six more parishioners were admitted into the Society and we served dinner in the Parish Hall after the High Mass to rave reviews.

Finally, for the third year in a row we held a service of Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:00 PM on the Tuesday evenings of Lent. These devotions were offered in a style unique to St Thomas's, and seemed to work well for people who, although devoted to Our Lady, find the public recitation of the Rosary not to their taste.

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Thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue.

Special appreciation to Barbara Obrai & Marilyn Ramsingh.

Rector's Easter Letter

*Hope is like a harebell trembling from its birth,
Love is like a rose the joy of all the earth,
Faith is like a lily lifted high and white,
Love is like a lovely rose the world's delight.
Harebells and sweet lilies show a thornless growth,
But the rose with all its thorns excels them both.
(Christina Rossetti)*

Christina Rossetti's poem offers an appropriate reflection on Easter as our hearts are lifted both by the Easter message, and by the earth's spring-time resurrection. She pictures the virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity as flowers, each with its own particular beauty. But chief among them is the rose of Love. The rose's thorns add to its perfection, the sharp prick enhancing the value of its possession.

For many people the joy of Easter consists of nothing more than the lifting of the human spirit, warmed by the sun's renewed vigour. Easter and spring are for them symbols of renewed hope and faith in new possibilities. There is some satisfaction to be found in such a view, especially after a long cold winter when war and disease have dominated the news. There is a place for hope in a peaceful and just settlement to the current battle, and a place for faith in scientific discoveries that will arrest the present threat to health.

But the rose of Easter is more perfect. Jesus' victory over death is the triumph of God's Love over all the thorns of our lives. Good Friday's crown of thorns is not done away but it is transformed *in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*, and becomes the crown of eternal life. Easter is not about a temporary lifting of our spirits when we're heavy hearted. It is about the new life God gives us in His Son's Resurrection. It is about the divine transformation of our lives when Faith and Hope are given root in joyful confidence in God's victorious Love.

With every blessing,
Mark+

May 24 Festival Mass & Luncheon

May Festivals – ours spread out among four Parishes and over four Saturdays – are traditionally fun as well as solemn, perhaps because of their association with the long awaited spring which is even reflected in some of the Marian hymns. Surely by May 24 we will finally have spring! In any event the festivities will be joyful.

Usually the Festival takes place during Eastertide. For that Blessed Mother who stood at the foot of the Cross on which her Son suffered and died, the Resurrection must have been an occasion of unspeakable joy. At the May festival we honour, within the joyful context of Easter, that woman whose "Yes" to God at the Annunciation made Our Lord's saving Passion, Death and glorious Resurrection possible.

At St. Thomas's the celebration will take place on Saturday May 24, beginning at 10:00 AM with a Solemn High Mass and a procession. This will be followed by a gala luncheon in the parish hall served up by the same folks who did the Annunciation dinner. We hope to outdo ourselves this time. The luncheon will include a repeat of "David's Damn Pudding" as the dessert served on the Feast of the Annunciation day got to be nicknamed. The day will conclude with the Rosary and Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

We hope that a large number of parishioners will join us for at least a part of this occasion. The parish will again be taking part in the "Open Doors" weekend, and perhaps some of our visitors will get to experience not only St. Thomas's beauty but also its rich liturgical life.

SHROVE TUESDAY PARISH SUPPER

CLERGY APPRECIATION, FR NEELANDS TRIBUTE, PANCAKES & FELLOWSHIP

March 4th found a crowded church for the evening Low Mass, celebrated by Fr David Neelands, who had served Saint Thomas's so faithfully as Priest in Charge during the year between Fr Hoult's retirement and the arrival of Fr Andrews. Afterwards, a full Parish Hall – including the former Rector – enjoyed a pancake, sausage and multi-dessert feast, complemented with wine, served by Linda Russell and her cheerful and talented kitchen volunteers, many of whom had spent the entire day previous flipping flapjacks and crisping bangers.

Designed as an opportunity for the congregation to honour the many clergy who assist in maintaining the Parish's rich liturgical life, special tribute and a standing ovation were paid Fr Neelands during the course of presentations by the Wardens, on behalf of the Parish; by the Altar Guild; and by Fr Freeland, who pro-



The Kitchen Gang on Shrove Tuesday

duced a reticulated fish from the casbah of Morocco, the precise origins and significance of which his remarks did not entirely elucidate! Nonetheless, the sense of gratitude to Fr Neelands was palpable, as was the delight that he would continue his long association with St T's as an Honorary Assistant Priest.

Discreetly packaged gifts suggesting a liquid Lenten diet were then presented to the assisting clergy – Frs Freeland, Ross, Little, Lloyd and Nicholls (as well as Frs Craig & Mulholland *in absentia*) – in recognition of their ongoing contribution to parish life, and especially, to maintaining the weekly Mass schedule

which lies at the heart of Saint Thomas's, without which the evident deep-rooted fellowship of the evening's festivities would have been a thing most hollow.



Standing Ovation for Fr Neelands at Pancake Supper



The Parish gift of porcelain and a reticulated fish (see Fr Freeland!) presented to Fr David Neelands, a well-loved Priest-in-Charge, at Shrove Tuesday Parish Supper. Warden and MC Nigel Wright looks on.

Poetry Reading

Two of Canada's best known religious poets – Susan McCaslin & Giorgio Di Cicco – Parish hall, St. Thomas's – 8 p.m on Friday, June 13.



Some of the Clergy who serve the Parish "appreciated" on Shrove Tuesday: (l-r) Frs Rob Ross, Michael Lloyd, Ian Nichols and Brian Freeland.

Art Sale Set For Fall

Kitchen Renovation Benefit

The Kitchen Renovation Committee is planning an Art Sale for early fall. We urge you to donate works of art to the sale: originals, reproductions, frames and etcetera. Check your basements, attics and walls for art that you no longer need but someone else might enjoy owning. For more information call Marion Dorosh (416) 482-2243 or Carol Kysela (416) 461-9595.

Out-of-the-Cold

News from Andrea Budgey

Winter Season ends April 25

This winter has marked the third season of Saint Thomas's parishioners' participation in the Out-of-the-Cold community dinners at Saint Stephen-in-the-Fields. As a rule, we provide and serve dinner on the fourth Friday evening of each month, from December to April. We have a steady (and growing) group of regular volunteers, and this year various parish groups – the GST committee, the choirs, the acolytes' guild, and members of the CBS and Society of Mary – have helped tremendously on designated evenings; members of the altar guild have also been very supportive of the project. Our last OOTC dinner will be on Friday, April 25; new volunteers are welcome, and can get in touch with Andrea at 416-638-9445 or abudgey@national.anglican.ca

Summer-Fall meals to be offered at St Thomas's?

We're also discussing the possibility of providing a sandwich-and-bottled-water service during those months when

Financial Update

For January 1 to March 31, 2003, Parishioners' Contributions to Operating Fund.

Contribution Range	Number of Contributors	Avg per Contributor
\$0.00	64	\$0.00
\$1-50	24	\$24.80
\$51-100	25	\$76.77
\$101-200	40	\$151.83
\$201-300	25	\$269.60
\$301-400	12	\$355.68
\$401-500	9	\$454.22
\$501-750	9	\$588.00
\$751-1000	4	\$810.50
\$1000-1500	3	\$1300.00
\$1501+	3	\$2320.00

Total number of Contributors: 218
Summary: 9% of contributors provide 45% of givings

Total Given in first quarter, 2003: \$43,072.27

In the first three months of this year we experienced larger than anticipated expenses for such items as heating and insurance. At the same time, our income from regular envelope givings has been lower than we would like, in part because Easter is later.

the full dinners are not offered (May to November): having a table at the door to the parish hall (here at Saint Thomas's) where homeless and marginally housed people could come between 6:00 and 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. on Fridays to collect a simple but nutritious take-away meal. This would require a minimum of volunteers each week, and be relatively simple in terms of logistics – you could come and help before going to an evening performance or film! – but would fill a very real need in the community. *Please get in touch if you'd like to be involved.*

Property Management Program Set

by Gene Stewart

Goals – to ensure optimal benefit and satisfaction from a comprehensive Property Management Program that is designed to meet and satisfy the various needs and requirements of the Parish within approved Budget constraints.

Role of the Property Committee – to develop, advise on and help implement a property management program.

Reporting relationship – to the Corporation through the Advisory Committee. The decision-making authority is with the Corporation.

The property management program in its initial phases requires the Committee to gather and compile a detailed description and an inventory of the existing buildings, facilities and furnishings contained in the church, parish hall, rectory, sexton's cottage, and the property grounds. In addition, we will determine if there are any existing deficiencies in the legal, safety, access and cleanliness standards that are required for the buildings and facilities, including any Diocesan Policy Standards that are not being met. The program then follows with the gathering of suggestions, requests and requirements that we feel will more properly serve the activities and functions of the clergy, staff, parishioners and the different church Committees, Guilds and Groups. A combined list of all our needs and requirements is then evaluated, selected and proposed on an annual calendar/schedule basis as a program for property management activities and expenditures and submitted to the Corporation through the Advisory Committee for approval.

Doors Open At St Thomas's

**TORONTO HISTORIC BUILDINGS
OPEN TO PUBLIC MAY 24-25
VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT**

St. Thomas's has been invited to participate again in Doors Open, a project of Museums and Heritage Services in the Culture Division, City of Toronto. Our church will be one of about 125 historic buildings that will be open to the public on the weekend of May 24-25. Information about the Doors Open weekend appears on its web site: www.doorsopen.org

Last year about 150 people took advantage of the opportunity to wander around inside our church and examine its many treasures. Greeters were thrilled by the reactions of first-time visitors. The beautiful stained glass, the stunning reredos, the unique triptych, and the monastic baptistery – features of the church that many of us take for granted – made a profound impression on those seeing them for the first time.

The experience was very moving for those of us who had the privilege of talking about these treasures and witnessing the reactions of our visitors. We learned much about St. Thomas's, both from our research and from each other, and all of us came away with a renewed pride in our place of worship.

We are hoping to attract more visitors this year. The church will be open during the following hours: **Saturday, May 24 – 11 am. to 4 pm — Sunday, May 25 – 1 pm. to 4 pm.**

If you, as a parishioner or a friend of St. Thomas's, would like to learn more about the church and its treasures, please take advantage of this opportunity. Invite your friends to enjoy the experience too. *To volunteer as a greeter/guide at St. Thomas's on the Doors Open weekend, please speak to Marilyn Ramsingh after either the 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. mass on Sunday, or telephone her at 416-465-1921.*

Bishop's Dinner

Parishioners are invited to attend the 42nd Annual Bishop's Company Dinner at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Eaton Square, on May 12th starting at 6:00 pm. Ticket proceeds – at \$175 per person – go towards the Diocesan Bishops' discretionary funds. To reserve a seat, please call Jennifer Collins at (416) 363-6021 – more information available from bishopscompany@toronto.anglican.ca

Advisory Board Renewal

Six Committees Formed – Volunteers Welcome

The parish visioning sessions conducted during the interregnum identified a number of ministries that Saint Thomas's would like to see enhanced in coming years. The Advisory Board is the vehicle both to implement and monitor growth in these areas. Members of the Board have a seat, either by election at Vestry, or by appointment of the Rector. Board members are not simply representatives of their various organizations; in a broader sense, they are parish leaders, and it falls to them to implement the actions required to achieve our goals.

Six Committees have been struck to address the identified ministries requiring more attention: *Outreach, Education, Communication, Social, Property, Financial*. The members of the Board have been asked to join and provide leadership in one of these six fields.

All members of the parish are invited to participate actively in the committees which are now being formed. *If you have an interest in one or more of these ministries please speak with one of the Wardens or Fr Andrews*. Your involvement is necessary for St Thomas's to fulfill the mandate to spread the Good News today, entrusted to us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Christ must and will do His own work, if we will but lead people there, and leave them with Him."

– Rev Samuel M. Shoemaker

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING 2003

Highlights by Michael Rowland

Despite a daunting winter storm, about 70 parishioners braved the elements to participate in the annual Vestry Meeting on February 23rd. For those held back by the storm, and for those who prefer their Vestry vicariously, here are some of the headlines from the proceedings.

The Reports

This was Fr. Andrews' first Vestry Meeting at St. Thomas's. He thanked everyone for the warm reception he has been given and expressed great optimism in how Saint Thomas's can build on its traditions and strengths and grow as a parish. Fr. Andrews stated how much he was looking forward to working with the parish clergy and staff. Our Assistant Priests (Fr. Ross and Fr. Freeland) echoed their support for Fr. Andrews. A written report was tabled by Fr. Neelands, former Priest in Charge, who gave so generously of his time and guidance during 2002.

Reports to Vestry by the Churchwardens highlighted the many accomplishments achieved over the past year through the efforts of parish groups and individual members.

The Financial Front

The good news first – Saint Thomas's ended 2002 with an operating surplus in the area of \$40,000 – while envelope givings were up for the first time in three years. Hooray!

And now the bad news – the operating surplus was largely due to the unique circumstance of Fr. Andrews' later than anticipated arrival. This allowed us to postpone some normal salary and benefit costs and generate more rental income from the Rectory.

Vestry approved a deficit operating budget for 2003. This means budgeted expenses exceed budgeted revenues by

close to \$32,000. Obviously we must close this gap through some combination of increased giving, new revenue, and reduced costs.

Issues Raised

If you think Vestry Meetings are meaningless affairs, think again! Two important issues were raised (albeit briefly) and referred to the Advisory Committee for further discussion. The issues related to alternative ways of meeting our audit requirements and defining our investment objectives.

Elections and Appointments

More excitement was in store during the elections and appointments process. Vestry 2003 featured an actual *contested* election complete with a choice of candidates, secret ballots, scrutineers and an oh-so-close election result for Deputy People's Warden. Mercifully, no recounts of dangling chads were requested!

Copies of the Minutes and reports tabled at Vestry are available from Barbara Obrai, Parish Administrator and Vestry Clerk.

Parish Officers 2003-2004

Churchwardens

Rector's Warden: Nigel Wright
Deputy Rector's Warden: Pat Kennedy
People's Warden: Marilyn Ramsingh
Deputy People's Warden: Michael Rowland
Members of Synod: Earl Barnsley; Phyllis Garden; Art Grierson and David Kent
Elected Members At-large of Advisory Board: Marion Dorosh; Peter Henderson and Kim Yates
Appointed Member of Advisory Board: Dr. Suan Seh Foo
Coordinator of Sidesmen and women: Earl Barnsley

Note: Heads of all parish organizations are on Advisory Board. The Rector will appoint two other members.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISM

February 2, 2003 – James Edward Aston Golding, son of Paul Golding & Kelly Ann Baxter Golding

MARRIAGE

January 25, 2003 – Trent Alexander Smith & Camilla Catherine Burk Sutton

BURIALS

January 25, 2003 – Millicent Hoilette Lane, 75
February 4, 2003 – Eleanor Edith Brown, 84
February 5, 2003 – Katharine Madeline Cartwright, 90
February 19, 2003 – Florence Minnie Coombs, 99
March 8, 2003 – John H. Pye, 76

Education for Ministry

Fr Ross Mentors Saint Thomas's Group

Possible Opportunities to Join in Autumn

With 500 Canadian participants, and over 7,000 enrolled worldwide, Education for Ministry (EFM) began as an extension (distance education) course for lay people sponsored by the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee—a “southern ivy-league” university of the Episcopal (Anglican) Church in the United States. Interestingly, it started as a kind of protest against the theological “pap” that its founders believed many lay people received (and still receive?) from the pulpits of Anglican Churches. Thus, the programme’s founders hoped to provide lay people with the same historical and theological knowledge and critical tools (in somewhat abbreviated form) as was provided for the seminarians at the School of Theology at Sewanee. The “content” of the course, in its earliest form, consisted of the lecture notes of the various professors (Biblical, Theological, Liturgical, Ethical, Pastoral, etc) who were members of the faculty at Sewanee. Since those days, there have been many revisions and additions to the original material. Students who have the time to go beyond the basic course notes are give copious references to pertinent books and articles.

A unique aspect of the course is its emphasis on “theological reflection”. Using various “models” of theological reflection, the participants attempt—under the direction of a trained mentor—to “connect” holy scripture and the tradition of the Church with their own experiences and with contemporary culture. This is done at the bi-weekly seminar on Saturdays when, in addition to engaging in structured theological reflection, the members of the group discuss the readings from the different years. The ultimate aim for participants is to better understand their own vocations as baptized persons (it is for this reason that the course is called ‘education for ministry’...i.e., the ministry which pertains to all baptized Christians, not just to those in ordered ministry).

The ‘content’ of the course begins with the Hebrew scriptures (Old Testament) and—over four years—covers

the New Testament, early, medieval, and modern Christian history (including Canadian Church history), as well as Christian theology in its many forms.

The tuition is, at present, \$350 per academic year (students commit to one year at a time) and some bursary money is available. Groups are limited to a maximum of 12 persons. At the present time, there are three groups in the Diocese of Toronto: one here at St Thomas’s, under the mentorship of Fr Rob Ross, and two groups at the Convent of St John in Willowdale. The group at St Thomas’s is full right now, but there may be one or two openings in the fall. If there is enough interest, it may be possible to start a second group at St Thomas’s (anyone interested in being trained as a mentor to help start a new group should speak to Fr Ross...mentors receive an 18 hour training session and then must be re-trained every 18-24 months). As well as Fr Ross, parishioners Janet Burnie, Melinda Cuthbert, Marion Dorosh, Vaino Keelman, Carol Lang, Carolynne Lund-Meade, Carol Kysela and Gene Stewart are members of the group...so please feel free to speak to any one or more of them if you wish to know more. It should be noted that EFM is **not** designed for those who wish to become ordained ministers (i.e., deacon or priest)...and no degree or diploma is granted for the course.

There are two kinds of people: the righteous who believe themselves sinners, and the rest who believe themselves righteous. – Blaise Pascal (1623-62)

Computer Corner

Parishioners' help needed for multimedia CD-ROM

by John Meadows

The Saint Thomas's Web Site The Saint Thomas's web site (<http://www.stthomas.on.ca>) has been around for over 6 years, and since 1998, has had well over 32,000 visitors. On the web site you can find music listings, a searchable listing of the church's library, the current week's leaflet, even some on-line video, including recently added footage from the induction of Father Andrews (thanks to Art Grierson for the camera work!). This is your web site, and we are always looking for new ideas!

Coming this Fall – A Saint Thomas's CD-ROM! Work is underway on a Saint Thomas's multimedia CD-ROM, planned for release in early November of 2003. This CD-ROM will contain sights, sounds and video of Saint Thomas's, both past and present. We are looking for material for inclusion on the CD. *If you have old pictures, or other material (any home movie or video footage is especially desirable), please contact John Meadows at (416) 406-3996, or by email at john@meadowsonline.com.*

Web Sites of Interest Check out the Project Canterbury website: <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/pc/>. This site contains a huge collection of Anglican literature. Also, a most comprehensive site on the Book of Common Prayer can be found at: <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/>. What I find especially fascinating is looking through the very first version of the BCP from 1549.



Lenten Solemn Mass

✧ JOHN PYE: 1926-2003 ✧

Walter Hardacre writes: John Pye joined the Parish in 1958, about the same time as Margaret and I, during the Rectorship of Fr Jarvis. We met through the Saint Thomas's Acolyte Guild, and for some years alternated as its head. We were a fun-loving group. John worked at Simpson's on Queen Street, where he was Manager of the Housewares Department. After returning from some years' study in Germany, John was not only Fr Mulholland's right-hand man at the Mission to Seafarers, but he also became increasingly active at Saint Thomas's, initiating and then chairing its Centennial Committee, chairing the Music Committee – it was his idea to commission a Missa Brevis for the celebrations, not to mention roasting an ox at the parish picnic! When in 1991 John suffered the severe stroke from which he never recovered, David attended to his every need, often bringing him to church. John did not regain his speech, but one could see he understood what one was saying, and his eyes would light up when we reminisced about old times. For a more complete record of the contributions of this greatly-loved figure to the life of our parish, read our centennial history, Household of God. May he rest in peace.

MY LIFE WITH PYE

*edited from a Tribute
by Fr David Mulholland*

This Passion Sunday – so bright and shiny with frozen snow like a great gorgeous frosted icing fruit cake with our Hansel & Gretel Chalet stuck in the middle. This First Sunday in April I should have said Mass as per monthly ritual in our wee Chapel, but I had no-one to celebrate with – and there was always John – before. So I sit in the peace of our Flying Angel Home with the sun slanting through the Chapel windows and offer this small piece in loving memory of John Pye as an act of Thanksgiving for his life and My Life with Pye.

John in wheelchair – quietly sitting in the Holy Presence in the Chapel of the Holy Angels where for the last year the Eucharist has been prayed the first Sunday of the month – and always with dear ones present – sometimes almost absent and sometimes bright with the love of God shining out from his dear old eyes – and eternally now – forever young with the eagerness of a child – although chastened by cruel time – purgatory for these last almost

twelve years – not diminished but richer in that grace that only comes from suffering; yet always hopeful and trusting as with great effort he makes the responses, and clumsily with faltering disconnected movements blesses himself with the sign of the Cross before receiving the Sacrament.

Dear John, as an older brother to me in life, and in the Faith of our Fathers' Holy Faith – when so young, so earnest and so charged; made so gentle and so kindly in his latter years. What to say of Pye? My Life with Pye – soul-mate, mentor, fellow sinner, fellow saint... the great

places of our cultural and spiritual antecedents... at times too much for a rather delinquent David. In Vienna I'd said "no" to the Stephansdome, but repented: my stolid sheepishness was utterly transfigured into a profound sense of glory... my tiredness evaporated in a true and lovely glimpse of Heaven as I met Pye at the Dear Rail and knelt down to receive the Dear Lord. John and I left the Cathedral with tears of joy and gratitude flowing down our cheeks to the strains of *Ave Verum*. Oh God – how wonderful!

Purgatory with Pye – The stroke. The road was hard. The road on Good Friday



At Acolytes' barbecue held at the Hardacres' home last summer, John Pye is flanked by his brother members who have also served as Guild Secretaries

naughty sense of the silly – hilarious with mirth and merriment at times inappropriate because always irrepressible.

Three Pictures...

Party with Pye – An Alice-in-Wonderland-like Christmas mad tea party in a very small apartment on St George Street – movement impossible midst overflowing trays of hors d'oeuvres and brimming bowls of punch and a crazy gilded bird cage – and books... books everywhere – lively zest, all very Christian and fun at the same time. John Pye the host engaging everyone present with wit, charm; kindness, brightness. I had discovered a truly Catholic Anglicanism.

Holidays with Pye – He opened up for me so much of life's treasure in so many

– an important ritual time for Pye and me in the old days when we'd go on a long hike after the Liturgy, and by 5 pm be so hungry we would give mutual dispensation and go for Swiss Chalet and a lovely cheap bottle of wine. Well for the last eleven Good Fridays John and I have driven to the same area – Forks of the Credit – and made pilgrimage to the same little store where Pyezo and Johnny Lewis and I once brought beautiful little Easter eggs. And we would listen to some fine Passiontide music; and holding hands, continue along the road – as far as we could together – 'till we meet again at road's end in that beautiful land.

I must get a copy of the acclaimed "Life of Pi." My Life with Pye was brilliant.

Music List Highlights: May-June 2003

(The complete Music List appears on the Parish Website at <http://www.stthomas.on.ca/music.htm>)

- ✻ Parishioners who worship at the 9:30 am Mass on Easter III, IV and V – May 4, 11 and 18, will find the setting to be *Communion Service*, by the Welsh composer William Mathias (1934-1992), which he composed for voice and organ in 1976. Another work by Mathias, his *Festival Te Deum*, will be sung at *Solemn Evensong on Whitsunday, June 8*.
- ✻ The Czech organist Jiri Ropek's (1922-) *Variations on Victimæ Paschali* is the prelude and postlude after *Solemn Mass on May 11*. The underlying tune is the plainsong sequence hymn appointed for Easter.
- ✻ At the 6:15 pm *Solemn Mass on Ascension Day, May 29*, the motet is *CÆlos ascendit hodie*, by the English composer C.V. Stanford (1852-1924). The work's vigorous upward motif appropriate to the Feast contrasts with the two other motets which Stanford linked as a trio: the elegaic *Beati quorum via*, and *Iustorum Animæ*, its more robust twin, also taking remembrance as its theme. The three will be performed in sequence at the Choir's May 23 Concert.
- ✻ Worshippers at *Solemn Evensong on June 1* will hear Thomas Tallis' (1505-1585) exquisitely simple motet *If ye love me*. The Royal Composer to four British Monarchs eschewed complex counterpoint, hence his compositions have a "consequent air of serenity about them that arises from the straight-forward musical means used to develop melodic ideas," of which this motet is certainly an example.
- ✻ Ralph Vaughan Williams' (1872-1958) *Mass in g* is the setting of the *Solemn Mass on Pentecost, June 8*. Parishioners are familiar with many of the English composer's vigorous hymn tunes, including *Down Ampney* ("Come down, O Love Divine") and *Sine Nomine* ("For all the Saints"). However this Mass for double choir, dedicated to fellow composer Gustav Holst and his Whitsuntide singers, is a work of great reflective beauty and numinous character, employing a haunting falling third motif to create an effect at once both mystical and evocative.
- ✻ On the *Feast of Corpus Christi, June 22*, the inspiration of the Blessed Sacrament is reflected in works of diverse origins. The 9:30 *Sung Eucharist* will worship to the classic polyphony of William Byrd's (1543-1623) motet *O Sacrum Convivium*. Both the *Solemn Mass* setting, composed during World War II, and the motet *Pange lingua* are by Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967). Once a colleague of Bartók, Kodaly's music is "imbued with the spirit and musical idiom of Hungary." Canticles in E by Herbert Murrill (1909-1952) at *Solemn Evensong* are quintessentially English. Murrill was a choirmaster who later became Head of Music for the BBC and composed scores for a number of films.

St Thomas's Choirs' Benefit Concert

John Tuttle writes: "This is the first time, in my thirteen years, that St. Thomas's Choir has produced a 'concert,' other than its appearances for the CBC Competition and for Podium (Association of Canadian Choral Conductors) last year. The programme will be 'highlights' of our Choir's repertoire." This is the Choirs' contribution to The Archbishop's Challenge for the Residential School Settlement.

Friday, May 23rd at 8:00 pm

The Choir of Saint Thomas's Church, Toronto

Programme Highlights include: O God, thou art my God, *Henry Purcell* – Messe Solennelle, *Jean Langlais* – Maria wallt zum Heiligtum, *Johann Eccard* – Con moto maestoso from Sonata, op. 65, no. 3 in A, *Felix Mendelssohn* (played by Elizabeth Anderson, Organ Scholar) – Ave Maria, *Anton Bruckner* – Three Motets, *Charles Villiers Stanford* – Chantez a Dieu, *J.P. Sweelinck* – Ubi caritas et amor, *Maurice Durufle* – Finale from Symphony III, *Louis Vierne* (played by John Tuttle) – Civitas sancti tui, *William Byrd* – Factum est silentium, *Richard Dering* – Aurora lucis rutilat, *Orlandus Lassus*

Tickets – \$15.00 for adults,
\$10.00 for students/seniors/children
available from members of the Choirs or at the door.

Information
(416) 979-2323

Sunday April 27

**SMOKEY TOM'S
HIGH TEA
5:00 pm**

*A fundraiser featuring
tastings from the new*

Parish Cookbook

tickets \$10 at the door

followed by **SOLEMN
EVENSONG & EASTER
RECITAL – 7:00 pm.**

The Choir, under the direction of John Tuttle, will present *Rejoice in the Lamb* by Benjamin Britten. John writes "Rejoice in the Lamb is a cantata based on the strange poetry of Christopher Smart. The canticles will be the setting in a minor by Henry Purcell, an equally distinguished British composer of another era."

Choir & Music Notes

by John Tuttle

Saint Thomas's Choirs

Tom Spanyol, baritone section-leader on the South side, who is here for only a year, will be returning to the UK this summer. Tom, a former member of Robinson College Choir, Cambridge, stayed on in Canada after their North American tour ended last summer, and we have been fortunate to have him at St. Thomas's. He will be replaced by *Philip Carmichael* in the fall. Philip is a student at the Faculty of Music, and began his church-singing career in the Choir of St. Simon's Church, Toronto, under *Dr. Derek Holman*.

Resident Choral Groups

Exultate Chamber Singers are looking forward with great anticipation to a performance of the *All Night Vigil* by Sergei Rachmaninoff on Friday, May 9th at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, corner Dundas & McCaul, Toronto. The singers are handling this wonderful score with great care, and it promises to be a highlight of their twenty-year history.

Saint Thomas's Eliminates GST!

(Committee, not tax...
out with a bang)

by Jennifer Grange

The Growing St. Thomas's Committee is going out with a bang in the form of a party May 2. A revitalized Advisory Board and its committees will carry on the work begun by the GSTC over the last four years.

Established as a committee of Vestry, the committee first met under the leadership of Greig Dunn in early 1999 at a time when St Thomas's seemed in danger of complacency. Its purpose was to consider ways of keeping those already attending St. Thomas's in the pews while attracting new parishoners. Our Anglo-Catholic parish was long perceived as musically and liturgically brilliant while lacking in warmth.

Among its early initiatives was the introduction of name tags for Sidesmen and women as well as for committee members, the holding of receptions following some of the special Evensongs, and a number of fund-raising cabarets.

Under the aegis of Social Convenor Linda Russell, also our parish photographer, card mailer and telephone corre-

spondent extraordinaire, our reputation for friendliness has grown considerably. An education programme reaching out to all ages reflects another effort of the GSTC. Diana Versegby took on the reorganization of the church school, which over time should attract younger families to the parish. Carol Kysella and Gene Stewart have been particularly active in planning the popular autumn and Lenten adult education programmes.

Carol Kysella and Marion Dorosh remain the driving forces behind the kitchen renovation project. The completion of this undertaking will mean greater opportunities for outreach. In the meantime, Committee members, under the tireless organization of Andrea Budgey, serve dinner once a month at St. Stephen's, alternating with other area churches.

During its history the remarkable thing about the Growing St. Thomas's Committee was not simply its ability to identify needs within the parish but its success in initiating solutions. This energy is now radiating out to the six new committees – finance, property, education, social, outreach and communications—which are set to solidify the work begun in 1999.

Communications Committee

by Ann Welsh

The Communications Committee's has a two-fold mandate: to make recommendations to the Rector and The Wardens on activities to strengthen communications among parishioners and with our community, and to undertake various communications activities that will support the work of St. Thomas's.

The current members of the Committee are: John Aimers (newsletter editor), Phyllis Garden, Jennifer Grange, Chris Harper, David Kent, John Meadows (Web Master), Riva Lieflander, Marilyn Ram-singh, Mercia Stasey and Ann Welsh (Chair). The Committee is currently developing a communications plan and investigating various ways to advertise and publicize St. Thomas's services and activities more effectively.

New members are most welcome. Please speak to the Rector, the Wardens or any member of the Communications Committee.

Critical Mass

April 29 Concert benefits Second Harvest

by Kelly Baxter

On Tuesday, April 29, at 1:00 pm, Critical Mass presents Rheinberger's *Cantus Missae* at Saint Thomas's Church. Singers for this performance include Meghan Roberts, Nancy Reynolds, Kelly Baxter, Larry Beckwith, Paul Jenkins, John Pepper and Esteban Cambre. Admission is by donation. This is the final concert in the group's third season.

Critical Mass is a group of singers who are donating their time and talent to present a series of noon-hour concerts at various Toronto area churches. Each concert features an a cappella program built around a setting of the mass, and the proceeds from every concert go to Second Harvest, an organization that picks up and delivers quality perishable food that would otherwise be wasted. From humble beginnings out of the back of a station wagon, Second Harvest now feeds 3,000 people in Toronto every day.

For more information on this or other Critical Mass projects, please contact artistic directors Larry Beckwith and Kelly Baxter at 416-778-4923 or visit the website at www.opusone.ca/criticalmass

Sunday School News

by Diana Versegby

Ten teachers take turns at 11 am

A typical Sunday School schedule proceeds as follows: crafts, 10:30-11:00; lesson, 11:00-11:10; Bible story, 11:10-11:20; game, 11:20-11:30; hymn teaching, 11:30-11:40. The children enter church at the beginning of the Offertory hymn and remain until after Communion. Then they enjoy free play time until parents arrive to collect them. Average attendance of children has risen from 5.7 in 2001-02 to 7.3 to date in 2002-03 (not including the child on boat-bearer duty). There are currently ten teachers on the roster (besides myself); each teaches for a two-week stint about once every three months. My own schedule is two weeks on, two weeks off. The other dedicated teachers include *Chris Aaltonen, Larry Beckwith, Teri Dunn, Pat Kennedy, Suzanne Kennedy, Riva Lieflander, Bruce McEachern, John Meadows, Anneli Pekkonen and Susan Whitmore.*

9:30 school still a hope...

At present there is no church school during the 9:30 service. The nursery is offered for small children during that time, but the number of older children present is still small. Until such time as a church school is set up during the 9:30 service, there does exist the option that parents can bring their children to that service and then send them to the 11:00 church school afterwards, from 10:30 until about 11:40, when the 11:00 children go into church. Ultimately it is hoped that a church school could be organized during the 9:30 service as well, but it would take a second group of volunteers to run it.

New recruits needed

The church school parents and teachers held a brainstorming and planning session on March 30th, and are following it up with a second meeting on May 18th, to discuss possible new initiatives for the fall, particularly splitting the teaching into two classes for older and younger children. *Anyone interested in joining the teaching roster should please contact me at Diana.Versegby@ec.gc.ca or 416-739-4422 (day), or 905-303-4490 (evening) We are always looking for new recruits!*



Rummage Sale June 7th – 9:00-noon

Volunteers Needed!

by Mary Suddon

Rummage sales at St Thomas's continue to be popular in the neighbourhood, and are looked forward to by parishioners, as well. Proceeds go to church expenses. Assistance is needed both in terms of donations in kind and of a few hours of your time!

Time: For many years these semi-annual events have been organized by a small group of volunteers – more are needed. On **Thursday June 5**, we set up the Parish Hall and price the merchandise. On **Saturday June 7**, volunteers relieve the tired workers from the sale by helping pack up unsold goods and rearranging the Hall. *If you can assist, please call Mary Suddon at (416) 924-6179.*

Goods: We rely on parishioners, their families and friends to supply us with rummage. Especially popular are books, household items, unworn clothes and treasures. *To drop donations in advance of the sale, contact Barb Obrai, Parish Administrator, at (416) 979-2323.*

The Holy Spirit

Pentecost May 14th Event Set

by Carol Kysela

On Wednesday, May 14th, we will be sponsoring an Eastertide evening educational event entitled *The Holy Spirit: Preparing for Pentecost*. This will be a single evening event with a traditional St. Thomas's schedule; Eucharist at 6:15 pm, Supper in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm, Program at 7:30 pm and Compline in the Parish Hall immediately following the program. This program with its focus on the Holy Spirit is a continuation of the experiences we have just shared during Holy Week and Easter and a preparation for the gift we humans received at Pentecost. The Third Person of the Trinity has frequently received less attention than the other two Persons; certainly the historical controversies of the great church councils which hammered out the credal statements of our beliefs focussed far more attention on the nature of Our Lord's divinity, Mary's blessedness, and the nature of our One God, than on the gift of the Holy Spirit. Join us to celebrate the Holy Spirit, to gain and share insights on this ever-present force in our world and to prepare for Pentecost.

Saint Thomas's Church

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Rector rector@stthomas.on.ca

Rector: Fr Mark Andrews (416) 345-8787

Assistant Priests:

Fr Brian D Freeland (416) 461-7025

& Fr Robert A Ross (416) 588-6946

Honorary Assistant Priests:

Frs A. Thomas Little,

W. David Neelands & Ian D. Nichols

Layreaders:

Walter O. Hardacre & Mary Suddon

Churchwardens:

Nigel Wright (416) 362-7711 &

Marilyn Ramsingh (416) 465-1921

Deputy Churchwardens:

Patricia Kennedy & Michael Rowland

Organist & Choirmaster:

John H. Tuttle (416) 236-2750

Parish Administrator:

Barbara A. O'brai (416) 820-3560 cellular

Financial Officer & Treasurer: Anna Kennedy

Bookkeeper: Greg Anderson

Church School Supervisor: Diana Versegby

Nursery School Supervisor: Maggie Murre

Web Master & Computer Consultant:

John Meadows john@meadowsonline.com

Coordinator of Sidesmen and women:

Earl Barnsley (416) 467-0481

Sexton: Colin Anderson – Church Hall

Bookings: Mary Suddon (416) 924-6179

WORSHIP AT SAINT THOMAS'S

SUNDAYS

Masses: 8:00 am (BCP, plain celebration);

9:30 am (BAS, Sung); 11:00 am (BCP,
Solemn High)

Mattins (said) 10:30 am – Solemn

Evensong & Devotions 7:00 pm

WEEKDAYS

Masses: 5:30 pm Monday & Friday –

12:15 noon Tuesday & Thursday

7:30 am Wednesday, 10:00 am Saturday

Morning Prayer is said daily 8:30 am,

Saturday 9:30 am

Evening Prayer is said daily at 5:00 pm,

except Tuesday and Wednesday at

5:15 pm. Candelight Meditation follows

Evening Prayer on Tuesday.

Confessions: At times announced or by
appointment with any of the Parish Clergy

Benedictine Day – May 10

SEMI-ANNUAL WORK DAY: NO VOCATION REQUIRED!

We have scheduled the annual spring Benedictine Day for Saturday, May 10. Work will begin at 9 a.m., with a break at 10 a.m. for Mass, and will continue from 10:30 to 12:30, when there will be a free lunch.

We need lots of volunteers, for both inside and outside work: *spring cleanup of the Rector's and church gardens; planting of new shrubs and flowers; window washing and kitchen cleanup.*

Please let us know how you can help, either by signing the sheet in the Narthex or by calling the church at 416-979-2323. Let's make our place of worship more attractive to parishioners, visitors, and those passing by.

Bible Study on the Boat

Sign up now for Scriptural Voyage!

There is a no more enjoyable way to explore a passage of Scripture than by taking part in a Bible Study on a sailboat. Parishioners are invited to sign up for one or more sessions on *Thursday evenings in the summer*. This year's study will explore various passages dealing with water. A different priest of the diocese

leads each session, and Fr Andrews is the skipper. The boat leaves from the National Yacht Club around 6:00 pm, and heads out for a cruise around the island. Participants take turns providing food and drinks. More information will be provided when the weather improves. Space is limited to ten people per session, so sign up early via Barb O'brai at the Parish Office.



Monday Bible Study participants in the Rectory living room – about 15 parishioners meet for five weekly discussions of St Mark's Gospel led by Fr Andrews, with gentle encouragement and the occasional bark from Molly!