

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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PASSIONTIDE 2004

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

Annual Vestry Meeting Highlights Healthy Finances, Renewed Activity

Rector Thanks, Challenges Parish

*Pat Kennedy Steps Down
from Corporation*

*Charis Kelso Named Deputy
Rector's Warden*

*Nine Seek Synod Spots
in Vestry Election*

The Annual Meeting of the Vestry of the Parish took place after Mass (the morning celebrations were combined at 10:30 am to encourage both congregations to attend) and light luncheon on Sunday, February 15, and was marked by the Rector's reflections on his first year at St Thomas's, an encouraging financial report mirroring a revival in many areas of church life, the retirement of one Warden and appointment of a new member of Corporation as well as a lively election for Synod Delegates.

THE RECTOR'S REPORT

The past year unfolded very differently from the way I had expected it to. My plan for the year had been to spend a great deal of time visiting people in their homes, spending time with the members of the various guilds, mastering the liturgy, and beginning to implement some programmes to address the financial situation of the parish. What quickly became apparent is that there is an enormous amount of energy in the parish wanting to be unleashed.

There was an immediate response to the setting up of committees, and all of
continued on the next page



After the Annual Vestry Meeting: the Corporation and its Officers together with outgoing Warden Pat Kennedy. l-r: Marilyn Ramsingh, Barb Obrai, Gene Stewart, The Rector, Nigel Wright, Pat Kennedy, Charis Kelso & Anna Kennedy.

Holy Week & Easter Services

Palm Sunday: April 4

8 am Low Mass ~ 9:30 am Palm Sunday Procession & Sung Eucharist (BAS rite) ~ 11 am Palm Sunday Procession & Solemn High Mass (music by Weelkes, Byrd, Bruckner and Langlais) ~ 7 pm Solemn Evensong, Way of the Cross & Devotions

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week: April 5, 6 & 7

Low Masses at 7:30 am, 12:15 pm & 5:30 pm ~ Confessions 6:30 pm ~ Way of the Cross & Devotions 7:30 pm

Maundy Thursday: April 8

8 pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Supper (music by Duruflé, des Prez and Lassus), followed by the all-night Gethsemane Watch at the Altar of Repose - with Candlelight Way of the Cross at 11:30 pm

Good Friday: April 9

10:30 am Liturgy of the Passion (music by Sanders and Lotti) ~ 7:30 pm Candlelight Way of the Cross

Easter Eve: April 10

10 am Mattins & Ante-Communion ~ 9 pm The Easter Vigil (music by Wood, Langlais and Taverner) followed by Reception in Parish Hall

Easter Day: April 11

8 am Low Mass ~ 9:30 am Sung Eucharist (BAS rite) ~ 11 am Procession & Solemn High Mass (music by Langlais and Byrd) ~ 7 pm Solemn Evensong, Procession, Te Deum & Devotions (Music by Howells, Vaughan Williams and Rheinberger)

Low Sunday: April 18

7 pm Solemn Evensong, Easter Recital, Procession & Devotions (Music by Lassus, Finzi and Gabrieli) followed by Reception in Parish Hall

The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord: Thursday, May 20

6:15 pm Procession & Solemn High Mass (Music by Martin and Stanford)

In this Issue

Children of Abraham Dialogue	5
Pre-Lent 'Party Gras'	6
Important Outreach Meeting Set	9
Music Notes	11

Vestry...

continued from page one

them began meeting and planning and putting into action new initiatives. Visiting and pastoral care had to be balanced with getting people involved in a great number of projects. It has been an exciting year during which each committee has had numerous successes:

The Communications Committee has been highly successful in launching a newsletter, advertising events in various media, and making some changes in the appearance of the church and hall to communicate more effectively who we are and what we do.

The Education Committee offered some splendid opportunities for learning and socializing, and has reached out beyond the parish to establish significant and valuable relations with other parishes and with the university. The Bible studies at the Rectory have been well attended in Lent and Advent.

The Finance Committee launched a pledge campaign that met with a positive response. It has made the financial position of the parish more easily understood, and has inspired people to consider their financial responsibility to the parish.

The Outreach Committee did a marvellous job in continuing to involve more individuals and groups in Out of the Cold. The new summer programme that provided people with food and water at St Thomas's was well received, as was the Thanksgiving Dinner. We also supported families at Christmas in conjunction with the parish of St George the Martyr.

The Property Committee has taken charge of correcting problems, improv-

ing the look of our buildings, planning for future repairs, and establishing a regular maintenance programme. We have inherited wonderful resources and it is good to know that they are being properly cared for.

The Social Committee has been very busy hosting an extraordinary number of events throughout the year. Visitors and newcomers have been welcomed into the parish at these functions and there has been a joyful spirit about the place.

On top of the work of the committees St Thomas's has been abuzz with the ongoing work of parish life.

The Acolytes' Guild has had a busy time dealing with changes mandated by the diocese in response to SARS, and with the raising up and training of new members. The 9:30 Acolytes have also been busy and I'm glad that we will be training some new acolytes soon. I think it would be well to recognize the time and energy required of the Guild Secretary, *Mark Manore*, to enable us to enjoy the liturgy we have. And it is a good opportunity to note the 30 years of dedicated service to the Guild provided by *David O'Rourke* as Novice Master.

Two other members of the liturgical team need to be recognized for their labours in the church's worship and everywhere else too. We have two extraordinary servants, the modern Simeon & Anna, who are day and night in the temple: *Mary Suddon and Walter Hardacre*. It is such a pleasure to work with them, and we are blessed by their ministries among us.

The Altar Guild is truly inspiring in their dedication to their vocation of preparing the church for the worship of God. The **Choirs** have produced beautiful music at all our services, and it was a real pleasure to hear them sing a concert to raise funds for the Archbishop's Appeal for the Residential Schools Settlement. The **Church School and Nursery** have had some new members and new teachers, and the clergy have begun to be more involved with it. The **Sidesmen** have recruited new members and continue to provide a valuable service by making visitors and newcomers welcome.

The people who serve coffee on Sunday mornings have been very successful in building up their clientele. There are numerous societies active in the parish. Father Freeland continues to teach and inspire the members of the **St Agnes Guild**, and the **Confraternity of**

Fire Suppression System to be Installed: Kitchen Closed Two Weeks in April

The Parish Hall kitchen will be out of commission from April 19th to April 30th for the construction and installation of the Fire Suppression System for the stove. This long overdue work will thankfully bring our kitchen up to Municipal Code, in preparation for the major renovation planned for this summer. No dinners can be prepared during this construction period in April. However we can probably accommodate our beloved Coffee Hour on Sunday the 25th with a bit of rearranging of the equipment if need be. *Gene Stewart*

the Blessed Sacrament. The **Society of Mary** has flourished in recent years with new members from within and without the parish. The **prayer group** that meets in the parish hall has also grown this past year.

The Kitchen Committee hosted a number of wonderful events including an evening of recipe tasting and the Affordable Art Affair. We are very fortunate to have creative, generous, and industrious parishioners who work hard to make such positive things happen. It will be marvellous to see the new kitchen emerge later this year.

There are many other activities taking place in the parish, and it is marvellous to see how much creative energy is being spent here. **The St Thomas's Poetry series** has been excellent.

Being involved in some ways with all of these activities has been an enormous privilege and joy. The *Assistant Clergy and the Honorary Assistants* have been a great support and encouragement. *Fr Ross and Fr Freeland* are good colleagues and I am enjoying working with them a great deal. They have laboured very hard this past year. As I think the parish is aware *Barbara Obrai and John Tuttle* provide the parish with great service, and their faith and dedication is impressive. The *members of the Corporation*, likewise, have given of themselves most generously and constructively. We are very fortunate indeed in the quality and character of the people who make St Thomas's run.

THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: The Rector, Jean Nichols, Marilyn Ramsingh, John Aimers

Diversity, Tensions, Charity

The liturgical life of the parish is rich and varied. Each Sunday service has a particular character and each feeds the soul in a unique and valuable way. We are blessed to have such a diverse parish, and to be able to minister to people with strikingly different theological, social, and aesthetic values.

Such diversity can cause tensions, and perhaps this coming year more than ever before as the Diocese considers the issue of blessing same-sex unions. The Parkdale Deanery will be hosting a series of presentations and panel discussions at St Thomas's in early May that will explore the issues surrounding the motion before synod. It is imperative for our own souls and for the parish that we remember that charity is God's greatest gift. We must put that gift to work in our prayers, thoughts, and conversations, not only as we consider the subject of same-sex blessings, but in all of our common life together.

Three Challenges for 2004

In the coming year I expect to focus extra energy in three areas in particular. In October we celebrate the Feast of Dedication and our 130th Anniversary. Plans are underway to mark the event by having a home-coming to welcome former parishioners and friends. It will have an educational, social, and musical component. A display of our marvellous vestments is also planned. Such an event has the danger of being simply nostalgic. In order to make the event something more positive and a celebration of the parish's life now, it is necessary to accomplish two other things.

First, we need to make sure that we are caring effectively for parishioners who are not able to be at church on a regular basis. *Pat Kennedy*, among others, will be establishing a keeping-in-touch programme that will ensure that the elderly, the sick, and the immobile, are ministered to sacramentally and socially. Many individuals have been involved in this vital work already, *Linda Russell* in particular. It will be a great boon to our parish, which is a "gathered community" more than a parochial one, to have a more formal structure.

Second, if we are to really celebrate the parish's anniversary we need to be more engaged in the social work of the gospel. St Thomas's has a long and proud

continued on the next page

Charis Kelso Joins Corporation

Family connection and "beautiful church" brought future Warden to Parish

[At the Annual Vestry Meeting in February, Charis Kelso was named Deputy Rector's Warden. Charis kindly wrote something of her association with Saint Thomas's to introduce herself to members of the Parish who may not have previously met her. Ed.]

"My father became an Anglican as an adult and was confirmed at St. Thomas's while he was in Toronto at Teacher's College. He was confirmed in the fall of 1953 and during the ensuing academic year served as an acolyte. My birthday is on April 21st; one year, probably when I was 8-10, it fell on Easter weekend. My family came to Toronto and attended church at St. Thomas's. I remember thinking how beautiful the church was: a very different structure from our parish church at home in Smiths Falls. So it was that prior to moving to Toronto in 1991, whenever I was in the city on business or pleasure, I would try to attend church at St. Thomas's. Save for my time living in St. Paul's constituency (Avenue Road & St. Clair) over the last year because of the provincial election, where I was the Progressive Conservative candidate, my home in Toronto has always been, and is now once again on Prince Arthur Avenue. Although I reside closer to Church of the Redeemer there was never any question that I would attend church elsewhere than St. Thomas's!" *Hortence Wasteney*, a long-time parishioner at St. Thomas's who passed away in 1996, was my godmother's roommate at Trinity College and a good family friend. Although I didn't interact very much with other members of the congregation except Hortence until the last couple of years, I have always loved attending 11:00 Sunday mass and sometimes the 8:00 a.m. service at St. Thomas's and especially the Holy Week and Easter celebrations. This next phase of my life at St. Thomas's which involves playing a more active role in the life of the parish is long overdue and one that I am looking forward to with great joy and anticipation. I feel very blessed to be part of this wonderful parish."



Charis Kelso, appointed Deputy Rector's Warden

Charis has enjoyed an interesting career in public service. After graduating BA (politics and history) and LLB from Queen's University (where she was "Rector" – a prestigious student leadership position) she completed her articles at the firm of Fraser & Beatty, and was admitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1993. Subsequently she served as Policy Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism for Ontario; Executive Assistant to David Turnbull, MPP;

and as Policy Analyst, Research & Communications, for the Progressive Conservative Caucus. In these capacities she analyzed and developed positions in health and social policy, drafted a Private Member's Bill on Tenant Rights that was passed in the Provincial Legislature, briefed the Premier on issues affecting the women of Ontario and resolved constituent concerns on behalf of MPPs and Cabinet Ministers.

Charis serves as the Toronto Area Co-Commissioner for the Girl Guides of Canada. In that capacity she shares leadership with two colleagues who, through a team of 40 women, work to ensure a positive experience for 2,000 adult Guiders and 10,000 Girl Guides in the Toronto area. She has also served as President of the Queen's University Alumni Association, and volunteered with the Toronto People Living With Aids Foundation, Casey House, Cancer Society of Ontario, and Community Living Toronto.

She is the recipient of a number of awards recognizing her commitment to volunteerism and service including the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, the Ontario Government's Volunteer Award, the Girl Guides of Canada Medal of Merit Award, the Queen's Alumni Association Herbert J. Hamilton Award, and the Queen's University Tricolour Award.

Of particular interest is that Charis is currently on leave from studies, on which she embarked some years ago, in the part-time MDiv programme offered by the Toronto School of Theology at Trinity College.

VESTRY... *continued from previous page*

tradition of ministering to the needy, and we are involved in that work now. There is, however, more that can be done, and it is important to do so, not only for the needy, but also for the deepening of our own spiritual lives. I will shortly be calling a meeting of the Outreach Committee and encourage all parishioners interested in furthering this crucial ministry to attend.

For the record, in the past year there were 10 Funerals or Memorial Services, 4 Baptisms of children, 4 Weddings, 5 Confirmations – 4 Adults & 1 Youth.

The clergy and people of St Thomas's have been very welcoming and patient with their new priest, and I am grateful to you all. Serving God and Christ's Church in such a place and among such people is a rare and deep privilege for which I give thanks daily.

Mark Andrews +

ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Nine Contest Synod Delegate Elections

With greater interest in Synod delegates' positions undoubtedly resulting from the contentious issues facing the Church (although the candidates could not have known they would also be faced with electing a new Diocesan Bishop this June), nine parishioners were nominated for the four delegates and two alternates' positions available in a vote efficiently overseen by Fr Ross and Corporation members. Otherwise, the election and appointment process proceeded routinely, with results as follows, *the list as a whole constituting the Advisory Board of the Parish* (* indicates a parishioner continuing in position):

THE CORPORATION

- Rector's Warden Nigel Wright*
- People's Warden Gene Stewart
- Deputy People's Warden Marilyn Ramsingh
- Deputy Rector's Warden Charis Kelso
- Treasurer Anna Kennedy*
- (also, Chairman of Financial Committee)

SYNOD DELEGATES

- Delegates to Synod Jeff Creighton, Suan Seh Foo, Phyllis Garden* & Bruce McEachern
- Alternate Delegates (in order) John Aimers, Ronwen Guest

ADVISORY BOARD

- Elected Members of Advisory Board John Alldredge, Barry Graham*, Diana Versegny* (also, Church School Superintendent)
- Appointed Members of Advistory Board: ... Melinda Cuthbert, Charles Laver,Carolynn Lunn-Mead

COMMITTEE & PARISH ORGANIZATION CHAIRMEN & REPRESENTATIVES

- Acolyte Guild Vincent Meade
- Altar Guild Marlene Fader
- Communications Committee Ann Welsh
- Coordinator of Sidesmen & Sideswomen Suan Seh Foo
- Education Committee Carol Kysela
- Eleven am Choir Representative Andrew Brack
- Evening Choir Representative David Montgomery
- Outreach Committee/INTCH Andrea Budgley
- Pastoral Committee Patricia Kennedy
- Property Committee Robert Kennedy
- Social Committee Susan Clarke
- Website Manager John Meadows

FINANCIAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

[Complete copies of financial statements and all other Vestry reports are available on request from the Parish Office – Ed.]

- General Fund revenue (\$387,995) increased by nearly 12% above budget, while expenses (\$406,488) were held to only 5% above budget. Consequently, a projected deficit of \$31,542 was reduced to \$18,494. Increased envelope and open plate givings accounted for the major portion of increased revenue, with about one-third due to unexpected rental income. The spending increase was due to unforeseen increased insurance costs as well as heavier general administration spending due to the surge of activity within the Parish.
- Trust & Endowment ("Larkin") Fund withdrawals have stabilised at a sustainable level, and for 2003, were held to \$49,000, and thus for the fourth consecutive year the net capital of the Fund increased, this year by about 1% to \$1,392,553
- Heritage Fund (an invested fund used primarily for capital projects) withdrawals exceeded contributions and returns by some \$27,000. Hence that Fund saw its capital decrease from \$383,675 to \$356,496, a trend that will accelerate as the kitchen renovation (moneys raised for which are held in the Fund) is undertaken in the current year.
- The 2004 Budget forecasts an operating deficit of \$17,836. It bases its figures on a more modest increase (6%) in envelope givings than was seen in 2003 (9%). On the spending side, it provides for minimal staff wage increases, in some cases long overdue, combined with a higher level of activity by new committees energizing Parish activities. Given the consensus of the Parish that "there is no appetite for programme reductions," reducing the deficit must focus on growing revenue. Ideas include an additional increase of 4% in givings as the Parish continues to expand, more rentals and greater income generated by Parish Sale events.
- Over the last five years, Capital Expenditures have totaled \$405,249. These have been devoted to basic structure (77%), the heating system (12%) and worship needs (7%), with office and furnishing expenses accounting for another 2% each. Planned Capital Projects for 2004 include kitchen renovations (\$50,000), provision of a fire retardant system for the kitchen (\$30,000), and ceiling and wall repairs in the undercroft and north aisle (\$5,000).

PAT KENNEDY: TRIBUTE TO A RETIRING WARDEN

With Vestry this spring, Pat Kennedy's term as Rector's Warden came to an end. Pat became Deputy Rector's Warden in 1999, and since that time has served the parish with dedication and enthusiasm. Although she has a very demanding job as an editor at McClelland & Stewart Publishers, she has proved to be a very effective warden. Her intelligence and commitment were evident in all of the work she did in the parish, and her wit and sense of humour were invaluable at Corporation meetings. Pat is a great storyteller and often provided a much-needed moment of lightness during serious discussions. We have been fortunate to have had Pat's services for the past five years and are truly grateful for her contribution and her friendship. We look forward to her continuing involvement with Saint Thomas's as a member of the Altar Guild and in heading up the new Pastoral Care Committee. *MR for her colleagues.*

Abraham's Story Discussed in Inter-faith Dialogue

Two Memorable Evenings explore Faiths' similar & distinct approaches

by Jeff Creighton

What would you do if God told you to leave your home, your family and everything you knew, to embark on an adventure of faith? That is the story of Abraham, the common spiritual ancestor of Jews, Christians and Muslims; and it is the story that was told and explored in "The Human Experience of God: The Children of Abraham", two evenings of inter-faith dialogue held on March 9 and 11 at the George Ignatieff Theatre. The evenings were sponsored by St. Thomas's Church, The Chaplaincy and Faculty of Divinity of Trinity College and the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, and featured Yael Splansky (associate rabbi of Holy Blossom Temple), John Boissonneau (Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto), and Atif Khalil (PhD candidate specializing in mediaeval Islam at the Centre for the Study of Religion), discussing the similarities and differences in interpretation of Abraham's story in the three traditions.

For Carol Kysela, St. Thomas's parish-



Participants at Children of Abraham Dialogue: (l-r) The Most Revd John Boissonneau, Atif Khalil & Rabbi Yael Splansky.

ioner and Chair of the Children of Abraham committee, the need for dialogue was pointed up in recent world events and the anger and incomprehension that followed: "When you simply try to understand what somebody else is saying, the conflicts are not so harsh. Sometimes we rush to take a position before we understand."

Each evening focused on one aspect of Abraham's story: first, the call to leave home and follow God; then, the binding/sacrifice of his son. Rabbi Splansky delved into some of the rabbinic commentaries on these stories, illustrating

both the rabbis' love of word-play and allegory and their fleshing out of the stories with imaginative interpretation (midrash). Bishop Boissonneau discussed the importance of Abraham in Christian scripture and liturgy, and how the relationship between Abraham and Christ has been conceived by Christians both inclusively and exclusively. The inclusive model sees the particular call to Abraham broadening into Christ's call to all humanity, while the more exclusive model emphasizes the uniqueness of Christ's revelation, and sees Abraham as a pointer and witness to it. Mr. Khalil presented the Koranic versions of the stories and related them to the Islamic view of a primordial covenant between God and all humanity.

While the story of Abraham's call shows the common basis of the three traditions, the binding/sacrifice exposes significant differences. For Christians, the offering of the son is often seen as a type of Christ's Crucifixion, while Jewish and Islamic commentators have been more concerned with the morally troubling aspects of the story. While each tradition has its own distinctive vocabulary and approach, none is monolithic. Ultimately, all three share the common ground of Abraham's call: to renounce idolatry and follow the one God.

For Carol Kysela, the Abraham story shows both the fragility and the enduring strength of that common ground. "The path that Abraham took was built on a dream," she said. "It is such a delicate thing, and yet it has remained intact in three different traditions for centuries. Maybe that is strong enough for us to have some faith in."

Thanks Thanks Thanks

by Carol Kysela

I was cleaning up my "Children of Abraham" file yesterday and enjoyed seeing how our Dialogue developed. At the beginning, the confidence and generosity of our Trinity committee members, Chaplain John Beach and Dean David Neelands, were instrumental. Between them they were able to suggest and engage two of our participants, a difficult task as we looked for people who were expert, authoritative, sincere in their faiths, approachable, and open to inter-

faith dialogue. As a result of their efforts Bishop Boissonneau joined the Dialogue. Later, through Fr. Neelands' efforts, Margaret MacMillan agreed to be our moderator. Gene Stewart was the first to secure a speaker; he introduced the idea to Rabbi Splansky. A contact of Dr. Mac-



St Thomas's Education Committee Chairman Carol Kysela, who spent countless hours organizing the Dialogue, with panelist Atif Khalil

Millan's connected us with our Islamic scholar, Atif Khalil, who picked up the project with enthusiasm and warmth.

The project developed over many weeks, with invaluable input from a committee which included our Trinity friends, Gene Stewart, Carolyn Lund-Mead and Frs Ross & Freeland. Willem Hart's wonderful poster captured something that we hadn't been able to give words to, and brought rave reviews: a major contribution to the success of our promotion. And when Ann Welsh signed on as our publicity consultant, the project took on a new dimension. She constantly made us think bigger about our audience than we had originally conceived! Eva Martin's careful blending of the story of "The Call of Abraham" from the three traditions to create our opening text worked beautifully.

Our Rector opened his home to us so many times and played host so constructively. Securing sponsorship for the program would require another whole article to detail, but key players included Frs Beach, Neelands, and Andrews! In the run-up to the event, Carolyn Lund-Mead and Charles Laver undertook many tasks, blanketing the University with posters and flyers. Fr. Ross took on the role of floor manager, ensuring smooth running on the nights of the Dialogues.

I am so grateful to have worked with such a talented, enthusiastic and generous committee. Thanks to everybody and especially to the Almighty One!

St T's Pre-Lent Cabaret: Party Gras 2004

G&S, Britten, Hungarian Folk Band highlight eclectic performance evening



by Margo Swiss & David Kent

On Friday, February 20, a delightful pre-Lenten Cabaret night was held in the parish hall. Fr. Jim Hunt and Earl Barnsley were the chief impresarios who created a wonderfully varied program of music and drama for an audience of around 60 parishioners and guests. The entertainment came in three sets, each around twenty or twenty-five minutes in length,

interspersed with two intermissions of about fifteen minutes. Assorted refreshments (supervised by Jennifer Grange) were available, and a cash bar was monitored by Fr. Robert Ross. A raffle was held and half a dozen gifts were drawn for near the end of the evening. The entire program was ably emceed by witty Jack Livesley.

Among the musical treats were songs by Larry Beckwith and his wife Terri Dunn. They sang "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off" to one another with delight and good humour. Terri also very movingly sang Ivor Novello's wartime song "We'll Gather Lilacs" as well as the introductory "Why Don't We Do This More Often" (appropriately reprised by all the singers at the end of the program). Larry sang "Tit Willow" (from Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*) with some cleverly updated lyrics, and both Larry and Terri participated with other choir members in the parodied "Togetherness Starts Simply With a Smile" (from *Annie*), aptly dedicated to Fr. Andrews as he celebrated his first anniversary at St. Thomas's. This penultimate number had been penned by Fr. Jim Hunt in honour of our rector. The ensemble had also earlier given an enthusiastic rendering of "Consider Yourself" from *Oliver*.

The audience was also presented with two different dramatic performances: the first, from another cabaret evening of the past, was a one-woman skit about teaching Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, repeated with the same hilarious results by Siobhan Dungan. And there was the convincingly tense and extremely amusing encounter on a park bench between characters played by Teige Reid and Tabitha Keast in the short play, *Crossword*, written by Teige.

Other highlights included the three different appearances of the Hungarian musical group, *Fekete Fold*, of which parishioner Diana Verseghy is a member (together with Arpad Verseghy, Margit Bajnoczi, Geza Waller, Gabor Verseghy, and Gergely Roszler). This music was very lively and featured various stringed instruments. A series of more poignant pieces included near the conclusion of this group's selections affected all.

Two younger performers from our choir, Deirdre Sheehan and Robert Laughton, also captured everyone's attention and approval. Deirdre sang some difficult Britten selections from "Tell Me The Truth About Love" (with words by W. H. Auden) to great effect; she later undercut that seriousness with her second set, "Clawence (Don't Tweak Me So Wuff)." Robert sang "Mr Cellophane" from the musical *Chicago* with energy and skill and to unanimous cheers. As the program concluded with "Why don't we do this more often?" all nodded in agreement with the sentiments. Congratulations and thanks to all who were involved in organizing and putting on this celebratory event!

Postscript by Earl Barnsley: In my words of appreciation to the assembled at the end of the Party Gras on February 20th, I neglected to mention Jim Hunt's special contribution to the evening's success. Fr. Jim devised the program outline and provided copies of most of the vocal music presented. He also came up with the impressive stage setting (which with John Gardham's help was put in place during the afternoon) as well as the table decorations. I believe a good time was had by all, and many thanks to all who helped to make it happen. Indeed, "why don't we do this more often?"

March Benedictine Day

Our March Benedictine Day was an outstanding success. Heartfelt thanks to all those willing workers who did such a great job of cleaning the Church, dusting, repairing broken furniture, washing the pews, cleaning the entrances, and holding the ladder as Fr. Andrews dusted the rood, not to forget the delicious luncheon specially prepared for us and the hardworking kitchen brigade who made us so comfortable. It was a wonderful example of St. Thomas's Parishioners giving their best for their beloved church. Thanks one and all.

Rob Kennedy and Gene Stewart

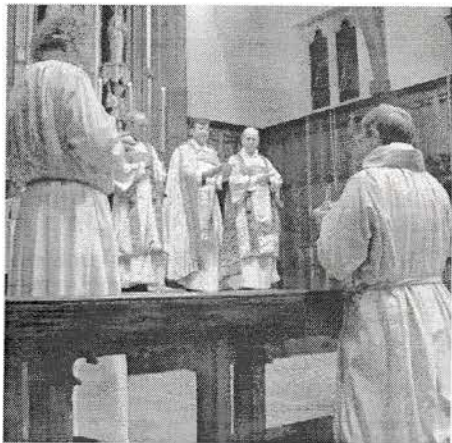
SATURDAY, JUNE 5th: BENEDICTINE DAY IN THE GARDEN

Put on your jeans and join fellow Parishioners at 9:00 am (or whenever you are free) for a day of light clean-up around the Parish with special attention to our outdoor areas. Mass at 10, lunch and fellowship around noon. Everyone welcome!

Acolytes' Guild Welcomes Four New Members

by Susan Haig

Parishioners at the Sunday High Mass and Evensong may have noticed several new faces serving in the Sanctuary in the past few months. Four of them were



The Rector reads the charge to the newly-inducted Acolytes, who subsequently posed, above right, with The Guild Secretary and Novice Master. Each holds a cruet and candle to symbolize his ministry at Mass and in the Sanctuary.



inducted into the Guild on Septuagesima Sunday, February 8, at Evensong: *Brian Bartley, Travis Enright, Henry Hoi, and Robert O'Keefe*. Each of them brings his own unique gifts to our ministry of service. Brian and Henry are both Divinity students at Trinity College, while Travis is studying at Wycliffe also in a M.Div. program. But one needn't be a divinity student! Robert is a longtime server from the parish of St. Mary the Virgin/St. Cyprian's, who now makes St. T's his home. We were thrilled to welcome each one of them.

Currently three of our members are serving in other parishes as interns: *Andrea Budgy* is working at St. George the Martyr downtown; *Riva Lieflander* is at St. Mary Magdalene's; and *Sean Devlin* is posted at St. Agnes', Long Branch. We miss them greatly and look forward to their return sometime after Easter.

The Guild is open to all who feel called to serve God in facilitating the liturgical splendour of worship in our church. May we be richly blessed by the induction of four new acolytes every year!

Pastoral Committee Forming

Pat Kennedy to steer new in-Parish ministry

The new Pastoral Committee is being developed to help minister to those in the parish family. At present we are looking at the needs of newcomers and shut-ins (whether through age or illness), and considering whether we have the resources to arrange transportation to church for those who need it. I'm sure this ministry will grow as we discuss various issues. If anyone would like to be part of the committee (which will meet soon), or would simply like to go on record as someone who can be called on to help in specific ways, please contact Pat Kennedy at (416) 652-8566. If you leave a message, please don't forget your phone number.

PARISH NEWSLETTER APPEAL

Each issue of the Parish Newsletter is distributed to some 450 parishioners, visitors and friends of Saint Thomas's. About 40% of the copies are mailed, while the rest are picked up in the Narthex before and after services. In 2003, the first of the revived Newsletter, generous contributors provided over \$2500 of the approximately \$4000 needed to produce four issues. In order to minimize the charge to Parish funds, we have budgeted for at least the same response in 2004. We invite every reader to consider a tax-deductible gift to the church of \$10, \$15 or more in support of the Newsletter. You can use the coupon below together with the envelope inserted in this issue to mail or place in the collection plate your donation, made payable to "Saint Thomas's Church." *Thank you for your thoughtful consideration!* John Aimers, for the Editorial Committee

TO: SAINT THOMAS'S CHURCH, 383 Huron St, Toronto, ON M5S 2G5

Here is my gift of \$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100

other amount \$ _____ in support of the Parish Newsletter

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Using Our Talents: "I'll Do It, Lord"

Extracts from a Sermon preached at St Thomas's on February 8, 2004, by the Revd Canon Harry Krauss, Vicar, Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York City

Today's gospel, the story of the miraculous catch of fish from Saint Luke, continues to broaden our horizons in the Epiphany theme of sharing the Good news of Jesus Christ with the entire world. It of course brings to mind such bromides as, "You catch the fish; Jesus will clean them!"

We recall that Jesus first sits in a fishing boat by the shore of the Sea of Galilee, and he teaches the eager crowds. When he finishes, however, he tells Simon to row out to deeper water and put down the nets. Simon protests that he and his crew had worked all night and had caught nothing, but he casts out the nets anyway. Then the miracle erupts. The nets are filled beyond all expectation, Simon realizes that Jesus is much more than a wise teacher and Jesus tells him, "There is nothing to fear. From now on you'll be fishing for men and women." ... To be sure, when the Son of God speaks, things happen.

When I was thinking about this story, however, I found that its familiarity was getting in the way. ...

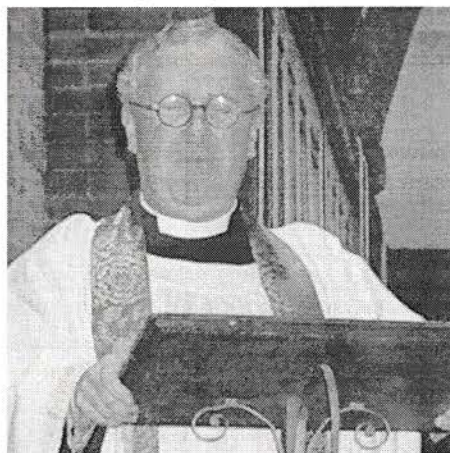
So I did what I sometimes enjoy doing with my video. I ran the story backwards. Have you ever done that? The impossible can happen, can't it? ... In this gospel story the lights went on for me when I rewound to this line, "When Jesus finished teaching, he said to Simon, "Push out into the deep water and let your nets out for a catch." Simon said, "Master, we've been fishing hard all night and haven't caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I'll let out the nets."

At that point it dawned on me that as long as Simon's boat is being used for a pulpit, Jesus can say what he likes. But the minute it reverts to being a fishing boat Simon is in charge and Jesus no longer has a say in how it is used. Jesus is a teacher and Simon is a fisherman and that's that!

Things are no different now, however. It's fine to listen to Jesus and consider what he says. It's also fair to ask him to make us better when we're sick or help us pass a test in school or find new work or heal a marriage that is falling apart. But to interfere with how we act at work or run our homes or spend our leisure;

well, that's going too far. It's rather in the department of not talking about religion at a dinner party. We just don't do that! Is Jesus, the carpenter turned preacher, supposed to tell you and me how to fish? "Master, we've been fishing hard all night and haven't caught even a minnow!" Really, Jesus; you've got to be kidding!

But then, my friends, comes the punch line in this miracle story, (and for my money it's much more wonderful than the gigantic catch of fish,) Simon says to Jesus, "But if you say so, I'll let out the nets." The mighty power of Jesus' word is what we are blessed to hear. Tons and tons of fish and their miraculous appearance might sell newspapers, but the word of Jesus gives new life..



I suddenly saw that the miracle of the catch of fish hinges not on magic or the unexpected, but on the powerful word of Jesus. ... And this is the word that turns my upside down life right side up.

Yet, there is one more thing the power of Jesus' word uncovered in this story. I believe that it also shows us that whatever it is we are good at; fishing, teaching school, driving a bus, being a parent, can be used to spread God's gracious kingdom. Further, if we have just one more go at it, our lives and those of many others might just be changed for the better and be abundantly blessed. We don't have to reinvent the wheel to share God's kingdom. We don't have to run off to theological college. We only have to use the talents with which we have already been blessed. ...

It is in situations such as that in which Simon found himself that Jesus comes home to us. ...

May each of us in our own way say with Simon Peter, "If you say so Lord, I'll do it!"

Property Committee News

Kitchen renovation set for summer, sound system & undercroft schemes to be examined

The Property Committee recently welcomed *Rob Kennedy* as its new Chairman.

The Committee's priority during the current year focuses on the long-awaited renovation of the Parish Kitchen, now firmly planned to take place during the summer and early September. A third set of drawings is now in hand. *Janet Stewart* has joined the Kitchen Committee to help with the tendering process, 7 firms having been approached to submit quotations.

As well, the Committee is examining a number of proposals to install a sound system in the Church. Some members will be making a trip to St John's Church, Elora, to see the system installed in that parish.

A medium-term study, just initiated, seeks to determine how the Parish might make more effective use of St. Agnes Chapel and of the undercroft in general. One outcome might involve making some space available to music teachers. Another idea is to create a columbarium under the High Altar. St. Agnes might then become a Crypt Chapel.

Among other activities planned for 2004 are an investigation into unchecked parking in the south adjacent property (accessed via Bp Nichol Lane); the sorting and moving of many Archival items to the Diocesan Centre; clean-up of the Storage Room adjacent to the Candle Room; renovation of cabinets and disposal of old curtains; weather stripping the front doors of the Church; garbage cleanup in the lane to the north and south of the cottage.

“The Venerable Bede wrote that every priest ought, if possible, to celebrate [the Mass] daily, as otherwise he was depriving the Holy Trinity of glory, our Lady and the saints of honour, the souls departed of comfort and the Church on earth of a saving help.” The Rev. J.D. Wright, writing in the January 2, 2004 *Church Times*



Fr Ross led the Parish in feting Fr Andrews' 1st Anniversary as Rector with a surprise cake at the supper served after High Mass on Candlemas.

Outreach Ministry Continues

*Friday Suppers to resume in May
April 25 Meeting Set to Discuss
further Opportunities*

by *Natasha Klukach*

The outreach ministry of the parish continues with enthusiasm! A growing number of Saint Thomas's volunteers has been assisting with the Out of the Cold program run out of neighbouring St. Stephen-in-the-Fields Church on the last Friday of every month. On average we serve about 50 people, and compliments from our guests have revealed that the St. Thomas's group is renowned for the quality and quantity of our food as well as the friendliness of the volunteers. The Out of the Cold program continues until the end of April (*April 23rd is our final date*) and extra volunteers and contributions are always welcome.

With spring approaching, we are anticipating starting up our Friday evening supper program again, beginning on May 7. This year, volunteers will serve simple meals inside the parish hall, to an anticipated 20-25 people a week. This will help to bridge the gap caused by the cessation of the Out of the Cold meals through the summer months and, as found in the past, it offers an occasion for meaningful conversation with our guests.

Outreach work offers a significant opportunity for the parish to demonstrate its concern for those in need. On April 25, following the 11 am Mass, a discussion will be held in the Rectory for the Outreach Committee and all interested in examining ideas for continuing and furthering this ministry. This will be an important planning meeting, and all are encouraged to attend.

and direction, the author invites us to make a rule appropriate to our current circumstances, with the aim of personal growth in grace.

The Gospel of John: a video. Thanks to a generous donation, the video of the well-reviewed movie is now in our library. There is a waiting list but please let me know if you would like to reserve it. Note: This is NOT the Mel Gibson movie!

Treasurer's Update as of March 20

Expensive Heating Season ~ Increased Pledging and Income

by *Anna Kennedy*

I am glad to report that we have increased our pledges to 88 of which 20 are now Pre-Authorized Givers (PAG) to a total of \$139,121 for 2004. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to St Thomas's. Please remember that you can start using the 'PAG' method of making your monthly donations at any time.

As reported at the March Advisory Board, we have had some of our larger annual, one-time expenses come in February for insurance and the audit of the financial statements. In January and February we experienced fairly cold weather. Thus while the thermometer outside

went down, our consumption of natural gas went up, so that we spent over \$8,000 heating our complex from December to February.

It is very encouraging to see that donations are up in January and February over what we had budgeted. The donations to the Operating Fund were around \$34,800, while we had planned on receiving \$33,700. Parishioners also continue to support the Heritage Fund with some donations being directed towards Kitchen Renovation or Organ Completion.

One final thought to leave you with: Our 2004 Operating Fund expenses for 2004 are forecast to be about \$414,000. So it costs \$1,134 per day to run St Thomas's, not counting the costs of capital improvements.

New In The Parish Library

by *Marion Dorosh*

The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith, by Marcus Borg. This is Borg's 6th and most personal book. The well-known theologian and former member of the Jesus Seminar articulates what being a Christian means to him.

Things Seen and Unseen: A Year Lived in Faith, by Nora Gallagher. A well-known journalist and a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Santa Barbara, California, Gallagher recalls her and her church's journey through several thorny

problems, notably a soup kitchen run by its affluent parishioners, and a homosexual issue. In the light of our own diocese's struggle with the question of blessing of same-sex partnerships, this is a timely read.

Making a Rule of Life, by John Gaskell. The former vicar of St. Albans Holborn, one of the flagship parishes of the Anglo-Catholic movement, shows how a rule of life can help us on the Christian way. Reflecting on worship, private prayer, Bible reading, confession, stewardship,

Computer Corner

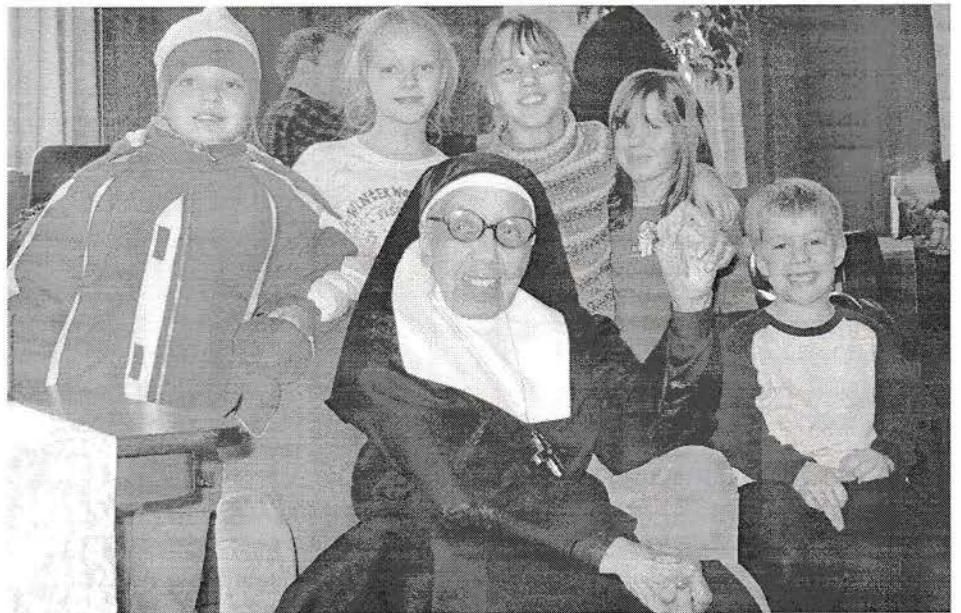
by John Meadows

Sales of Saint Thomas's first DVD, a video of the Easter Vigil Service from 2000, have been good so far. As of press time, 22 have been sold, raising over \$330.00 for the Parish. Copies of the DVD are available for \$20.00 directly from John Meadows at the church, or \$23.00 if you would like one mailed to you. If you would like to purchase a copy, please contact John at (416) 406-3996, or at john@meadowsonline.com. See the coupon in this issue of the newsletter!

Two more DVD's have been tentatively planned for 2004 – we are hoping to film this year's Patronal Festival, while a third DVD would be a "grab bag" of a variety of clips. Stay tuned for more details!



The Parish family welcomed Sister Constance, SSJD to High Mass on February 8th, and then celebrated her 100th birthday with a Reception and cake in the Parish Hall.



**Saint Thomas's DVD:
Easter Vigil 2000**

Clip and Mail to: Saint Thomas's Church, 383 Huron St, Toronto, ON M5S 2G5 (Please make your cheque payable to "Saint Thomas's Church")

Please mail me _____ copies of this DVD @ \$23.00 each.

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

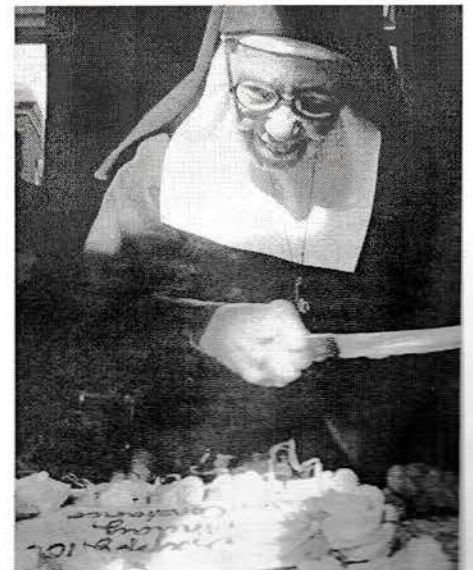
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Phone Contact: _____

Two Evenings of Dialogue on the Blessing of Same-Sex Couples

7 PM on Wednesdays,
May 5 & 12
in Saint Thomas's Parish Hall

The Parkdale Deanery of the Diocese of Toronto sponsors two evenings of dialogue on the blessing of same-sex couples. The May 5th session focuses on what Scripture has to say about the blessing of same-sex couples. The May 12 session looks at differing theological perspectives on the issue.





CHOIR & MUSIC NOTES

CHOIR ADVANCES IN CBC COMPETITION



by David Montgomery

St. Thomas's 11 am choir has once again advanced in the annual CBC/Radio-Canada National Radio Competition for Amateur Choirs. The first prize in the church choir category is \$3,000 and the second prize is \$2,000. The semi-finals will be broadcast on CBC Radio 2's *Choral Concert* at 8 a.m. on April 25 and the finals will be broadcast live on April 27 and 28.

In the preliminary round of the competition, the choir sang: Sweelinck: *Psalm 96 (Chantez à Dieu)*; Ager: *O Sacrum Convivium*; Eccard: *Maria wallt zum Heiligtum*; Rodney Bennett: *Out of your sleep*. We are extremely proud of our choirs and the work of *John Tuttle and Elizabeth Anderson* for the high level of excellence they demonstrate on a regular basis.

CHOIR PROFILES – continued

(Second in the Parish Newsletter's series in response to parishioners' frequent questions, "who has that amazing voice?")

Suzanne Brooks, the Cantoris soprano section lead, grew up on a dairy farm outside of Hamilton. She is in year three



Credit: Madhava Enros

of a physical geography degree at the University of Toronto, currently completing an undergraduate thesis on floodplain development along a section of the Grand River. When not digging up mud, Suzanne is likely to be found singing. She was a member of Ontario Youth Choir (2002), recorded a CD as part of Calvin church choir, and has sung with the Nathaniel Dett Chorale. Currently Suzanne is assistant conductor of the Hart House Chorus, also under *John Tuttle*, and studies voice with fellow St Thomas's lead *Nancy Reynolds*.

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

On **Palm Sunday, April 4**, the motet at 11 am High Mass will be William Byrd's (1543-1623) exquisite *Civitas Sancti Tui*, its repeated lamentations "Sion deserta est, Jerusalem desolata est" capturing in

a way most profound the very essence of Holy Week anguish.

During the Footwashing at the Solemn Liturgy of **Maundy Thursday, 8 pm on April 8**, the choir will sing *Ubi Caritas et Amor*, by the French modernist composer and organist Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) who, despite his vast influence, published but 14 works, all inspired by his expertise in and love for Gregorian Chant.

The contemporary British organist John Sanders' setting of *The Reproaches* accompanies the Veneration of the Cross on **Good Friday, April 9**. Sanders, who died just last December, was Choirmaster at both Gloucester and Chester Cathedrals. "Powerful" and "awe-inspiring" are only two of the adjectives this work inspires, combining elements of plain-song and 20th Century harmonies, and containing a haunting beginning cry "Oh my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you?"

At the Great Vigil of **Holy Saturday** the Irish-born Charles Wood's (1866-1226) motet for double choir, *Hail Gladdening Light*, greets the Paschal Candle as the light of Christ returns to the world. The music aptly suits the text, an ancient prayer at the kindling of the evening lamps (*Phos Hilaron*), as it alternates energetic salutation with passages of great contemplative beauty until Wood builds to a final transcendent evocation of the Heavenly Host by all eight parts at the word "glory."

The 9:30 congregation on **Easter Sunday** will hear the motet *Alleluia Haec Dies* by the Northern Italian composer Ingazio Donati (1575-1638), while at the 11 am High Mass the Organ Postlude will be Herbert Howells' (1892-1983) elegant *Sarabande for the Morning of Easter*. The Solemn *Te Deum* offered at 7 pm will be sung to Vaughan Williams' setting in G, composed in 1928.

Low Sunday, April 18, finds music ranging from the delightful arrangement by Charles Wood of the traditional carol *This Joyful Eastertide* at the 9:30 am Mass to a serious recital motet at 7 pm. At Evensong the choir will sing *Lo, the full, final sacrifice* by English composer Gerald Finzi (1901-1956). The theme of this lyri-

cal and meditative masterpiece is death being conquered by Christ. The text is based on Richard Crashaw's (1612-1649) paraphrase of Thomas Aquinas' hymns in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – *Adoro Te* and *Lauda Sion Salvatorem*. (DM) One reviewer praised its climactic "Amen" with "scrunching harmonies." (q.v.)

On **Rogation Sunday, May 16**, the motet at High Mass is *And I Saw a New Heaven*. Its British composer, Edgar Bainton (1870-1956), played before Queen Victoria as a student, and composed relatively little church music although prolific numbers of songs, opera and piano and organ compositions; he then retired to Australia where he was for a time organist of the Cathedral at Sydney.

The Great 50 Days of Easter end on **Pentecost, May 30**, when as is traditional the 11 am High Mass setting will be Vaughan Williams' numinous *Mass in g*, for a *cappella* double choir, dating from 1922. He would be chill of heart indeed who could not hear the Third Person of the Holy Trinity at work in this quintessentially English composition's haunting modality, as "the Holy Ghost over the bent world broods with warm breast and with ah! – bright wings." (Hopkins) JLA

Smokey Tom's Cookbook

The following is one of the well-received recipes from our parish cookbook, which is still available for \$15 from the parish hall coffee counter after the 9:30 & 11 am Masses on Sundays.

NIGHTY-NIGHTS (by Ruth Wyllie)

- 2 egg whites
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans
- 1 cup chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350F. Beat egg whites until fluffy. Gradually add sugar and beat until stiff. Stir in nuts and chocolate chips. Drop by teaspoonfuls on a foil covered baking sheet. Put into oven and turn off the oven. Do not open oven door until morning. Say: Nighty-night.

Saint Thomas's Church

DIRECTORY

383 Huron Street,
Toronto, ON M5S 2G5

(416) 979-2323 phone

(416) 979-0261 fax

www.stthomas.on.ca

E-mail:

Parish Office saintthomas@sympatico.ca

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 &

Gene Stewart (416) 961-4565

Deputy Churchwardens:

Charis Kelso & Marilyn Ramsingh

Organist & Choirmaster:

John H. Tuttle (416) 236-2750

Parish Administrator:

Barbara A. O'brai (416) 979-2323 Church

Office

Financial Officer & Treasurer: Anna Kennedy

Bookkeeper: Greg Anderson

Church School Supervisor: Diana Verseghy

Nursery School Supervisor: Maggie Murre

Web Master & Computer Consultant:

John Meadows john@meadowsonline.com

Coordinator of Sidesmen and Sideswomen:

Suan Seh Foo (416) 928-6809

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 Wednesday.

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

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

As you read of the diverse life of this church, it becomes clear that Saint Thomas's offers a host of ways for parishioners and friends to become more closely involved in the work of the Parish as well as of the many organizations which make their home here. Here are contacts who would welcome your inquiry and assistance. You can find them at mass, or leave a message at the Parish Office.

ORGANIZATION/ACTIVITY

Canadian Tire Money/
Cookbook purchase

CD-ROM project

loans of archival materials

Church School

teaching, enrolment

Communications Committee

Writers, copy-editors, proof-readers. Desk-top publishing and word processing support (need own computer and software) to assist in creating flyers and posters. Parishioners with media relations expertise and fax/internet access capability.

Confraternity of the
Blessed Sacrament

Daily Offices

officiating, reading Lessons

Education Committee

planning Parish teaching events

Parish Newsletter

Writing, production, delivery

Pastoral Committee

Support of parish community:
visiting, driving, encouraging

Property Management
Committee

Light maintenance, carpentry & general clean-up

Social Committee

Event planning and kitchen volunteers

The Society of Mary

KEY CONTACTS

Marion Dorosh (416) 482-2243

or at the kitchen counter after Sunday Masses

John Meadows:

john@meadowsonline.com

Diana Verseghy: diana.verseghy@ec.gc.ca

(416) 979-2323

Ann Welsh (416) 972-1930 – awc@interlog.com

Fr Freeland

Any of the Parish Clergy (416) 979-2323

Carol Kysela (416) 461-9595

mckys@idirect.com

John Aimers (416) 975-2608

john.aimers@sympatico.ca

Pat Kennedy (416) 652-8566

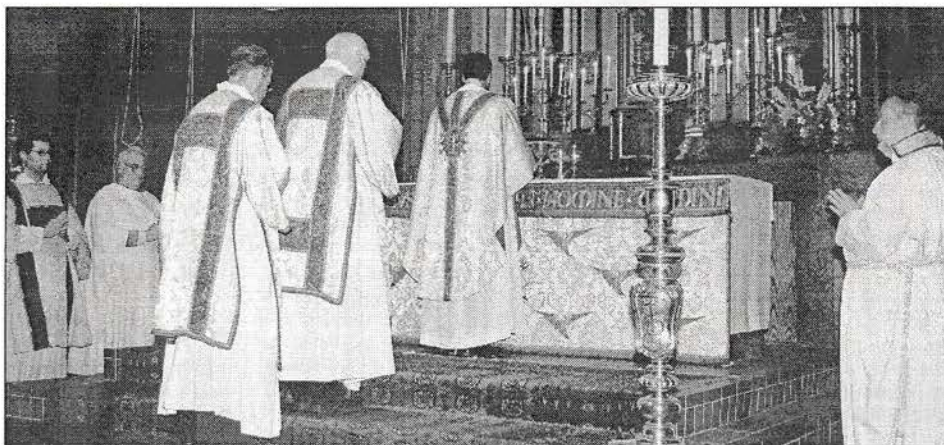
pkennedy@mccllland.com

Robert Kennedy (416) 691-7637

kennedy@sympatico.ca

Susan Clarke (416) 484-8164

Fr Ross, David O'Rourke



"The liturgy is not simply Mass for an hour on Sundays before we get on with 'real' life. It is the means by which we offer all we do and all we are to God, and receive from Him everything we need for our spiritual, physical and communal well-being." Ann Tomalak, in Serving the Church