

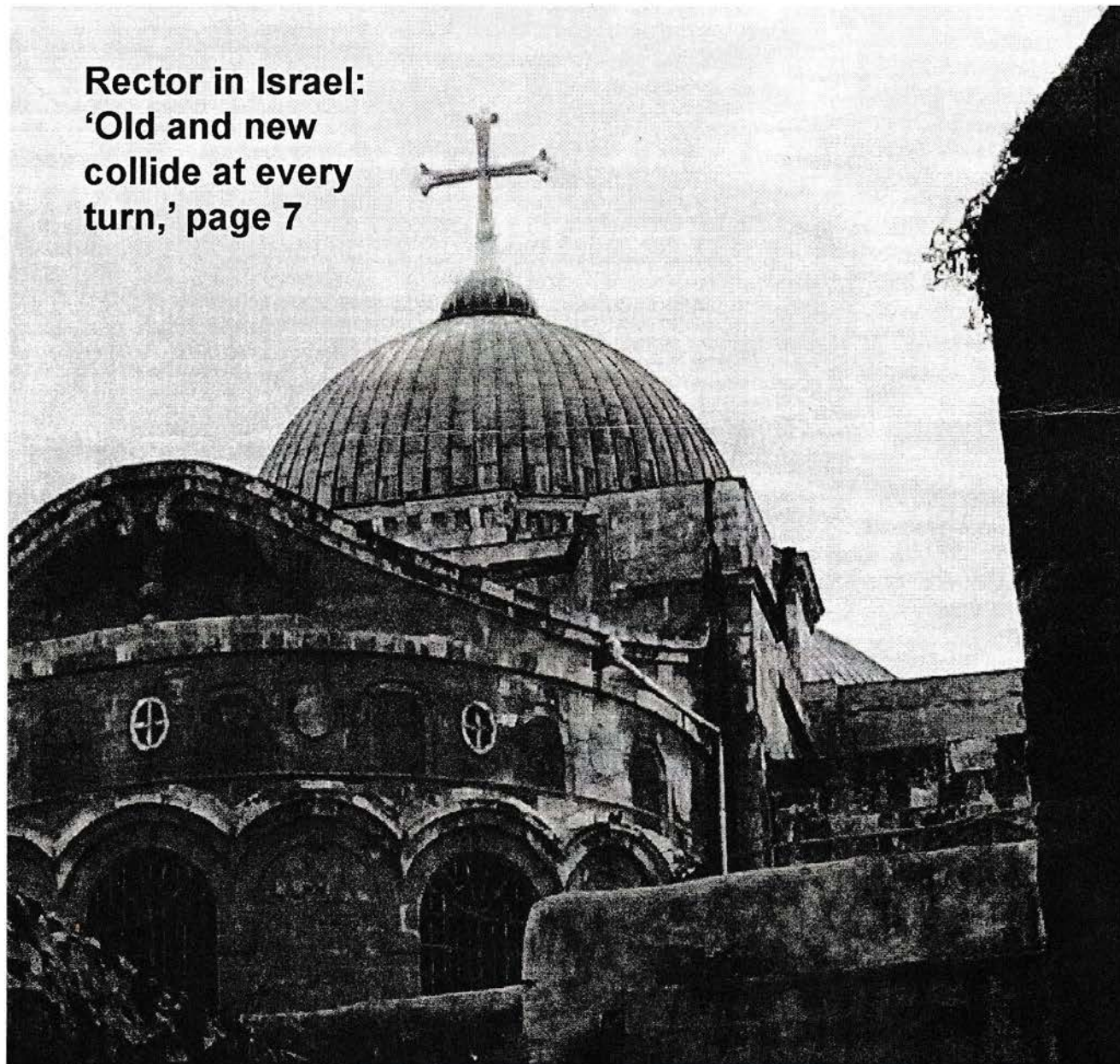
Dr David Kent & Dr Margo Swiss
366 Glenlake Avenue
TORONTO ON M6P 1G4

Eastertide
2006

Thurible

St. Thomas's Anglican Church * 383 Huron St., Toronto, M5S 2G5 * 416-979-2323 * stthomas.on.ca

**Rector in Israel:
'Old and new
collide at every
turn,' page 7**



**Eden Smith's other
buildings, back cover**

**Out of the Heat start-
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**WCC meeting 'over-
whelming', 6**

**Fundraising for St
John the Divine, 5**

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE

Church Directory Events

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Email: rector@stthomas.on.ca

Assistant Priests:

The Rev'd Canon Brian D. Freeland, 416.461.7025

The Rev'd Robert A. Ross, 416.268.9174

Rector Emeritus:

The Rev'd Roy A. Hoult

Honorary Assistant Priests:

The Rev'ds James E. Hunt, A. Thomas Little, Ian D. Nichols and Canon W. David Neelands

Theological Student:

The Rev'd Cameron Burns

Organist & Choirmaster:

John H. Tuttle, 416.516.2503

Organ Scholar:

Elizabeth Anderson

People's Warden:

Marlene Fader, 905.827.4718

Rector's Warden:

Charis Kelso, 416.590.7401

Deputy Wardens:

Jim MacMillan, Kevin Toyne

Financial Officer & Treasurer:

Anna Kennedy

Bookkeeper: Greg Anderson

Church School Supervisor:

Diana Verseghy

Nursery School Supervisor:

Claire Fong

Webmaster & Computer Consultant:

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Suan Seh Foo, 416.928.6809

Verger: Jean Paul Napier

Sexton: Colin Anderson

Administrator: Barbara Obrai

Church & Hall bookings

416.979.2323 x: 4

SQUARE DANCE

Come and kick up your heels at the square dance to raise funds for Partnership for Life, the HIV/AIDS initiative of the PWRDF. Dancing, pot-luck supper and prize for best costume. Tickets are \$10 each. May 6, 6pm, Parish Hall.

ST. THOMAS'S GOES TO THE MOVIES: ALEXANDER NEVSKY

K. Corey Keeble hosts The Upper Room's first film series. His selection covers themes of spaciousness and generosity in the Christian tradition as well as the tensions inherent in the development of the Anglo-Catholic tradition. Parish Hall, May 7, 4pm.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, EXULTATE CHAMBER SINGERS

Celebrate with the choir and conductor John Tuttle as they perform a 'Best of Exultate' concert of favourites from the choir's past 25 seasons.

After the concert, join us for a gala party with cake and refreshments.

Friday, May 12, 2006 at 8 p.m. at St.

Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 73 Simcoe St., Toronto.

To purchase tickets: 416.971-9229. Regular, \$25; Senior, \$20; Student, \$15. For more, see www.exultate.net.

HOUSING ADVOCACY

The next meeting for the Housing Advocacy Campaign will be on Saturday, June 10 from 9.30am-1pm at St. John York Mills.

Worship

SUNDAYS:

Masses 8am (BCP, Said Rite); 9:30am (BAS, Modern Sung Rite); 11am (BCP, Solemn High Rite)

Said Mattins: 10:30am

Solemn Evensong & Devotions: 7pm

WEEKDAYS:

Daily Mass 5:30pm Mon & Fri; 12:15pm Tue & Thu; 7:30am Wed; 10am Sat

Mattins: weekdays 8:30am; Sat & statutory holidays 9:30am

Evensong: 5pm Mon, Thu & Fri; 5:15pm Tue & Wed

Meditation follows Wed Evensong, finishing at 6pm

Confessions: At times announced, or by appointment with any of the parish clergy.



St. Thomas's had three baptisms in the Easter period: Shari Jane Kudsia — shown here with her husband Vincent Meade, their son Massan, and the Rector — and Nina Matin Sabouri at the Easter Vigil, and Burkleigh Elizabeth Sutton Smith at the Octave of Easter.

The Rector's report

NEW EDITORS, NEW LOOK

St Thomas's newsletter has a brand new look, thanks to two new editors. It is a pleasure to welcome Catharine Tunnacliffe and Patrick Cain to the job. Both are eminently qualified as they are both print journalists. Catharine is the Associate Publisher at *Eye Weekly*, and Patrick is a Web editor at the *Toronto Star*.

Catharine and Patrick were married at St Thomas's in 2005, and their son, Thomas, was baptized 11 months later. Contributors to the newsletter should take this as an indication that they follow a tight schedule.

Patrick first came to St Thomas's while studying at Trinity College. He and Catharine, an alumnus of King's College, Halifax and a graduate of Cambridge University, returned to the parish for the baptism of Kelly Baxter and Paul Golding's first child, and they have remained ever since.

It is marvellous to have such a qualified and entertaining couple to fill the position vacated by John Aimers, who served the parish so well by resuming the regular publication of the newsletter.

John will be remembered, not only for producing a handsome publication, but also for the creative way he spurred contributors to finally put their pens to paper. Amusing limericks were a gentle reminder that the deadline was looming and increasingly sharp verse would follow.

We are all grateful to John for his service to the parish as newsletter editor, and to Catharine and Patrick for enthusiastically assuming his mantle.

They can be reached by email at thurible@snappingturtle.net.

NOTES FROM VESTRY

The Annual Vestry Meeting was very well attended this year. In my report to Vestry, I identified some areas of growth in the past year, most significantly in terms of attendance at the 11am and Evensong services. There has also been an impressive increase in donations to Outreach ministries, income well above budget, and the parish has increased its engagement with students.

Last year, Vestry passed a budget that required an increase in regular givings and a budget deficit challenge of \$11,299. Thanks to more envelope holders, generous donations to the deficit challenge and Michael Rowland's ingenious

and delicious Dine Away the Deficit program, parishioners raised more than \$20,000 above this target.

One crucial aspect of the parish's life that needs more attention is pastoral care, and I am increasingly convinced that this need will be met effectively only when we acquire a full-time associate priest.

The Treasurer, Anna Kennedy, gave a presentation to illustrate where income comes from and how it is spent. The budget for 2006 forecasts a modest increase in general offerings, and a budget challenge of approximately \$6,500. These increases offset a slight rise in expenditures on staffing and utilities. Vestry passed the balanced budget unanimously, thereby agreeing to

increase givings and to undertake the extra fundraising required. Vestry thanked the Treasurer for her valuable contribution to the parish.

Looking to the year ahead, I believe that St Thomas's is going to be required to play a much larger role in the Parkdale Deanery. The Bishop has appointed a Parkdale Commission to study the future of the Deanery, which will make recommendations to the Diocese at the end of June.

I reminded Vestry that churches in the Anglo-Catholic tradition have a proud history of ministering to the urban community. The challenges facing the Deanery provide St Thomas's with the opportunity to use the great resources in the parish in a way that will revitalize urban ministry in our diocese and nourish the spiritual health of the parish.

It is with great pleasure that I appointed Kevin Toyne, a lawyer, to be Deputy Rector's Warden, noting that as a member of Diocesan Council and Chancellor of Diocesan Youth Synod, Kevin brings important gifts to St Thomas's at this time, and enables the Deanery to have a stronger voice in the Diocese.

Having given notice prior to the Vestry Meeting of their intention to present a Motion to Vestry, Walter Hardacre and Mary Suddon moved: "Be it resolved that this Vestry requests the Advisory Board of St Thomas's Church to take under consideration women priests being included in the system of invited priests to celebrate and preach at the services of St Thomas's Church including the 11am mass at the High Altar as well as the appointment of women as assistant priests or honorary priests at the earliest opportunity." The motion was

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Outreach

OUT OF THE HEAT

On Friday, May 5, St Thomas's weekly Out of the Heat sandwich meals will begin again in the church hall. The program will run through November.

Last year, we regularly served about 60 to 75 guests, mostly homeless and marginally housed people from both the local neighbourhood and around Toronto.

This is a very much-needed and appreciated program, as many meal programs shut down during the spring and summer. Out of the Heat also distributes bottled water, which is essential in hot weather; many people don't know that more homeless and marginalized people die of dehydration during the summer than

of cold during the winter.

The meals are a big project for the parish, and we need as many donors and volunteers as possible (for more information, see Donations Needed, below). But they are also a valuable service, a way of living out our faith in the city, and — perhaps most of all — a fun and enriching experience. Please consider participating in some way!

MAGGIE HELWIG

PARISH GARDEN

As the days get longer and the temperature goes up, St Thomas's has an exciting spring project underway: a parish garden. The garden will be located in the Sexton's yard at the east side of the property, adjacent to bpNichol Lane.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR OUT OF THE HEAT

Food

Non-perishable items: cans of salmon, tuna, ham; cookies; small cans of juice; bottled water; also sandwich bags, plastic shopping bags and napkins

Each week we also need fruit, desserts, boiled eggs, carrot sticks/other vegetables, cheese and crackers and ice cream.

Other items

Socks; men's new underwear; travel-size toiletries - shampoo, toothbrushes, soap, combs; basic first aid items - band aids, antiseptic ointments, bandages

Volunteers

Each week we need 6-8 people to help with food preparation and distribution, and to chat with our guests to make them feel welcome. If you are available on a Friday afternoon for between 4pm-7:30pm (not necessarily for the whole time), your help is very welcome.

About 24 loaves of sandwiches are served to our guests each week. Volunteers are needed to make sandwiches at home and drop them off at the church for distribution on Friday evenings.

For information about the program, or if you want to donate or volunteers, please contact Maggie Helwig, 416-537-7290, maggie@web.net.

A parish garden is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and learning for the St Thomas's community. Interested parishioners will have the chance to learn some gardening skills and to meet new people, while at the same time contributing to the greening of our city.

From an Outreach standpoint, the garden will contribute to the summer Out of the Heat program, by providing healthy fresh vegetables for our clients.

In the long term, a St Thomas's urban garden can serve as an example for other parishes interested in making better use of their land for outreach and community growth purposes.

On March 19, a highly energetic planning session was held over lunch in the Rectory. It is very exciting to be able to draw on the considerable expertise within our own congregation.

There is already an excellent gardening tradition alive at St Thomas's, as seen in our lovely flower gardens each spring and summer.

Over the coming weeks we will be constructing some raised beds and bringing in topsoil and compost to prepare the gardens for late May planting.

We will also be seeking volunteers to help with ongoing garden maintenance throughout the summer months.

If you are interested in volunteering, donating gardening equipment, propagating seeds or learning more about the project, please contact suzanne.brooks@utoronto.ca.

SUZANNE BROOKS
AND ROB KENNEDY

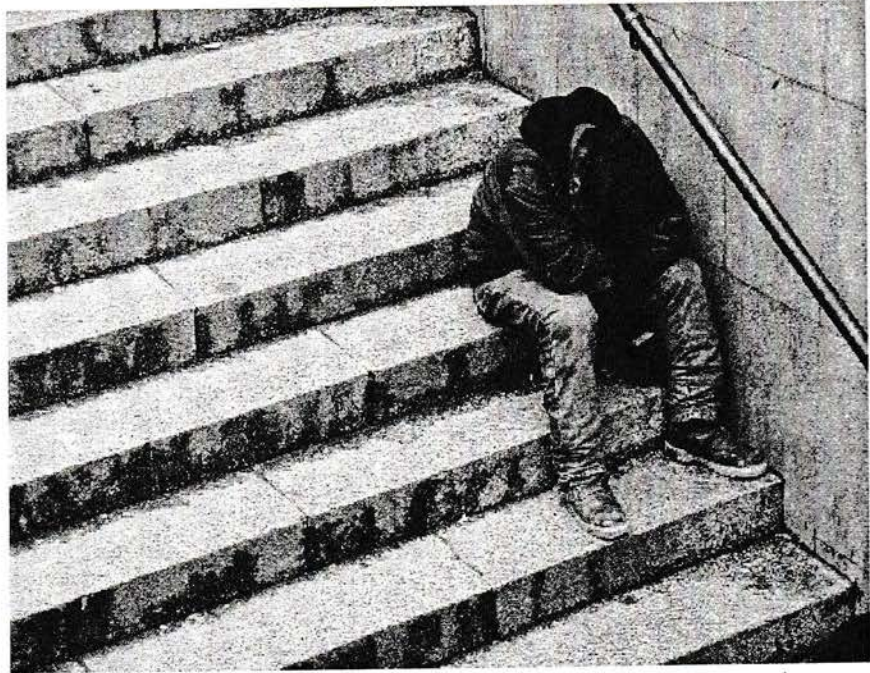
INTERNATIONAL ECUMENICAL AIDS CONFERENCE

The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance is a broad network of more than 90 churches and church-related organizations committed to "speak out with one voice against injustice, to confront structures of power, practices and attitudes which deprive human beings of dignity and to offer alternative visions based on the Gospel".

The Alliance has identified the HIV/AIDS pandemic as one of the gravest challenges today both to health and to the prospects of social and economic development and global security. This summer the XVI International AIDS Conference will be held in Toronto from 13-18 August with 15,000 participants, including health workers, government representatives, church workers, activists, journalists, corporate leaders and people living with HIV/AIDS. Melanie Bedford and Laura Smith of Saint Thomas's are both actively involved in organizing this event.

It is 25 years since AIDS was first reported and the world is now ravaged by HIV/AIDS. The theme of the conference is Time to Deliver. Much research has been done and many promises have made. It is time to meet the challenges of bringing effective prevention and treatment programs to communities and nations throughout the world.

The key challenges are to accelerate research to end the epidemic, expand and sustain human resources to scale up prevention and treatment, intensify involvement of affected communities and build new leadership to advance the response. Learning how to expand and sustain large-scale services in resource-limited countries presents the most complex challenge in public health



Heat is more dangerous than cold for Toronto's homeless population; consider helping with Out of the Heat.

history. The avowed goal of the conference is to meet these challenges.

Saint Thomas's will be holding a pre-conference barbecue on 9 August for some of the delegates, who will be staying in the vicinity of the church. It should be a fascinating opportunity to meet people actively involved in the fight against AIDS and discover where our help will be most useful. Stay tuned for more details. ROB KENNEDY

Rector's Report FROM PAGE 3

discussed forthrightly and civilly for close to an hour before secret ballots were cast.

The results of the ballot were as follows:

- 65 strongly in favour;
- 16 in favour;
- 10 neither in favour nor opposed;
- 9 opposed;
- 37 strongly opposed;
- 1 abstention.

While the ballots were counted I thanked Vestry for its contribution to the discussion, and the heads of our committees whose dedication to their vocations is witness to their love of God and the parish.

ST THOMAS ROOM AT SSJD

Following a very successful fundraising dinner organized by Mark Manore, St Thomas's has sent a cheque in excess of \$8,000 to the Sisters of St John the Divine.

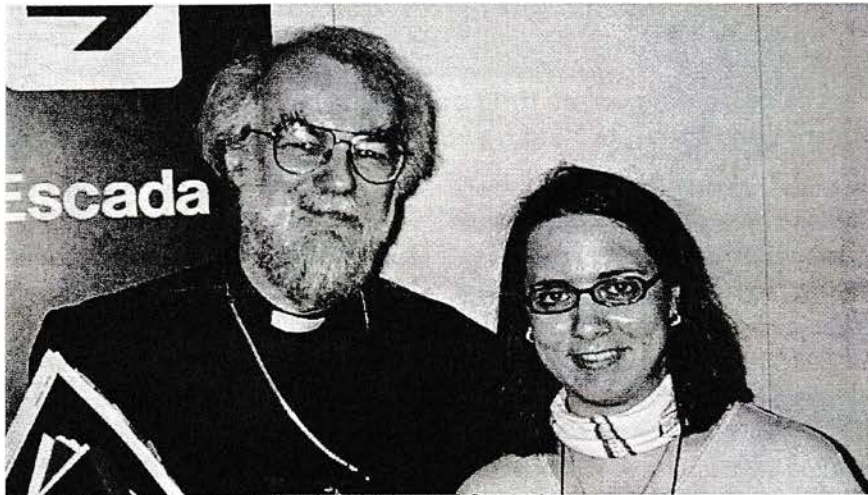
Funds had been accumulating slowly until Mark took on the challenge to meet our commitment to donate funds to decorate a room at their new convent. Parishioners have attended two retreats at the new convent since it opened. The Education Committee held a retreat in Advent, and the Acolytes' Guild held a pre-Lenten retreat.

It is very gratifying to have exceeded our fundraising goal, and we are grateful to Mark for making it happen.

FR. MARK ANDREWS

Parishioner travels to World Council of Churches in Brazil

"Jesus was quite serious when he said that God was our Father; that we belonged all to one family, because in this family all, not some, are insiders. All are drawn to Christ. The only way we can make it is together. We can survive only together. We can be human only together. A united church is not optional. It is indispensable for the salvation of God's world!"



Natasha Klukach meets the Archbishop of Canterbury

These were the impassioned words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu in a speech on church unity delivered in February to the World Council of Churches 9th General Assembly in Porto Alegre, Brazil. They convey the driving spirit behind the ecumenical movement and the reason so many of us gathered in Latin America to live, work and pray together.

I was selected by the World Council of Churches to represent the Anglican Church of Canada as a steward at the assembly. The WCC is a fellowship of 348 member churches, based in Geneva. A General Assembly is held approximately every seven years, and this was the first to be held in Latin America. I was among 150 young adults

from around the world chosen for this programme of service to the assembly. The theme of the assembly was "God in your grace, transform the world."

I arrived in Porto Alegre on February 9, and was immediately swept up into an overwhelming experience. I was the Head Steward for the Assembly Coordination Office, and once the assembly started, work responsibilities were intense. I met many of the 4000+ delegates, observers, WCC staff and special guests, including the Archbishop of Canterbury.

One of the people who had a strong influence on me was Bishop Duleep de Chickera of the Diocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka. During an ecumenical

conversation on *diakonia* he spoke of this ministry as a willingness to be transformed in order to transform in light of the Incarnation.

He asked the group to explore the issue of who really trusts us, and to suggest what that says about our partnership in God's mission in this world. I had an opportunity to further this discussion with him some days later. We spoke about issues ranging from human sexuality to healing and reconciliation work with aboriginal communities in North America. His words had all the more poignancy for me in learning about the context of his own often struggling church, particularly following the tsunami of 2005.

The work of the assembly kept us busy. Yet it was not in the business plenaries that the power of ecumenical dialogue was most profound. In exchanges with others we are offered the opportunity to see ourselves more clearly. After my experience in Brazil, I have been transformed in how I see myself, the church and the world.

NATASHA KLUKACH

Altar Guild report

As Doreen Stanton noted in her report to the 2006 Vestry meeting, the Altar Guild has commissioned work to begin on a new set of white vestments, as the present set is now too fragile to use. After considering various options, we chose to have the work done by the Diocesan Chancel Guild at St. James' Cathedral. This is an expensive undertaking which puts a great strain on the Altar Guild finances.

We are most thankful to have had some donations from generous members of the congregation already. We would gratefully welcome other donations from any parishioners who appreciate the beauty of the vestments at St. Thomas's.

If you feel you can contribute to this worthwhile endeavor, please get in touch with either the Rector or one of the Altar Guild members.

On June 4 at 3.30pm at St. Thomas's, the Altar Guild will hold 'Adventures in the Fields of the Lord,' a fundraising lecture on symbolism in Christian art featuring Corey Keeble and Katharine Barber. Tickets \$10.

The Altar Guild is always in need of new members. Our work — to make an analogy to the theatre — is performed quietly behind the scenes and not centre stage, but is nonetheless essential to all aspects of the liturgy.

And remember that what we do should not just be considered "women's work," but "God's work". So how about having some of the men in the congregation volunteer!

MARJORIE BURDON

Holy Land: Parish trip next year?

It was a privilege to prepare for Lent this year by making my first visit to the Holy Land. The trip was organized and the itinerary planned by the Rev'd Claire Wade — who was making her 36th trip to Israel — on the encouragement of Fr David and Mary Neelands.

The first leg of the trip followed in the footsteps of St Peter, beginning in Joppa. Also known as Jaffa, the ancient port city was an excellent introduction to this historic land in which the old and new collide at every turn while mixing with numerous cultures.

In one small section of the medieval town, now restored as an artists' colony, we saw the harbour from which the prophet Jonah set sail; the rock on which Andromeda was rescued from the sea monster by Perseus; the house of Simon the Tanner; and a view of the modern city of Tel Aviv, with its minarets, churches and synagogues from different eras. Directions for tourists were written on billboards held by diminutive statues of Napoleon, who at one point occupied the city.

The next day we travelled up the coast to Caesarea Maritima, the luxury resort and shipping city built by Herod the Great, where St Peter was incarcerated. The ruins of his magnificent palace jutting into the Mediterranean Sea were breathtaking.

Travelling further north, we arrived at the modern port city of Haifa, where the African Rift Valley meets the sea. This valley was used by traders for many centuries, and the fascinating ruins at Megiddo, down the valley from Haifa, bear witness to the battles of peoples and nations who have endeavoured to gain and control the valuable trade route.

More than twenty cities were built one on top of the other at Megiddo, and it is probably because of the number of battles waged there that St John the Divine identified Armageddon ("hill of Megiddo") as the final battleground between good and evil.

Megiddo lies opposite Nazareth, and just below it lies the recently excavated mosaics of what many believe to be the earliest Christian church. Unfortunately, this site cannot be visited as it lies within the compound of a maximum-security prison.

The next several days were based out of Tiberias on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where most of Jesus' earthly ministry was located. Nazareth and Cana are well known for our Lord's as-

of pagan worship, St Peter confessed Jesus to be the Christ, the son of the living God.

The Sea of Galilee is small and deep with surprisingly high hills surrounding it. Many of the gospel stories are located on the shores of Galilee, and many of the sites could be seen in the distance from Tiberias.

The final leg of the journey took place in the area around Jerusalem. It is a beautiful city, in part because of a by-law requiring all buildings to be built, or faced, with the same golden Jerusalem stone. Churches are built on all of the most significant Christian sites.

The Church of the Nativity dates as far back as Constantine, having reputedly been spared by the Persian invaders in the eighth century because of a mosaic portraying the Magi as Persians.

Two new churches have been raised very recently on the footings of ancient churches, one over Saint Peter's house in Capernaum, and the other nearby at the reputed sight of



sociations with them. Most interesting at Nazareth is a church built upon the site of the ancient synagogue of Jesus' day, at which Jesus opened the scroll and read from Isaiah.

Further to the south lie the ruins of Scythopolis, an extensive Roman city that survived from the third century BC until its destruction by an earthquake in 749 AD. It is unusual in that it remained an entirely pagan city throughout its entire existence, housing neither a church nor a synagogue, nor a mosque.

Travelling further north from Tiberias, we arrived at Caesarea Philippi, on the border with Lebanon and close to the Golan Heights. Here originates the primary source of the Jordan River, flowing out of the dramatic red hills of Lebanon. Caesarea Philippi was for centuries the site of temples dedicated to Pan and to Caesar. Here, in the heart

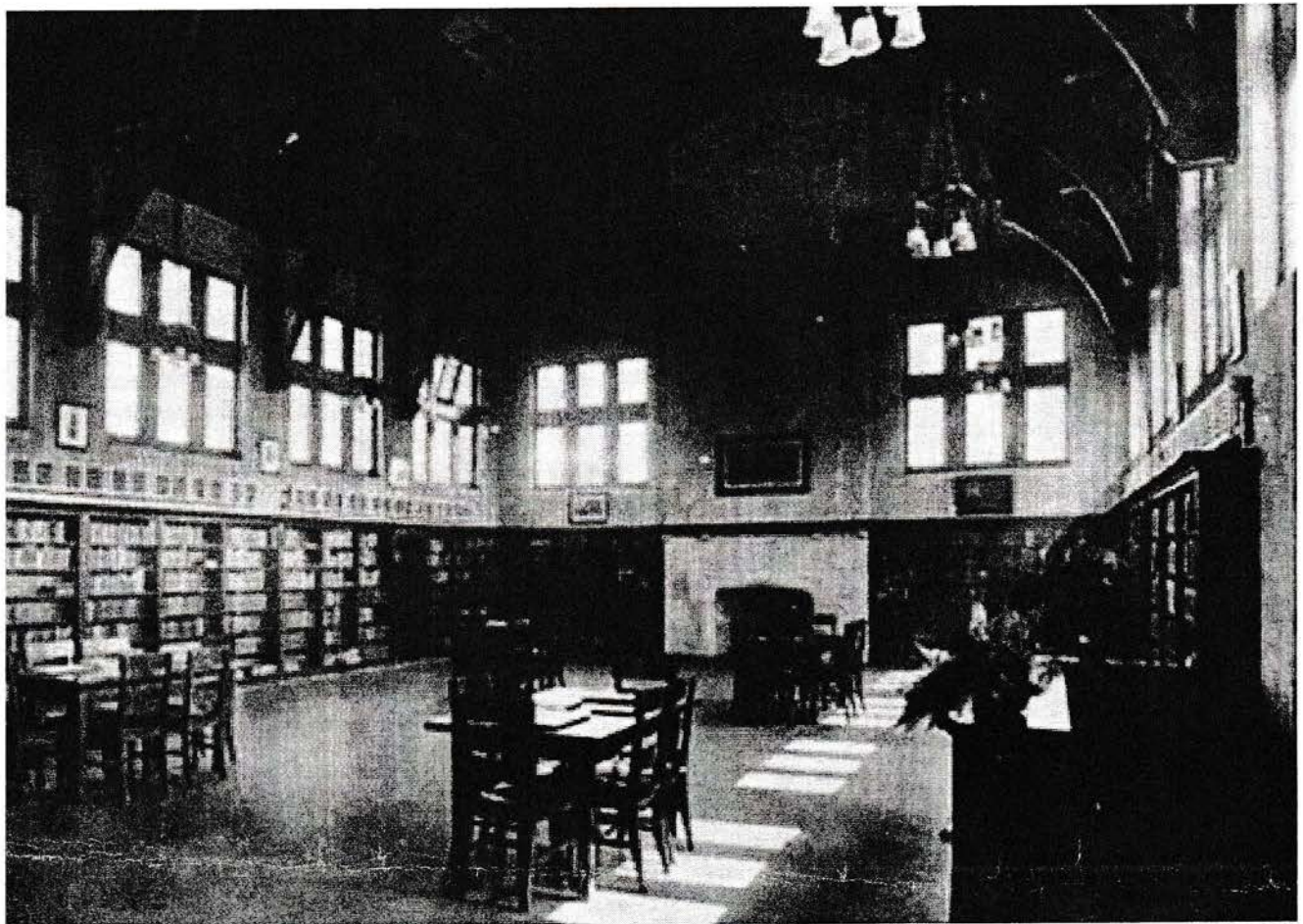
of the feeding of the 5,000.

The most significant part of the trip this Lent was walking from the Mount of Olives down to the Garden of Gethsemane and on to the City to walk the Way of the Cross.

This was not a quiet and meditative experience. The hustle and bustle of old Jerusalem, with all the ancient cries and activities of the market-place, brought home vividly the final humiliation of Jesus making His way to Calvary as citizens carried on their ordinary routine.

Several parishioners have expressed interest in visiting the Holy Land, and I hope that we shall be able to organize a trip. We shall have to monitor the political situation, as always, but I would be glad to hear if there were people interested in making a pilgrimage some time around Lent next year.

FR. MARK ANDREWS



TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Architect and St. Thomas's parishoner Eden Smith had the privilege of designing his own parish church in 1892.

Smith also designed many other Toronto buildings, familiar and obscure, including other Toronto churches.

In 1887, the year he arrived in Toronto, he designed St. Simon's, near Bloor St. East and Parliament St. (at right) — the south side of the church on Howard St. is shown here.

In charge of his own firm by 1890, he enlarged St. Stephen's on College St. In 1893, he designed the Garrison Church of St. John the Evangelist near Fort York, later foolishly torn down.

Smith also designed three identical public libraries: the Wychwood library (shown above in 1916), High Park and the Beaches.

All are still in use, though no longer identical.

He built a number of homes for wealthy clients who could afford to hire a well-known architect, but also in 1913 designed the Riverdale Courts, later the Bain Co-op (at right), an early low-income housing project in the east end near the south end of Withrow Park.



PATRICK CAIN