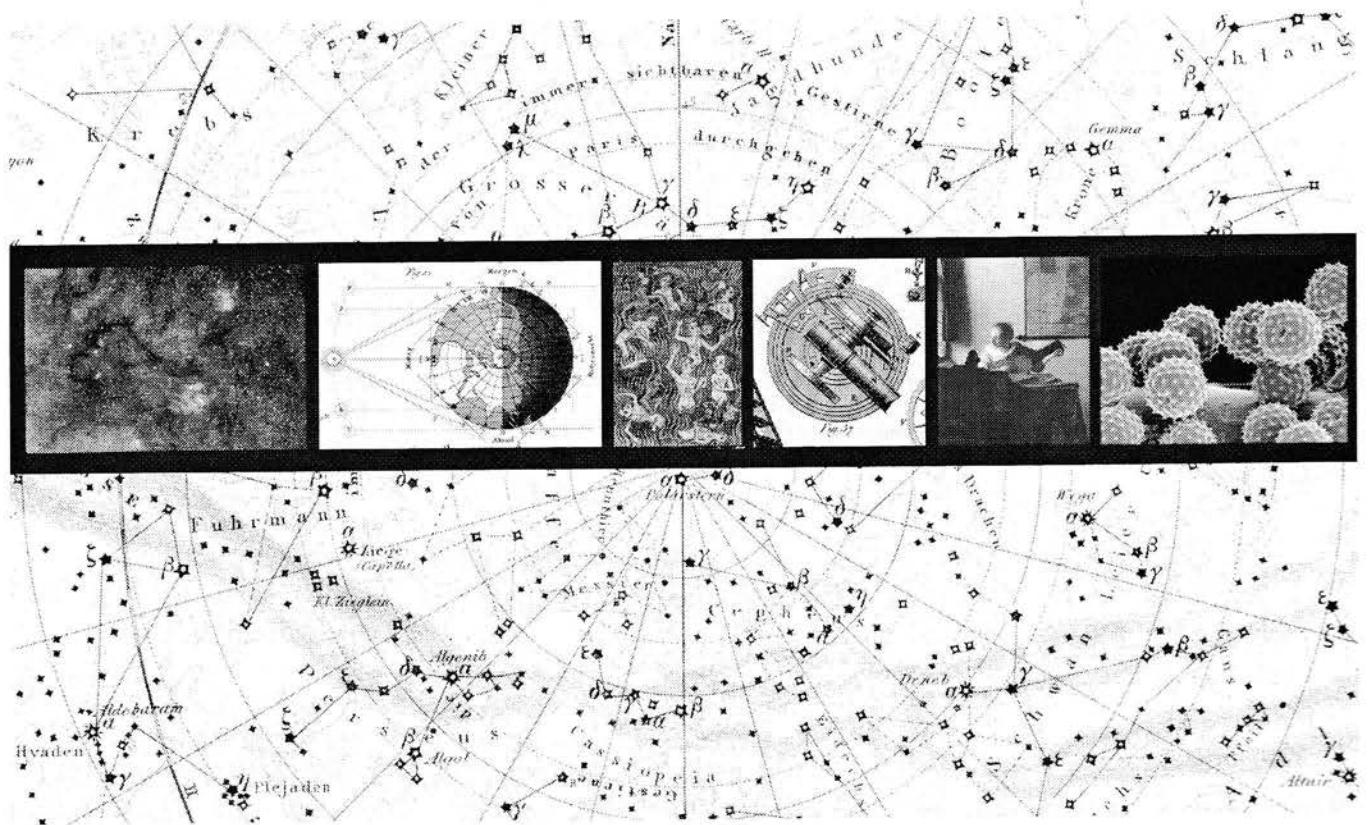


Feast of
Dedication
2009

Thurible

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



Through a Glass Darkly

Congratulations to all organizers, visual artists, musicians and dedicated volunteers who participated in

scotiabank nuit blanche

October 3, 2009

St Thomas's gratefully acknowledges support from the Anglican Foundation's Sacred Arts Trust

Look for an upcoming report on the all-night arts event at www.stthomas.on.ca

Garden Update
• page 4

Remembering Emily
Sibbald • page 5

Bel and the Dragon
Day Camp • page 7

Darwin's Legacy: A
Symposium • page 8

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE

Church Directory

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Tel: 416.979.2323 ext. 1

E-mail: rector@stthomas.on.ca

Associate Priest

The Rev'd Robert Mitchell

Assistant Priests

The Rev'd Canon Brian D. Freeland

The Rev'd Robert A. Ross

Rector Emeritus

The Rev'd Roy A. Hoult

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Rev'ds J. Hodgins, A. Thomas Little,

Ian D. Nichols, R. Bruce Mutch and

Canon W. David Neelands

Organist & Choirmaster

John H. Tuttle

Organ Scholar

Elizabeth Anderson

People's Warden

Phil Spencer

Rector's Warden

Anthony Dale

Deputy Wardens

Kevin Toyne, Jennifer Grange

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News and Notes

PARISH OUTING TO DEAD SEA SCROLLS EXHIBIT

Forty parishioners went to the Royal Ontario Museum on Saturday, July 11 to see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit. A delicious lunch was provided in the parish hall, followed by a guided tour of the scrolls at the museum. It was a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon with fellow parishioners. Depending on demand, a second, evening tour (for those who were not able to attend the first one) may be scheduled. If you are interested, please speak to Fr. Mitchell.

JOHN TUTTLE HONOURED FOR 20 YEARS AT ST. THOMAS'S

At dinner following the Michaelmas Solemn High Mass, the rector thanked John Tuttle for his many contributions to the life of St. Thomas's since his arrival in the parish 20 years ago this month. He has been a great teacher and mentor to so many people, who have in turn contributed greatly to the life of the Church. A handsome piano bench was presented to John in thanksgiving for two decades of glorious music and service.

WRITING AWARD

In the June 2009 issue of *The Anglican Journal*, it was announced that a feature article, written by Julia Armstrong, received an award of merit from the Associated Church Press at its May 2009 convention in Indianapolis. The article reported on a talk given by lexicographer Katherine Barber (also a chorister at the church) in June 2008: *Six Words You Never Knew Had Something to Do With Pigs*, which is also the name of her 2006 book. Subtitled "A History of the English Language in 35 Minutes," the event raised funds for Out of the Heat.

HERALDRY TOUR OF ST. THOMAS'S

This week, the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada hosted its Annual General Meeting and Conference in Toronto. A focus of the conference was the work of the architect, designer and artist Alexander Scott Carter. A tour of Carter's work at Hart House took place on October 3, and the speaker at the conference banquet (at the Arts and Letters Club, one of Carter's haunts) was St. Thomas's parishioner Catherine Spence, who researched Carter's work for her MA thesis.

As a special bonus, Bruce Patterson offered to conduct a brief tour of Alexander Scott Carter's work at St. Thomas's Church (such as the figures in the reredos, the processional cross, and the canopy above the Lady Altar) at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 4. Bruce Patterson is Saint-Laurent Herald and Registrar of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, part of the Governor General's office in Ottawa. Before taking on this position, Bruce was a parishioner and acolyte at St. Thomas's. He is now a member of the Church of St. Barnabas, Ottawa, but still visits St. Thomas's regularly.

THE PARISH REGISTER

In Memoriam

Roland George Andrews - June 2

Emily Elisabeth Sibbald - July 4

Marriages

Henry Hoy and Elizabeth Duggen,
July 25

Brianna Julien and Matthew Orava,
July 4

Colin Hoult and Nadia Sorge,
June 20

Confirmation on April 19

Christopher Jones, Alison Beckwith,
Elizabeth Aaltonen, Alice Cooley,
Dana Kelso, Rachel Kessler,
Shari Kudsia, Andrew Reeves

Upcoming Events

CHOIR TOUR NEXT SUMMER

The choirs' tour to England is set for August 2010. We will be arriving in England early August 7 and our first Choral Evensong will be August 9 at Salisbury Cathedral, where we will be choir-in-residence for one week. Then we head to St. Paul's, London, to sing services for the second week.

A tour planning committee has been established, and various fundraising efforts are in the planning stages, including a possible choirs' recording and concert, a Mardi Gras dinner, high tea, curling bonspiel and Nativity play.

Fundraising began with a Sept. 18 recital by John Tuttle. An audience of 72 heard John play *Sunday Music* by Petr Eben, *Prélude, adagio et choral varié sur le thème Veni Creator* by Maurice Durufle and *Sonata: The 94th Psalm* by Julius Reubke.

David Montgomery

NATIVITY PLAY

Plan to bring friends and family to the St. Thomas's Nativity Play: December 16 at 7:30 p.m. and December 19 at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

We are still looking for someone to play the role of Joseph, one of the kings, several shepherds and tiny cherubs (four to eight years old), as well as lighting operators, stage crew and front-of-house personnel. If interested, please contact Nicole Pepper at mulberry@rogers.com or Fr. Mitchell.

Nicole Pepper

BENEDICTINE DAY

The annual fall Benedictine Day will take place Saturday, October 24. Please speak to Jim Webster (jwebster@gmail.com) if you can help out. The parish garden will also be "put in" that day. If you'd like to assist, contact Suzanne Coultas at s Suzanne.coultas@gmail.com.

AN INVITATION

Please join us for the launch of two new books

Tom Crothers, *Bumps*
(Saint John, N.B.: DreamCatcher Publishing)

&

John Terpstra, *Skin Boat:
Acts of Faith and other Navigations*
(Kentville, N.S.: Gaspereau Press)

Friday, October 30, 2009
8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by The St. Thomas Poetry Series

Reading and Reception in the Parish Hall,
St. Thomas's Church

PARISH BOOK SALE

Saturday, October 10
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, October 12
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We have several thousand
books, all priced to sell.

It would be helpful if you
could bring your
own bags.

Garden Report

This year was another successful one for our garden team. We started in the spring with a fun garden launch in conjunction with Benedictine Day. We cleaned up the garden plots and made improvements to our “cages,” which help us fight our continual battle against rodents.

Although the weather challenged us this season, we still managed good weekly harvests of lettuce, tomatoes, cabbage, beans and more. We shared the produce with guests of our Out of the Heat program throughout the summer.

We also welcomed several new volunteers to our roster of weeders. Thanks to their help, as well as the work of our seasoned veterans, we're convinced that our garden continues to be the most weed-free garden in Toronto!

A recent highlight of the garden season was a tour we hosted on Saturday, September 12. Parishioners from St. David's Anglican Church, The Church of the Resurrection (Anglican),



In September, the garden team hosted a tour arranged by A Rocha Canada – Christians in Conversation. Rob Kennedy led the tour.

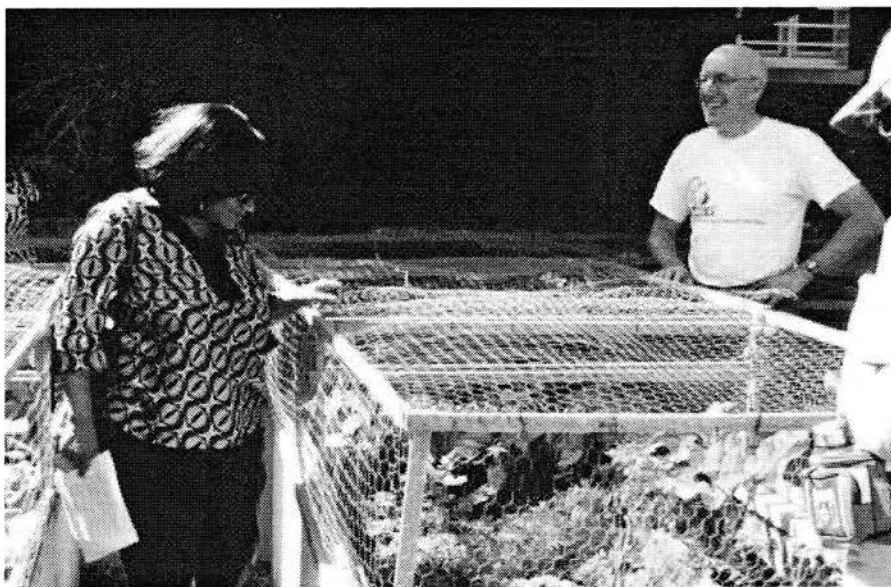
Canadian Baptist Ministries, Walmer Road Baptist Church, Waterloo Mennonite Brethren and Southside Community Church (Christian & Missionary Alliance), Milton, arrived in a huge yellow school bus. It was all arranged by Paul Abell of A Rocha Canada – Christians in Conversation. They had already visited three community gardens in the west end that morning.

And after our visit, they were heading up north to the Peanut Garden for the first annual Potato Festival, where community gardeners were going to serve potato dishes representative of their ethnic origins.

It was a fun and inquisitive crowd. There was lots of interest in the heritage plants we use, and we fielded detailed questions about the construction of the raised beds. When we showed everyone back to the bus, we took a small detour inside to see the church. That was special, too. One woman commented that it reminded her of St. James' Cathedral in Spanish Town, Jamaica.

Our fall Benedictine Day is coming up on October 24, and we will take that opportunity to “put the garden to bed” for another year. If anyone is interested in helping out with that event, or any other garden activities, please let Suzanne know at suzanne.coultes@gmail.com.

*Suzanne Coultes and
Rob Kennedy*



PAUL ABELL

Remembering Emily Sibbald

*Selected excerpts from the funeral homily for
Emily Sibbald*

While we mourn the loss today of a truly special, unique, faithful child of God, our grief is upheld by an enormous sense of gratitude for a long and well-lived life. Indeed, it may be true of many of us that this day is not so much one of tears but rather one of thanksgiving and even laughter as we remember Emily and marvel at her more than 90 years of devoted service to her Lord.

Emily was tired. On nearly every visit I made to her since my arrival in this parish last year, she would tell me, quite bluntly, that she wanted to die. St. Thérèse, who endured poor health, is reported to have asked the Lord why she had to suffer so much. The Lord said to her that he always treated his friends this way. To this she replied, "Then it is not surprising you have so few friends."

In her last few years of declining strength, I think that Emily's faith probably grew even stronger. Through her struggles, she indeed could count herself among that small group of blessed ones.

Emily was the first to acknowledge that she had lived a full and long life, that she couldn't do the things she enjoyed anymore, and that she was ready to go her eternal home. She would often state, "I don't know why God doesn't just take me?"

Not known for always keeping her opinions to herself, Emily would often put things the way she saw them. But despite her occasional mordacity she was, in my estimation, a person of deep faith and

unremitting dedication to her Master.

She took the work of the Altar Guild very seriously. Her work on the Guild was not just a hobby. It wasn't even in the league of other church committees and groups. No, as it is, I believe, for many who are called to this labour, Emily's work on the Guild was a manifestation of her devotion. It was an expression of her love for Jesus and his Church. Like Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, who carefully wrapped our Lord's body in linen and gently laid him in the tomb, and like the women who came on the third day with spices and ointments to dutifully and thoroughly prepare his body, Emily shared the same fidelity to her Saviour. In her polishing, her sewing, her mending, her ironing, her laying out and setting up; in her commitment to tradition and form; in her countless hours spent in this place doing the work of the Guild – Emily was living out her faith. And in this she is a model for us all. Indeed, many of the albs, cassocks and surplices that the acolytes wear today were made by her – signs that will continue to remind us of her for years to come.

Of course, when Mary Magdalene and the other women arrived at the tomb, they found it empty. We pray that Emily, with all the saints who have gone before and will come after, by the mercy of God, will also be partakers of the Resurrection at the last trumpet.

We give thanks to God for her life and witness among us. She was truly a unique individual who bore her share of burdens and sufferings. We believe that she rests now with the Lord but will come back, one day, to reclaim what she has left behind.

Fr. Robert Mitchell

Visiting Choirs


Over the past few months, the St. Thomas's Choirs have hosted two highly accomplished visiting choirs, both of which drew new audiences to the church and raised funds for the our choirs' 2010 England tour.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) Concert Choir, directed by Bevan Keating, performed on May 27, presenting a program that included works by Brahms, Byrd, Tallis and American composer Eric Whitacre.

Dr. Bevan Keating is originally from London, Ont., where he completed his Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education degrees. A past winner of the prestigious Leslie Bell Conducting Competition, he is now the head of voice and conducting studies at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, as well as music director for the opera program. In addition, he is director of music for Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock.



The Arkansas choir enjoyed the potluck that the St. Thomas's choristers provided in the parish hall. The guests expressed their thanks for the welcome change from all the fast food they'd been eating on the road.

On July 6, the 40-voice Latvian youth choir Balsis (whose name means "voices") presented a program of international choral repertoire. Conducted by Ints Teterovskis, the group has won an impressive number of international awards. The large crowd included many Toronto Latvians. The St. Thomas's Choirs again provided a potluck supper for the singers. One young woman said to John Tuttle, "I have to confess, this is the most excellent meal we have had in weeks!" The concert included *Missa*



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK
CONCERT CHOIR**

BEVAN KEATING, DIRECTOR
KRISTINA MARINOVA, ACCOMPANIST

BEVAN KEATING UALR CHOIR

WORKS BY BRAHMS, BYRD, TALLIS & ERIC WHITACRE

WEDNESDAY MAY 27 · 8PM

SAINT THOMAS'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
383 HURON STREET
TORONTO

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR
\$15 ADULTS / \$10 STUDENTS & SENIORS

PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE SAINT THOMAS'S
CHURCH CHOIR'S TOUR OF THE BRITISH ISLES IN 2010



Balsis Youth Choir, Latvia

Rigensis by Latvian composer Uģis Prauliņš, which the 11 a.m. choir learned this year. At the end, the youth choir presented John with a loaf of bread. As publicist Laura Adlers explained, it's a traditional symbol of thanks – a very high honour. Laura later relayed how much it meant to the choir to sing at St. Thomas's. Some of them were moved to tears by the experience.

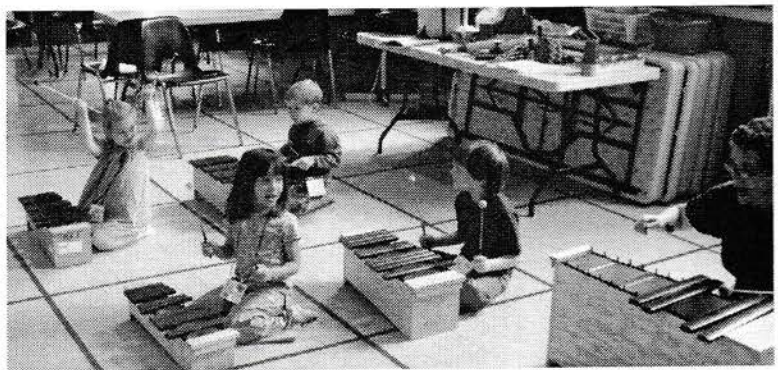
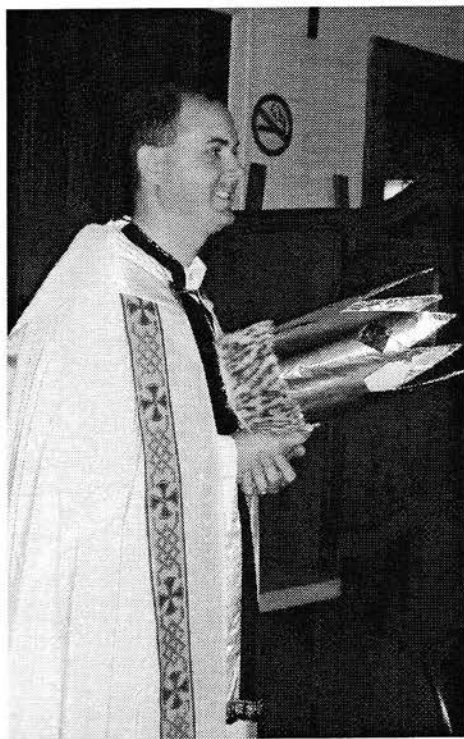
The two concerts raised close to \$3,000 for the St. Thomas's England tour. *Julia Armstrong*

Bel and the Dragon Summer Camp

The Bel and the Dragon children's program ran from July 20 to 24, 9 a.m. to noon, at St. Thomas's. The week provided participating children an opportunity to learn fundamental music concepts and the three stories found in the Apocryphal book known as Bel and the Dragon. The camp was led by master Orff specialist Kim Kendrick. Twenty-one children participated, seven of whom were children of the parish.

The week would not have been possible if it were not for the help of several parishioners. I would like to heartily thank all those who contributed to the program's success: those who gave up a week of their summer to spend with the children; those who donated money (at last count more than \$750 was donated); those who donated clothing and supplies; and those who supported us with their prayers and best wishes. The week was so successful that those involved have already started thinking of themes for next summer.

Fr. Robert Mitchell



On the 150th anniversary of the publication of the Origin of Species, and the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth, St. Thomas's presents a day-long symposium exploring the life, work and legacy of Charles Darwin. His revolutionary theory of evolution not only transformed the scientific world, but also sparked a debate about the relationship between faith and reason, which continues to this day. The symposium will introduce Darwin's life and work, examine modern evidence for evolution, and discuss central issues at the intersection of faith, evolution and culture.

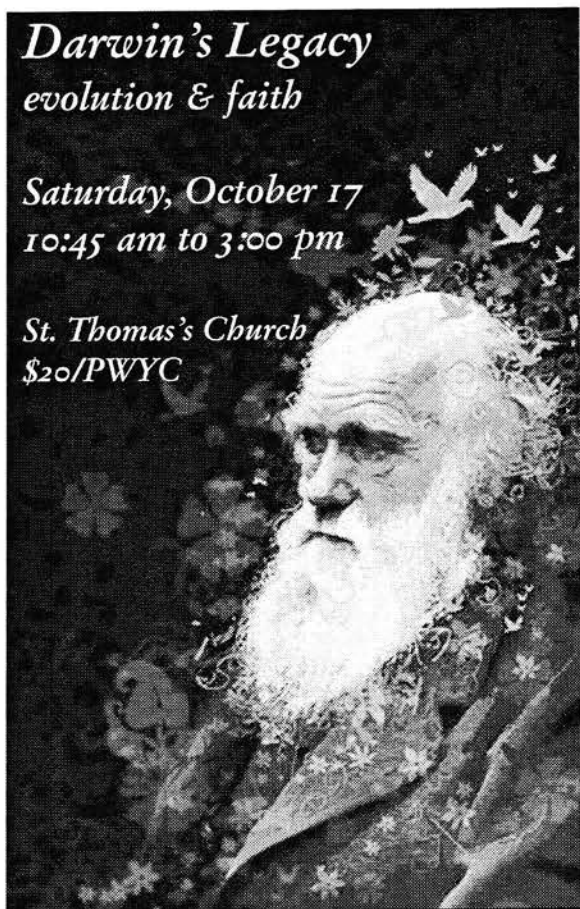
- 10:45-11:00 Introductions (Fr. Mark Andrews)
 11:00-11:45 Ian McGregor (Educator, ROM)
The Life and Work of Charles Darwin
 12:20-1:05 Ivan Semeniuk (Science Journalist,
 Dunlap Institute, U of T)
Evolution Today
 1:40-2:25 Amanda Sparkman (Postdoctoral Fellow,
 Trent University)
*Faith & Evolution: A Biologist
 Reflects on Creation*
 Moderator: The Rev. Dr. David Neelands

Light snacks throughout the day • Wine and cheese reception 3:00
 Tickets on sale after services starting Oct. 4, or contact the office

Darwin's Legacy evolution & faith

Saturday, October 17
 10:45 am to 3:00 pm

St. Thomas's Church
 \$20/PWYC



Website Update

Our website relaunched in the late spring to favourable reviews. The website committee – webmaster John Meadows, web editor Julia Armstrong, parish administrator Barbara Obrai, Fr. Mark Andrews and Fr. Robert Mitchell wish to thank Suzanne Kennedy of Evolving Web for building the site based on our creative brief. Here are a few features to note.

Julia Armstrong, Web Editor

Navigation menu: HOME, ABOUT US, SERVICES, OUTREACH MINISTRIES, MUSIC, EDUCATION, NEWS & EVENTS, RIGHTS & SOULS, RESOURCES, CONTACT US.

Events Calendar for October, 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Links: | Calendar of Services |
 Saint Thomas's Newsletter

Click on the menu bar tabs for various drop-down menus. Parish committees, please send me your updates whenever you have something new to post, along with any photos.

Special events are entered into the calendar. Click on the shaded dates to see what they are, then follow the links to further information.

Just below the calendar is an option to sign up to receive the newsletter electronically (PDF). We encourage you to sign up so that we can cut back on paper usage and printing costs.

Note: At the end of most highlights is an option to "Send to Friend." This is an easy way to share information with others about special events. Please use "Send to Friend" to keep others informed about St. Thomas's events by e-mail.