

Thurible

Advent
2010

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

2010 choir tour



Pages 4, 5, 6

Christmas dinner: Can you help? 2

Nuit Blanche attracts 5,000 to St. T's 3

Nativity play renews a medieval tradition 8

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE

Church Directory **Out of the Cold**

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The Rev'd Robert Mitchell,

416.979.2323 ext. 3 or

mitchell@stthomas.on.ca

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd Canon Brian D. Freeland

Rector Emeritus

The Rev'd Roy A. Hoult

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Rev'ds A. Thomas Little,

Ian D. Nichols, R. Bruce Mutch and

W. David Neelands

Theological Student

Jeffrey Metcalfe

Organist & Choirmaster

John H. Tuttle

Organ Scholar

Elizabeth Anderson

People's Wardens

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Rector's Wardens

Anthony Dale, Phil Spencer

Financial Officer & Treasurer

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Tel: 416.979.2323 ext. 4

Verger Jeremy Rempel

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Thurible Catharine Tunnacliffe and

Patrick Cain, Editors

The parish will feed about 100 people a traditional turkey dinner on Christmas Eve. Donations of food, money and time are all needed. Please contact Maggie Helwig (maggie@web.net) to find out how you can help.

After the Christmas Eve dinner, the parish hosts a dinner on New Year's Eve and another on January 14.



MARTIN REININK

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 19th, 7 pm, in place of our customary Solemn Evensong and Devotions. The service is of the nature of a vigil; its expectancy builds, from the story of the Fall, through the Prophets, to the coming of Christ.

SOLEMN MIDNIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS

Friday, December 24th, 11 pm.
Organ Recital at 10:30 pm.
Three settings of 'In dulci jubilo,' J.S. Bach Nativité (Trois Paraphrases Gregorienne), Jean Langlais Pastoral Dance, Robin Milford Variations sur un Noel, Marcel Dupré; In dulci jubilo, Marcel Dupré (Music of the Mass: 'Missa 'O magnum mysterium,' Victoria)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, December 25th
Said Eucharist 8:00 am (BCP)
Sung Eucharist 9:30 am (BAS)
Solemn Eucharist 11:00 am (Traditional Rite)

There is no service of Evensong and Devotions on Christmas Day, nor on the Feast of St Stephen, Sunday December 26th.

EPIPHANY

Thursday, January 6th
Solemn Eucharist 6:15 pm (Traditional Rite)
(Music of the Mass: Missa 'Ad præsepe,' George Malcolm)

SOLEMN EVENSONG with EPIPHANY CAROLS & PROCESSION

Sunday, January 9th, 7 pm
Reception to follow

Nuit Blanche 2010: Pillars of fire

St. Thomas's has been delighted to participate in Nuit Blanche for the past four years, presenting a combination of contemporary visual art, musical performances and spoken word performances. The spirit and intent of Nuit Blanche was captured with *Through a Glass Darkly* (2009), *Still and Still Moving* (2008), and *Angel Night, Dark Night* (2007).

Nuit Blanche was held on Oct 2-3 this year, with St Thomas's contribution as an independent project entitled *Pillars of Fire*. Students and recent graduates from OCAD, Ryerson and York created visual art and installations inspired by the theme. *Pillars of Fire* transformed St Thomas's using sound, projection, installation and performance to create a space where light emerged from darkness. Artists responded to both the mesmerizing beauty of fire and its raw transcendental elements, as well as to the historical, cultural and theological metaphors invoked by fire. Fire can only be fully experienced in the moment of its existence, and evokes moments in time which are both transient and eternal. Fire is a metaphor for the life force that burns within us, and Nuit Blanche is a celebration of that creative fire.

The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night; (Exodus 13:21)

Highlights included: a video of a fire spinner who teamed up with a mathematician, and produced mathematical improvisations on the movement of spun fire; abstract videos based on the Paschal fire service, and ethereal watercolours invoking the essence of fire. Vestments (Flames of Pentecost Cope and Stole) were loaned from St Mary Magdalene's, and displayed with Willem Hart's *Scarlet Shards of Cross chasuble and stole* from St Thomas's collection, alongside *Burning Forest* paintings by artist Julia McNeeley.

As in previous years, performances



Artist Jonny Wheeldon's work in the Baptistry.

and video ran from sunset to sunrise. Highlights included a multimedia dance, with responsive video to movement, a 13-piece brass choir, stunning baroque, choral, percussion and blues performances, and of course our own Larry Beckwith (who hosted magnificently once again). Many favourable comments on the performances and installations were heard by visitors through the night.

In the Church Hall, Julia McNeeley created an interactive installation entitled *Burning Forest*, with help from visitors painting, drawing and assembling the forest throughout the night. Also in the Hall, coffee, cookies and soup were served all night. This was much appreciated by weary night wanderers. Charis Kelso coordinated a team of volunteers (from St T's and Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate Institute), who baked cookies, made soup, thanks to Fr. Mulholland, and warmly hosted the evening. The student PR team on Bloor Street, complete with glow sticks, resulted in our numbers swelling to the point where we had overflowing crowds.

This year had the largest attendance to date, with over 5,000 visitors.

Big thanks to Fr Mark Andrews,

Mike Degan, Mary Wilson, Julia Armstrong and all who volunteered, baked, hosted or otherwise helped make this evening a success.

ROBIN KINGSBURGH

Artists: Adrienne Crossman, Amanda Arcuri, Jonny Wheeldon, Erin Lewis, Robin Kingsburgh, Amy Belair, Julia McNeeley, Jessica Caporusso, Shalanda Phillips, Elissa Ross, Donalda McTaggart

Performers: Sloth Brain, Sonore Percussion Trio, The Larkin Singers, Sandy Watters, Jaash Singh, Jeremy Rempel, Brass Conspiracy, Classical Music Consort, Alison Melville & The Bird Project, Larry Beckwith, Windermere String Quartet, Dan Yashisky

Curators: Robin Kingsburgh & Larry Beckwith
Lighting: Aaron Bernstein

44 CHORISTERS

Singing, sightseeing and socializing for two weeks – it truly doesn't get any better than that. In August, 44 choristers, plus 22 friends, family members, clergy and parishioners, travelled to England, where the St. Thomas's Choir, led by John Tuttle and Elizabeth Anderson, served as choir-in-residence at two cathedrals: Salisbury and St. Paul's, London.

STARTING IN SALISBURY

The whole group was charmed by Salisbury, an inviting city that's easy to get to know. We stayed in Sarum College in the close, a short walk from the cathedral. Each afternoon, the choir had an hour-long rehearsal (in cassocks in the stalls) for evensong, while tourists gathered on the other side of the rope to snap photos and listen for a few moments. After a short break, it was time to put on surplices and line up in the south aisle, ready for the precentor to say a prayer and the vergers to lead us in

22 SUPPORTERS

TWO CATHEDRALS

7,500 MILES

13 SUNG SERVICES

procession. The clergy were very welcoming and appreciative. After our first evensong, it was nice to hear one of the priests say, "I can see that our worship this week is in very good hands indeed." There were also several Toronto clergy along with us – the Rev. Mark Andrews, the Rev. Ian Nichols, the Rev. Susan Haig and the Rev. David Mulholland – and it was nice that they were invited to take part.

We filled Sarum College, with a few folks staying in a B & B just down the lane. It was great to come together regularly for meals. After dinner, some would gather in the college lounge to

16 DAYS

and have a beer or sherry (the porter trusted us to tend bar ourselves!); others would head to The Cloisters pub just outside the gate for a pint of bitter or cider.

One morning, the entire group was treated to a cathedral tour led by volunteer guides, with a visit to the chapter house to see the Magna Carta. (On the north wall of the cathedral is a plaque that commemorates the victims of a 1906 railway crash in Salisbury; one was Edward Ley King, vicar at St.

continues ON PAGE 5

CHOIR TOUR 2010



The choir in Salisbury Cathedral.

JOHN MEADOWS

CHOIR TOUR FROM PAGE 4

Thomas's.) Those who signed up to climb the cathedral spire were rewarded with a breathtaking vista. Throughout the week, many took advantage of the tourist information centre's guided walking tours to learn more about the city's history. A couple of groups also spent a morning hiking two miles north of the city to Old Sarum, which for more than 4,000 years served as a fortress and religious site. The walk there and back – past community gardens, grazing sheep and giant elderberry bushes – was as enjoyable as the exploration of the ruins of the old cathedral. On the other side of town is a scenic path along the Water Meadows, where you can take in a view of the present cathedral just as Constable painted it. After dinner, as the sun bathed the spire in a golden glow, it was a perfect time to stroll around the close, take some photos and admire people's gardens.

GROUP OUTING

While in Salisbury, we had one full day off. Our wonderful tour committee had organized outings to Stonehenge and Avebury. Then the two coaches went separate ways, one to Bath and the other to Oxford. In Bath, people visited the magnificent Roman Baths, the Abbey and the Jane Austen Museum; the Oxford group spent an enjoyable afternoon exploring the colleges, chapels and shops.

Our week at Salisbury started to draw to a close on the Eve of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Evensong concluded with a long procession from the quire to Trinity Chapel, where we sang Rachmaninoff's "Bogoroditse Devo" ("Ave Maria"). At Eucharist the next morning (August 15), we performed Palestrina's "Missa Assumpta Est Maria" and Tavener's "Hymn to the Mother of God." The cathedral is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, so it was indeed a privilege to be part of the Marian festival in this centuries-old house of worship. Everyone was a little melancholy about



JENNIFER McCALLUM

leaving Salisbury – it had begun to feel like home. Our thanks to the clergy and staff of the cathedral, and to the staff at Sarum College for their wonderful hospitality. A few weeks after our return, John Tuttle received a letter from the precentor, Canon Jeremy Davies, thanking us for our contribution to the worship and inviting us to return any time.

OFF TO LONDON

Right after evensong on the 15th, we boarded our coaches for London and geared up for a completely different pace. Late that evening we checked into Bankside House, a large residence (London School of Economics) on the South Bank. The rooms weren't as charming as those of Sarum College and the plumbing was a little unreliable, but the price was right and the central location couldn't be beat.

What a thrill it was to sing in the cathedral for the first time. Just as we finished our hour-long rehearsal and were lining up in the south aisle to practise the procession with a virger (at St. Paul's, we noted, they spell it with an "i"), the fire alarm went off. Staff swiftly shepherded everyone out the west exit. As astonished passersby watched the mob of tourists spill out onto the front steps (some even snapped photos of the choir huddled together), we learned

that smoke had been detected in the organ chamber. It looked doubtful that 5:00 evensong would go ahead. A little later, after consulting with John Tuttle, the virgers told us that the tourists would be made to stand aside so that we could be ushered back inside first. The organ couldn't be used, so John spread the word that we would do our a cappella Byrd canticles instead of the accompanied setting we had just rehearsed. We dashed to the opposite end of the cathedral, downstairs to the choir room to grab the other music and our surplices, and bounded upstairs just in time for the bell. We learned later that the clergy and staff were quite impressed – they had fully expected that evensong would have to be cancelled. Not on our watch! For our last evensong, it was a thrill to perform the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis that Howells wrote for St. Paul's, with the final fortissimo chord of the "Gloria patri" ringing back at us for several satisfying seconds.

While in London, we packed in as much morning sightseeing as possible. Several folks visited the London Eye, the Tower of London, Kew Gardens, Buckingham Palace and Hampton Court. We also had a tour of Canada House, which we learned came into Canada's possession through the work

continues ON PAGE 6

CHOIR TOUR FROM PAGE 5

and generosity of Peter Larkin, father of St. Thomas's benefactor Gerald Larkin.

BACKSTAGE TOUR

A big thank-you to St. Thomas's parishioner Tom Agnew, who arranged for his brother Dermot to give our entire group a tour of the Covent Garden Opera House. Dermot, who is the chorus manager for The Royal Opera, told us a bit about the shows they were rehearsing, including Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, and showed us the immense backstage area, where two sets were under construction. Luckily, as we were touring the office area, with its gallery



JOHN MEADOWS

of famous singers and past productions, one of the costume department heads came along. She invited us to have a look inside the women's costume room, where gorgeous bolts of fabric were spread out, a set of costumes had just been returned from tour, and dress forms representing various leads were in mid-design. She told us that one recent production required five different costumes for each of 30 singers – and that was just the chorus! We then checked out the beautiful patron lounges and finally the hall itself, which is sumptuously decorated in gold and red velvet. Dermot made sure he pointed out the royal box. Someone suggested we sing something, and John Tuttle joked, “Oh no you don't – then you'll all be on Facebook announcing that you've made your Covent Garden

debut!”

To celebrate the tour, a farewell dinner cruise was arranged (made possible in part through a generous anonymous donation). We enjoyed a roast beef dinner as we cruised downstream beyond the Thames Barrier and back upriver. Several friends of the parish joined the festivities, including Kelly Baxter Golding, in England on a family vacation, and Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, now at the Anglican Communion Office in London.

SPECIAL THANKS

The choir and the rest of the tour family wish to express our immense gratitude to the planning committee – David Montgomery, Jean Nichols, John and

Diana Tuttle, Fr. Mark Andrews, Lorne Swan, Suzanne Coultres, Anna and Rob Kennedy, Elizabeth Anderson, Jennifer McCallum and Jim Webster – for their extraordinary efforts. Thanks also to all the parishioners and friends who supported our fundraising efforts and wished us well. A huge thank-you to director of music John Tuttle and assistant organist Elizabeth Anderson for their hard work preparing us (including all that Anglican chant!) and for their always inspired conducting and playing. The 2010 tour was truly an experience of a lifetime, especially because it was shared with so many good friends. **JULIA ARMSTRONG**

See photos of the tour at www.stthomas.on.ca/choir-tour-photos.

G & S PUB NIGHT

On Oct. 16, St Thomas's was transformed into the *Peer and Peri Pub* and hosted its first-ever gathering devoted to the music of Gilbert and Sullivan, with all proceeds going to our Out of the Cold program. Elizabeth Anderson, myself and a group of dedicated singers joined forces with accompanist Senan Whalen to present an evening of songs from well-known shows, particularly *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Iolanthe*, *The Mikado* and *Pirates of Penzance*. Lindsay Squire and her capable crew tended to set-up and decorations. Delightful food was presented, served and cleaned up by a swarm of eager volunteers and the bar was tended (and stocked) by Rob Kennedy with assistance from Anna, offering a comprehensive assortment of pub beverages.

Musical highlights from the evening included a rewritten “When I Was a Lad” penned and sung by Michael Woods with the intended effect of telling us how we could all become Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. Julia Meadows convincingly sang “Were I Thy Bride” from *The Yeomen of the Guard* and John Meadows provided a comic highlight by performing “When a Felon's Not Engaged in His Employment” as the Sergeant of Police from *The Pirates of Penzance*. He enhanced the song by offering to rewrite, for a small donation and with only a few minutes' notice, some of the lyrics on a subject offered by one of the guests. Propriety does not allow this correspondent to state what was said about Tom Ford, but it was well worth the \$20 given by a member of the congregation. Tim Wright finished the musical portion of the evening with a rendition of Koko's “Little List” from *The Mikado*, redone (of course!) to reflect some of the more pressing concerns at St Thomas's. In between, there were numerous choruses and ensemble numbers during which audience members were invited to join in and sing along.

All in all, in spite of it being a bleak and chilly autumn evening, the food, drink, music and company made for an excellent evening of entertainment and camaraderie with the extra bonus of raising \$723 for the Out of the Cold program. Many thanks to all who participated: performers, servers and guests. **ANNELI PEKKONEN**



Smooth sailing for Noah's Ark

From July 12 to 16, nearly 20 children of the parish and community set sail on an adventure of musical learning. Several children were alumni of our 2009 Bel and the Dragon programme. This year's Noah's Ark summer programme was jointly sponsored by St Thomas's and the Toronto Masque Theatre, under the direction of parishioner Larry Beckwith, who is also the TMT's artistic director.

It engaged children aged 6 to 11 all week long through music and motion, based on the well known biblical story. Larry brought in two highly qualified assistants from the TMT to help him and several parishioners also helped.

Throughout the week the children learned the story, practised songs and movement, designed animal masks and put together creative costumes, nourished by a daily snack. On the

last day, all the hard work of the week culminated in an amazing performance. "I just can't believe that they could put together something so seamless in so little time!," one parent said.

Many people generously offered their time to make this year's programme a success and many others helped by their financial donations. We are fortunate to have so many talented and munificent parishioners. **FR. ROBERT MITCHELL**

Neighbours embrace yard sale

The rector's decision to hold the yard sale outside combined with low, low discount prices attracted enthusiastic buyers from the neighbourhood.

The sale presented a number of surprises. We had envisioned an opportunity for students to outfit their apartments at the beginning of the school year. To that end, there were small appliances and furniture on offer. They lingered as students failed to appear despite the attempts of Molly, the advertising dog, and her handler, Deanne Patchett.

Instead, there was a mix of young families and older residents, snapping up toys, collectibles, pictures, and choir recordings. Many buyers made return trips to load up on more bargains as

prices dropped as the sale neared its end.

We had thought that marrying a yard sale to our second annual bulb sale would result in more sale in that area. Didn't happen, but St John's, Norway took some bulbs on consignment and sold a good number as a fundraiser for their parish.

It was a little disappointing that few parishioners were able to attend but the weekend of September 25/26 was busy with Back-to-Church Sunday and Word on the Street. However the support of the the neighbours was really gratifying. One woman specifically mentioned that she was aware of the food programme at St. Thomas's and

how happy she was to have a way to contribute to the work of the church.

Many people worked hard to make the day a success. Julia Armstrong worked her verbal magic. Father Mark transported many of the items from their previous homes, provided storage space in his basement, set up on sale day, and generally kept spirits high. Jean-Paul Napier, Felicity Pickup and Deanne Patchett were invaluable at setting prices. Mike Degan, Alice Cooley, and Raphael Ng also helped in setting up and taking down the merchandise.

The success of the day puts us in a good position to attract the participation of the surrounding neighbourhood when we mount another yard sale. Funds raised: about \$1,250.

JENNIFER GRANGE

Baptisms

Wolfgang Adrian Quan
February 7, 2010, son of Durwin
Gilbert Quan and Kristine Ann Quan
née Darby, born in Toronto, Ontario,
September 29, 1999.

Cate Anjalie D'Elia
April 11, 2010, daughter of Andrea
D'Elia and Margaret Sarah Graham,
born in Toronto, Ontario, August 28,
2009.

Oliver Thomas Dale
April 11, 2010, son of Anthony John
Dale and Diane Lesley Simpson
born in Toronto, Ontario, September 2,
2009.

Amelia Rose Wilson
May 15, 2010, daughter of David
James Wilson and Riikka Liisa Nousi-
ainen, born in Toronto, Ontario, Febru-
ary 28, 2010.

Syerra Ryanne Elizabeth Meade
May 16, 2010
daughter of Joel Robertson and Jo-
sette Meade, born in Toronto, Ontario,
March 16, 2010.

Nathanael Winsor Irish
September 19, 2010, son of Charles
Winsor Irish and Anna Michelle née
Pitts, born in New Tecumseh, Ontario,
July 15, 2010

Olivia Maureen Lane
July 24, 2010, daughter of John Patrick
Lane and Joanna Maureen Wilson
born in Toronto, Ontario, December 7,
2009.

Marriage

Nathanael Samways Hiltz and Alia
Aleksandra Akhtar, January 30, 2010

The Blessing of a Marriage

Jennifer Emily Coombs and William
Grant Hustler, July 31, 2010

Burials

Marian Florence King Ade
February 12, 2010

Margaret Edith Young
March 14, 2010

Nancy Margaret Williams
June 11, 2010

Elsie Grace Nichols
July 1, 2010

Wilfred George Lewitt
July 5, 2010

George Allan Wilson
July 6, 2010

John MacDonald Longfield
July 8, 2010

What light is this?

A MEDIEVAL NATIVITY PAGEANT

Poculi Ludique Societas and
St. Thomas's Anglican Church
present a dramatization of the events
surrounding the birth of Jesus from
the York cycle of mystery plays,
featuring medieval English carols
sung by choristers of St. Thomas's

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7:00 pm
Saturday, Dec. 11, 2:30 pm & 7:00 pm

383 Huron St., Toronto, Ontario
Tickets: \$20, \$15 (Snrs.), \$10 (Ch., St.)
Info at: 416-978-5096
www.stthomas.on.ca or www.plspls.ca



— AMY V. JAMES