

Candlemas
2012

Thurible

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



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Church Directory

Tel: 416.979.2323 Fax: 416.979.0261

E-mail: saintthomas@rogers.com

Website: www.stthomas.on.ca

Church & Hall Bookings: saintthomas@rogers.com

Rector

The Rev'd Mark W. Andrews
416.345.8787; rector@stthomas.on.ca

Associate Priest

The Rev'd Robert Mitchell
647.343.0864; 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'd A. Thomas Little
The Rev'd Ian D. Nichols
The Rev'd Canon R. Bruce Mutch
The Rev'd Canon W. David Neelands

Organist & Choirmaster

John H. Tuttle

Organ Scholar

Elizabeth Anderson

People's Warden

Jennifer Grange

Rector's Warden

Phil Spencer

Deputy Wardens

Anthony Dale, Diana Versegghy

Financial Officer & Treasurer

Erik Penz

Bookkeeper

Greg Anderson

Parish Administrator

Barbara Obrai

Assistant Verger

Leonel Abaroa-Bolona

Head of Acolytes Guild

Mike Degan

Church School Supervisor

Michael Wood

Nursery School Supervisor

Theodor Aust

Pastoral Care Contact

Phyllis Garden

Outreach Contacts

Diana Versegghy, Fr. Andrews

Coordinators of Sidespeople

Teri Dunn, Wendy Woodworth

Friars' Guild Coordinator

Jennifer McCallum

Communications Coordinator, Web Editor

Julia Armstrong

Webmaster

John Meadows

The Parish Register July 2011 to January 2012

Weddings

- *Emily Donatelle and Andrew Dunsmore*
July 23, 2011
- *Alice Cooley and Michael Degan*
September 3, 2011
- *Odilia Coelho and Gaetano Strazzanti*
September 24, 2011

Birth Announcements

- *Casper Tej Suagh Ruskin*, son of Erik and Priya Penz, December 11, 2011
- *Grace Felicity*, daughter of Grant and Jennifer (née Coombs) Hustler, January 3, 2012
- *Kevin Andrew*, son of Andy and Suzanne Coultes, January 20, 2012

Baptism

- *Liam Michael Reid*, son of Teige Francis Dagmar Reid and Siobhán Noelle Dungan, July 24, 2011

In Memoriam

- Marion Mann, July 19, 2011
- Maria Rika Maniates, October 20, 2011
- Gordon Jarvis, November 1, 2011
- Margaret Katharine Anna Wismer,
November 25, 2011

Compiled by Barbara Obrai

Maggie Helwig Ordained Priest

On Sunday, January 22, 2012, at 4 p.m., Sarah Magdalen (Maggie) Helwig was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests at the Church of St. Timothy, Toronto. Congratulations, Maggie!

Preparing for the Annual Vestry Meeting

Vestry Meeting, February 26, following a combined morning service at 10:30 a.m.

For most people Advent heralds the coming of the Lord. For churchwardens, it is a major reminder that preparation for Vestry must begin in earnest.

Parish administrator Barbara Obrai's voice is the one crying in the wilderness, via the leaflet, with a reminder to check the parish list to make sure you are on it so that you are able to vote, which gives you a voice in the direction and operation of the parish. The nominating committee, which comprises former wardens and people who are active in parish life, seek out candidates for various positions, such as members of Synod, elected positions on Advisory Board, and people's warden. The rector's warden is appointed by the rector. The bulk of the work of the nominating committee is done in January.

The Corporation officially includes the rector and the wardens, but in practical terms it also includes the deputies and treasurer. According to the canons of the diocese, this body has oversight of the "temporal" matters of the parish, such as finances, property and personnel.

The Corporation begins its budget preparations in November, when the treasurer arranges inspection of the financial records with the auditors. This audit is timed so that the annual financial statement is available for Corporation approval and for approval at Vestry. Budget discussions are held in December and January. With the assistance of the bookkeeper and the administrator, Corporation must form budget assumptions by comparing actual income and expenditures with what is expected. From this review, a draft budget is prepared. Prior to the final budget presented at Vestry, the draft is presented to Advisory Board for approval.

St. Thomas's has an active Advisory Board that meets regularly to give counsel to Corporation. The composition is a mix of appointees from each of the parish organizations, such as the Altar Guild, choir, and members of Synod, as well as members who are elected specifically to Advisory Board. The group must meet a

minimum of four times a year, but more usually six times. For those who would like to become more involved with parish life, serving on Advisory Board is a good place to start.

The final step in preparing for Vestry is the creation of the agenda as set out in the canons. Receiving reports and ensuring all papers are available is undoubtedly the bane of the parish administrator's existence for weeks in advance of Vestry.

Corporation's goal is to have a Vestry meeting with full information presented to Vestry for consideration, voting and acceptance. The wardens are pleased to see that the process over the past three months has resulted in dialogue and sharing of information. The members of Corporation, the Advisory Board and the parish administrator are ready for another year.

The Wardens

Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday, February 12, Bishop Philip Poole will be at St. Thomas's to preach and to confirm a group of adults and young people at the 11 a.m. service. Throughout January and early February, the candidates are undergoing a process of preparation led by Fr. Andrews, Fr. Mitchell and Leonel Abaroa-Bolona.

Confirmation is the gift of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands. In the earliest days of the Church, it was administered only by the Apostles, and in the Anglican Church it remains to this day a sacrament that can only be administered by a bishop.

In addition to those being confirmed, there will be some who will be officially received into the Anglican Church from other denominations. Also, Connor Erion, the grandson of Jean and Ronald Wood and son of Jennifer Wood and Shawn Erion, will be making his first communion. Be sure to mark this special day of celebration on your calendar!

Fr. Rob Mitchell

St. Thomas's annual **Mardi Gras fundraiser** will take place on the evening of **Saturday, February 18.**

Come join us for **dinner and a cabaret.** Tickets are \$20.

Anniversary of the 1662 Prayer Book

The Anglican Church of Canada is marking a significant anniversary this year: the 50th anniversary of the 1962 *Book of Common Prayer*, alongside the 350th anniversary of the 1662 *Prayer Book*. After nearly 10 years of Puritan polity and liturgy under Oliver Cromwell's government, Anglican order and liturgy were finally restored with the return of Charles II to the throne of England. Parliament authorized a revision of the Elizabethan rites, which resulted in the publication of the 1662 book, a work that has endured as the liturgical touchstone for the Anglican Communion worldwide. In 1962, the Canadian Church adopted a revised *Prayer Book*, which is still in use during many of the services at St. Thomas's.

Why all the fuss about a book? The reason is that the *Book of Common Prayer* is a cornerstone of Anglicanism. One of the guiding principles of the Reformation in England was that the worship of the Church should be common to all; hence the aim to produce a book of "common" prayer, written in the vernacular, with daily and seasonal rounds of prayer for clergy and lay people alike. Another principle, in contrast to the more radical reforms in other countries, was that the liturgies inherited from the western Church should not be discarded outright, but rather pruned where necessary and streamlined, thus maintaining visible continuity with the historical Church. A third principle was that worship should edify and teach; therefore, prayers and exhortations were developed that would build up knowledge and understanding of the faith in the worshippers, and numerous scriptural passages were incorporated into the services. A fourth principle was that worship should be worthy of the praise of almighty God, which resulted in the adoption of a form of prose that was stately, beautiful and memorable. Thus the English reformers, led by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, set out to produce a book that would be usable, portable, faithful to the doctrine of the early undivided Church, inspiring to read, and soaked in Scripture. The result was a work that has been recognized around the world as a liturgical classic, from which many other denominations have borrowed, and which has had a lasting influence on the English language.

St. Thomas's will mark this anniversary and celebrate the great riches of our Anglican tradition by using the 1662 book during our annual observance of the Feast of the Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin (Candlemas), on February 2 at 7 p.m.

To learn about anniversary celebrations throughout the year, visit www.prayerbook.ca. Diana Versegby

Selecting Period Music for February 2: Q&A with Musicologist Bryan Martin

Bryan Martin is a bass lead in the 11 a.m. and Evensong choirs at St. Thomas's. He has an MA in Musicology from University of Toronto, and is on the staff of the Faculty of Music Library. Bryan assisted Fr. Rob Mitchell and John Tuttle in the selection of music for the Solemn Eucharist on February 2.

Q: How did you begin the process of researching what music might be appropriate for the service?

A: The first step was to find out what was going on at that point – to determine context. The decision was made easier by the fact that it was hard to find much music! I initially thought we could do something by Blow or Purcell, but it turns out that their service music

hasn't been published in modern editions. The other thing we had to consider was what kind of an institution we should look at. In a parish church, there was probably no singing, with the possible exception of some metrical psalms. St. Thomas's is not a "typical" parish church, so we looked to the cathedrals and the collegiate churches, such as Oxford and Cambridge, which would have had music. We decided to take the position that St. Thomas's is more like a collegiate church, and that indicated a certain type of music.

Q: What kinds of resources did you consult?

A: I discovered a collection called *First Book of Selected Church Musick*, compiled by John Barnard. It is dated 1641, but it didn't show up in any of the inventories

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1662

The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin (The Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

February 2nd , 7:00pm

A service using the Book of Common Prayer of 1662
in celebration of the 350th anniversary of the restoration of Anglican rites

Music by Tallis and Tomkins

St Thomas's Anglican Church
383 Huron Street



until after the Restoration. It was probably prepared but not published at the time. After the Restoration, it appears in all the cathedral inventories because they were desperately looking for music; it seems everybody had a copy of it. By consulting it, I could see what the repertory was like. It contains mostly service music, and was purpose-built for use in cathedrals. And the music in it is good – Church of England service music from Tallis all the way to Adrian Batten, who died just before it was published. We chose a Tallis setting. The interesting thing is that the collection has no contemporary composers. Batten, who died about 1637, is the latest composer. There's no contemporary music because church music had been suppressed for many years at this point. So we know that in 1662 they wouldn't have been doing the latest, greatest thing – they were almost starting from scratch.

Q: *Does that mean there's a good possibility that the service setting we're doing at St. Thomas's would have been sung when the 1662 Prayer Book came into use?*

A: Almost certainly – simply because *Selected Church Musick* was the main source. It's a big collection, with about a dozen service settings. We picked the Tallis "First Service" because it has all the elements that we want to do. It begins with the Responses to the Commandments – what we now call the Kyrie. The choir sings the Creed and the Gloria; there was no congregational singing then.

Q: *What about the Tomkins anthem?*

A: I found it in another collection, called *Musica Deo Sacra*, which his sons put out after his death. This collection shows up in the cathedral repertory lists for the period, and it's big – just by luck, it has a setting of the Collect for the Purification, so that was perfect.

Q: *In what form does the Tallis service music appear?*

A: The Faculty of Music Library has a facsimile edition of the part books [each book contained only its own line, without the other voice parts]. There are 10 parts books, 5 for each side of the choir. To prepare the facsimile, a copy of which we have at U of T, researchers had to go around England to various cathedrals and libraries to put together a complete set.

Nobody had all of the part books. The collection is complete except that one of the medius [soprano] part books is missing a few pages of the Tallis setting, but the music was constructed from other sources.

Q: *How did you prepare the music for the St. Thomas's choir to sing?*

A: I sat down at my computer with the facsimile and entered each part into the software Sibelius. It's a lot faster than writing it out, and you end up with the four-part score so you can look for mistakes. If you reach a place where nothing lines up, you realize one part must have had one too many rests in a bar, so you go back and figure it out. There are other sources of this Tallis setting, but Barnard's is slightly different in a few small details – who knows where he got his copies to make his part books. So what you'll hear at St. Thomas's is a bit different from what you'd hear anywhere else.

Q: *Were there any other considerations for the service music?*

A: At the time of the Restoration, a fellow named Edward Lowe printed a little manual on how services were to be done in the cathedrals. I downloaded a copy from Early English Books Online. You had this whole thing being resurrected and not everybody was familiar with it, and some of the clergy had died in the intervening years. Lowe prepared a guide to explain where the priest intones and what music was to be used, although sometimes there are no notes, just the instruction "in a grave tone," and then "in a higher tone." Interestingly, most prayers are intoned on a single note, and that's what we'll do on Feb. 2. For the intonations to the Gloria and Creed, we've decided to use the Merbecke ones because musically they fit well with this Tallis setting, and it's clear that Lowe refers to the Merbecke setting, even though he doesn't name it.

Q: *Sibelius software, digital editions of Lowe's manual – this project is a marriage of 17th-century resources and 21st-century technology!*

A: Yes, and I even have the 1662 *Prayer Book* on my iPhone! I consulted it during choir practice last week to check a text discrepancy in the Gloria.

Julia Armstrong

A Medieval Lenten Play at St. Thomas's



This March, St. Thomas's will be co-producing a Lenten play with Pocoli Ludique Societas (PLS). For more than 40 years, PLS has been associated with the university's Centre For Medieval Studies, offering a regular schedule of plays every year. Now, as part of the Centre for Performance Studies in Early Theatre, PLS operates in affiliation with the Graduate Centre for Study of Drama. We collaborated with PLS for our 2010 production of the York Cycle Nativity play.

This year's play, which will actually be a compilation of three short plays, including "The Raising of Lazarus," Jesus' triumphant "Entry into Jerusalem," and "The Last Supper," will be performed at St. Thomas's on Friday, March 30 at 7 p.m., and on Saturday, March 31 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. The plays come from a 15th-century source known as *The N-Town Plays*. This name is taken from the last stanza of the opening proclamation that the play was to be played at "N-Town." When the plays toured from town to town, "N" would be replaced by the name of the current town.

We are looking for male and female actors who are comfortable with verse.

There will also be non-speaking roles for children. Auditions will take place on

Tuesday, January 31 (evening) and Saturday, February 4 (afternoon). An appointment is required. Please e-mail or call Linda Phillips of the PLS to book your audition time and to get further information about what is involved (info@plspls.ca or 416-978-5096).

Other volunteers will be required, including ticket sellers, dressers, stage hands and a prop/set coordinator. Please speak with Fr. Mitchell if you interested in the helping in any way.

Fr. Rob Mitchell

Diamond Jubilee Portrait by Parishioner

St. Thomas's parishioner Suan-Seh Foo, MD, was commissioned in 2010 to paint a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in celebration of her Diamond Jubilee. The portrait will be on permanent display at Rhodes House, University of Oxford, and will be known as "The University of Oxford Diamond Jubilee Portrait of the Queen."

Dr. Foo is president of the Medical Alumni Association and a talented artist. His portrait of Fr. Freeland hangs in the Freeland Room, adjacent to the parish hall, and the beautiful triptych he painted hangs above the altar in the Lady Chapel. The triptych was commissioned by Fr. Freeland in 1995.

Terrence Donnelly, LLD, who received the Order of Ontario (2001) and an honorary Doctor of Law (2005) in recognition of his support for healthcare projects and research, is associated with the Institute of Cancer Medicine at Oxford University. Dr. Donnelly commissioned the portrait as a gift to Oxford University in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee in 2012. In the 85- by 58-inch painting, the Queen is standing beside the throne chair and, through an arch in the background, Oxford University's landmark St. Mary's Spire and the Radcliffe Camera can be viewed. The portrait will be unveiled at Oxford sometime in the Jubilee year. *J.A.*



St. Thomas's will celebrate the Jubilee in May.

Social Media Notes

You may have noticed the graphics below appearing in the leaflet and on bulletin boards in the parish hall. They are called QR (“quick response”) codes. Users with a QR reader application on their smart-phone can scan a code and instantly obtain information. In our case, the code below left takes users directly to our website home page, and the one on the right to our parish calendar. If you are creating posters for parish events, please consider including the QR codes. Contact Barbara Obrai for the JPG files – they can be inserted into a document like any image.



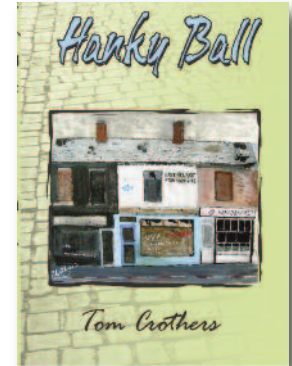
- We make regular use of Facebook, sending out reminders of events and special services. However, our friends list has remained fairly static in the past few months at 124 members. If you’re on Facebook, please do join “Saint Thomas’s Church, Toronto,” and invite friends of the parish to join, too. This will be a great tool for promoting our upcoming Lenten Play (p. 7).
- All pages on the website can also be shared instantly. Click on the “Send to Friend” icon at the bottom of any page to e-mail that particular event or announcement to those who may be interested.
- Jim Webster invests many hours in preparing our service podcasts. To access them, go to the Sights and Sounds menu tab at the top of the website home page. We’ve received e-mails of appreciation for the podcasts from as far away as Brazil!
- From Google Analytics: 1,836 people visited our website between Nov. 27 and Dec. 25, 2011.

Julia Armstrong

Spring Launches

On Wednesday, April 25, two new books will be launched in St. Thomas’s parish hall. Hannah Main-van der Kamp from British Columbia will launch a new poetry book in the St. Thomas Poetry Series: *Slow Sunday on the Malaspina Strait*. Two of her earlier books were also published in the series: *With Averted Vision* (2000) and *According to Loon Bay* (2004), the latter being described as “brilliant” by one reviewer. Her work uniquely combines spirituality with a powerful sense of the natural world.

In addition, parishioner Tom Crothers will launch his third novel in four years, *Hanky Ball*. Here is a brief description of the narrative:



Loneliness and illness bring Rita Voaden, a Canadian nurse, and “Hanky” Ball together. Hanky is terminally ill, and Rita is assigned to his nursing care. The dying man tells her his story and about the circumstances that brought him to Canada from war-torn Belfast. It is a story that completely changes the course of Rita’s life. Hanky Ball is a love story set against the savagery and tragedy of civil war – the love between a man and a woman that grows into the happiness of family; the love of humanity engendered by pity and love. Set against these is a love of country, giving rise to a perverted nationalism that breeds bigotry, hate, and violence.

If you enjoy literature, do mark your calendar and join us to hear these writers read from their new books. A reception will follow. David Kent

Dante’s *Inferno*: Lectures in Lent

During Lent, Dr. Stephen Blackwood will lead us, over four sessions, through the first book of Dante’s masterpiece, *The Divine Comedy*. Dr. Blackwood inspired many parishioners and visitors with his lectures last year on Boethius’s *The Consolation of Philosophy*. Dante picks up the tradition of using poetry and philosophy to reveal the soul’s relationship with the divine, now and eternally, with stunning, sometimes amusing, and sometimes terrifying imagery. There are two sessions on Saturdays and two on Wednesday evenings. Mark your calendars for these not-to-be-missed lectures: Saturday, March 3 and 10, and Wednesday, March 21 and 28. Fr. Mark Andrews