



PAT'S PATTER

St. Patrick's Church Newsletter

Pentecost 2007

Across the Rector's Desk

"Without vision, the people perish."
Proverbs 29:18 KJV

On the day of Pentecost many strange things happened. There was a sound like a rushing wind and flames like tongues of fire appeared. People from foreign lands heard the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ in their own languages. As the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, they experienced new found courage. Peter believes the new age of God has come and quotes the prophet Joel, "Your sons and daughters will prophesy and young men will see visions". The Church is born in great hope.

We have come through millennia since that time and those events can seem impossible to imagine happening today. We seem to live in a more cynical and less hopeful world. It can feel that rather than "every day things are getting better and better" they are getting worse and worse. We have lost the vision of the victory of Christ. We are in danger of perishing.

The season of Pentecost can be an opportunity to regain that excitement, that joy in the Lord. But each of us needs to dream dreams. We need to believe that we

can accomplish anything with God's help. How unbelievable that from a small group of Jewish believers in Jesus the Messiah has come a world faith one billion strong!

For us at St Patrick's, the idea of a parish grew into the reality we can see today. A few people had the vision and a portable and then a Church were erected. Another vision of space for the many children coming to church and the Christian Ed wing was built, the bell tower added. The vision changes with the times and we can see ourselves reaching out to seniors and the disabled: the hope for accessibility is before us.

Do we dare to dream?

The Church office is open Tuesday to Friday from 9am – 1pm. Feel free to drop by or to call and chat or make an appointment and come in.

If you are unwell at home, going into hospital or know someone who is, please give us a call. I would like to be able to pray, bring Holy Communion or simply visit with you.

In case of pastoral emergencies, please call the Church office at 416-225-5151 or the Rectory at 416-221-2024

www.stpatricksac.ca



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Warden's Corner

Listed in our last Newsletter were projects that we considered priorities. We are tackling these projects one at a time and as finances permit.

A new motor has been installed in the Furnace for circulating heat. We are currently in the process of removing clutter from the parish hall, which will also allow for more efficient circulation of heat and gives us more usable floor space.

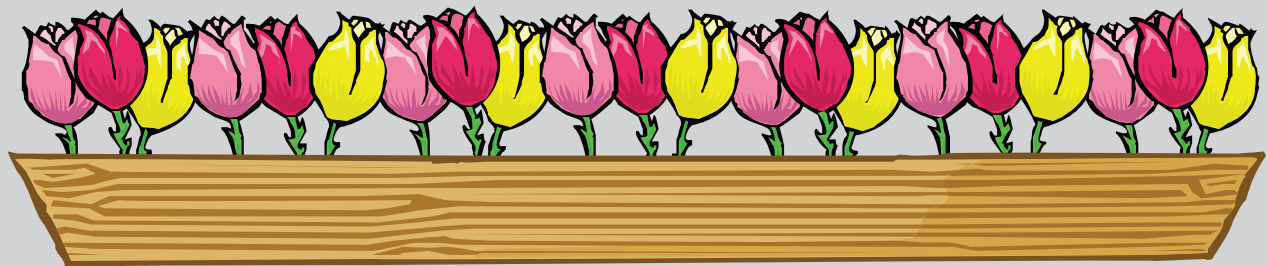
In the Parish Hall, a very attractive pine storage cabinet has been built which will house all the chairs – complete with rack; the round tables; the long white tables and card tables. A storage cabinet was one aspect of the original proposed plans put forward many years ago for the Renewal Project.

Work on a Sloped Pathway and Handrail at the East Entrance of the Church is to begin within the next few weeks and should take about a week to complete. This will allow easier access to the East Entrance.

An old friend will be returning to St. Patrick's. As some of you may remember, The North York Dog Obedience School was a tenant of ours for many years. Recently they contacted us and asked if they could use our premises once again for dog obedience training. They will begin their tenancy with us in September and their contract will be reviewed in one year.

Members of a Romanian Orthodox Church approached us who were looking for space to rent for their Sunday services. The only space available would be the Scout Room, which they feel would suit their purpose. The ceiling is in a bad state and would need to be replaced. This is one of the projects mentioned in our last newsletter. If we were to decided to go ahead and replace the ceiling and let the Romanian Church use this room, their rental fee would cover the cost of this project in just a little more than a year!

Spring is well under way and we will soon be looking for volunteers for our annual spring clean up! There is work to be done inside the church and kitchen and outside on the grounds, weather permitting! A date will be announced soon.



May 3-5, 2007 Synod Report

In addition to our own five Bishops, we had in attendance Archbishop Lawrence, The Metropolitan of Ontario, and Archbishop Hutcheson, our Primate.

Our theme was Building Communities of Hope and Compassion through Healthy, Vibrant Parish Ministries.

This Synod was different from other Synods in several ways.

First, it was residential where all members literally moved into Student dorm rooms for two nights. This allowed for longer meetings and gave Synod members the opportunity to meet informally outside of Synod hours for breakfast and drinks.

Second we met at the same time as Youth Synod. Youths are mostly University students. They have different perspectives on many things. They were also in residence and had their own meetings. But they also joined us for some matters and sometimes Synod was led by them. I found it incredibly encouraging that these young people are so committed. In the future the Church will be in their hands and from what I saw those will be good hands.

Third were the financial matters. Previous Synods have always received last year's statements, and been presented with next year's budget for review, lengthy discussion, and then passed the budget with any amendments Synod made. That financial Synod will be held in November when previous Synods have been held. We did review long range planning and general directions. Changes are being introduced to reduce levels of hierarchy and streamline decision making to help Parishes move forward with their ideas. We

are seeking a resource re-allocation to transform the Diocese. Due to financial realities, we are also looking to cut our expenses over a several year time frame and that was discussed. In his Charge to Synod, Bishop Johnson said that Jesus spoke of pruning, pruning to allow new, strong, growth to reach out.

We had a presentation from the Council of the North representing 85% of Canada's land mass and 15% of its people. It is highly dependent on outsiders like us. Put simply: when the Diocese reduces its budget, fewer dollars go to the National Church. Fewer National Church dollars equals fewer clergy. Despite cutbacks we are going to try to maintain our support for the North at current levels. This is important as we are the most populous Diocese in Canada and in North America.

Our major presentation was on HIV/Aids. There are 4500 cases in Toronto. In Africa 2 million died last year. Bishop Johnson gave a report on his visit to Uganda. Bishop Poole reported on his visit to South Africa. They spoke of 13 year old children raising their younger siblings and some households run by 8 year olds and others by grandmothers. We support clinics. We support intensive education to teach ways to avoid the disease. We were informed of the many things the Anglican Church is doing. A strong connection was drawn between HIV/Aids, women's rights and poverty especially in the televised talk by Stephen Lewis. He said that on a per capita basis Canada is the largest contributor in the world in fighting HIV/Aids. After hearing the talk by Stephen Lewis, one Synod lady went to the microphone and said "What is desperately needed is money for the African clinics." She said that the people at her table were emptying their pockets and

May 3-5, 2007 Synod Report *cont'd*

wallets/purses and suggested others do the same. Bishop Johnson said I bet we can raise \$10,000 tonight. The lady went and got a large salad bowl and started going around collecting donations. Then another lady got a bowl. Then someone found a box to put at the front to dump the salad bowls into when they were full. On Saturday it was reported that we collected almost \$13,000. If anyone reading this is sorry that they were not there to contribute, I know that St Patrick's can arrange to send your contribution along.

We received reports from Diocesan Council, Faithworks, and the Ministry Allocation Fund Committee. The latter was of particular interest because it is a new fund set up by changes to the Canons (church laws). We are now seeing some results.

We spent time on changes to various Canons. Some passed easily and some led to very long discussions, and carefully counted votes.

Submitted by Paul Crowe

Coffee Hour



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all who have hosted Coffee Hour in 2006 to date, as well as to the many helping hands who contribute to "making work light".

Recently, we have been serving you Fair Trade coffee. We would like your feedback: Do you like this coffee; is it strong, too strong; weak; too weak or just right? Tell Delores.

We will have some information on Fair Trade Coffee and why we are supporting this project.

With prayerful best wishes for a relaxing summer.

Delores

Treasurer's Report

Remember?

At Vestry in February you approved the 2007 forecast which included a small 1.5% (1.5 cents on the dollar) increase in Regular Envelope Offerings.

By the end of April instead of the increase we experienced a significant decrease of about 11% less than forecast.

'Nuff said?

P.S. Although there is a deficit in the Operating Fund all other funds are "in the black" and we are Not in Debt!

P.P.S. Average weekly total donations to all funds (Operating, Capital, Memorials etc) for the first quarter of the year:

2006 \$2,046.06

2007 \$1,719.42

Ode to the Choir Director

(Tune: St. Denio) (Immortal, Invisible)

1. Immoral, impossible, God only knows
how tenors and basses, sopranos, altos
at service on Sunday are rarely the same
as those who on Thursday to choir practice came.
2. Unready, unable to sight-read the notes,
nor counting, nor blending, they tighten their throats.
The descant so piercing is soaring above,
the melody only a mother could love.
3. They have a director, but no-one knows why
no-one in the choir deigns to turn him (her) an eye.
It's clear by his (her) waving, he (she) wants them to look,
but each of them stands with their nose in the book.
4. Despite the offences, the music rings out.
The folk in the pews are enraptured, no doubt.
Their faces are blissful, their thoughts are so deep,
but it is no wonder, for they are asleep.

Original verse 1 by Austin Lovelace.

Verses 2-4 added by Ron Hodges (choir of St. Mark's, Palo Alto, CA)
for church's 50th anniversary in November 1998.

COMPOSER'S CORNER - Marty Haugen

Marty Haugen was born on December 30th, 1950, in the small town of Wanamingo, Minnesota. After graduation from Luther College (He is Lutheran by heritage) in Decorah, Iowa, with a psychology degree, he embarked on a musical career. He currently serves as a composer in residence at Mayflower United Church of Christ in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

His Music

Marty Haugen composes for both Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations, and has over 400 compositions and 29 recordings to his name. For the past 15 years he has led workshops across North America, Europe, Australia and Central America. His music has a 'folk-like' quality to it, which makes it easy to learn and fun to sing. You will find numerous selections of his works in many hymnals around the world. Our own hymnal 'Common Praise' has 14 of his hymns listed. (I counted them). During the Easter season we have been singing two of his hymns: "We walk by faith" (#244) and "Alleluia" (#712). Many of our "focus" hymns were composed by Marty Haugen: 'You are the salt of the earth' (#502), 'Singing Songs of Expectation' (#536) (arrangement only), 'Eye Has Not Seen, Ear Has Not Heard' (#548), 'Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery' (#179) and 'Wind upon the Waters' (#408). Be on the look-out for more hymns by Marty Haugen.

Submitted by Judy Bradshaw



Coming Attractions

Planned by the Special Events Committee for enjoyment and fellowship.
Any profit from these events is placed in the Capital Expenditure Fund.

- June 10** Parish Picnic following the 10:30am service.
- July 14** The St Patrick's Annual Golf Tournament and B B Q
- September 16** "Bringing back the sheep" lunch
- September 29** The ever-popular Autumn Leaves Dinner
- October 27** Fall Card Party and Luncheon
- November 17** Talents and Treasures Auction

Back by Popular Demand

Fitness for the Young at Heart 2nd and 3rd Fridays, begins September 14 at 10am.

St Patrick's Book Club 4th Fridays, begins September 28 at 9:30 am with The Memory Keeper's Daughter.
Pick up a brochure for all the books in June.

New!

Watch for "Christian Art"
"Safety for Seniors"
"Funeral Planning"
"Coping with Bereavement"

For more information on any of the events, please call the Church office, 416-225-5151.

Up-Coming Services

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| June 10 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 2 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist | August 12 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 11 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist |
| June 17 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 3 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & Healing | August 19 8:00am 10:30am Healing | Pentecost 12 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & |
| June 24 8:00am 10:30am | St John the Baptist Holy Eucharist Morning Prayer | August 26 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 13 Holy Eucharist Morning Prayer |
| July 1 9:30am | Pentecost 5 Holy Eucharist | September 2 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 14 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist |
| July 8 9:30am | Pentecost 6 Holy Eucharist | September 9 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 15 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist |
| July 15 9:30am | Pentecost 7 Morning Prayer | September 16 8:00am 10:30am Healing | Pentecost 16 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & |
| July 22 9:30am | Pentecost 8 Morning Prayer | September 23 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 17 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist |
| July 29 9:30am | Pentecost 9 Morning Prayer | | |
| <i>Note:</i> | | | |
| <i>During July there will be no Thursday morning service.</i> | | | |
| <i>It will resume August 2.</i> | | | |

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| August 5 8:00am 10:30am | Pentecost 10 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist |
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