



# PAT'S PATTYER

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**St. Patrick's Church Newsletter**  
**www.stpatricksac.ca**

HARVEST 2010

## Across the Rector's Desk

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

*- From the General Thanksgiving*

Our Human tendency is to accept our accomplishments as our own doing and our failures/problems as God's fault. Maybe we give thanks for the good things in life – but our disappointments and failures – never.

What does this prayer mean to convey: that God sends us difficulties so that we may fail and then put our trust in him? That seems very manipulative. Does God manipulate us into loving him? As St Paul would say "by no means".

From a purely human perspective, disappointments and failures can cause bitterness, can lead to poor self esteem, make us afraid to try anything new whether new relationships or new things. We may learn something. From a "religious" perspective, we may become bitter towards God as in God never answers my prayers, or God sent this to try me. There seems to be a lack of accountability: God didn't fix it.

From a Spiritual or theological perspective acknowledging our dependence on God gives us a different understanding of the relationship with God. It doesn't mean God makes happen everything in our lives good or bad. It

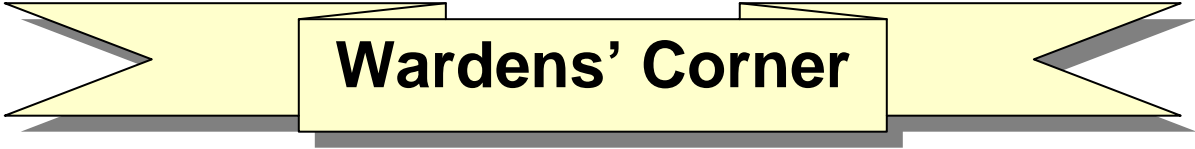
doesn't mean "I didn't depend on God therefore I failed." Rather it means we rely on God in all we do. Not that we don't fail or be disappointed but it is our reliance on God that gets us through these events in life without bitterness, without blaming others, without turning away from God.

Thanks be to God that when we get into messes of our own devising or simply through happenstance we can depend on God not to get us out of them or fix them but to lead us through failure, disappointment, despair to be stronger, more faithful and more aware of our relationship with God.

To paraphrase the original quote: *we thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone to love us, strengthen us, guide us, heal us, and lead us through whatever may befall us.*

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*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*



## Wardens' Corner

The summer of 2010 has been beautiful – just enough rain, interspersed with brilliant sunlight, to allow the gardens to flourish – with a fair measure of heat to remind us that this is traditionally the warmest time of the year in Southern Ontario.

The Wardens have been busy during the summer with several very necessary projects at the Rectory, all of which were essential to refurbish the 50 year old building to modern standards. The kitchen and washrooms were repaired; the garage was repaved as recommended in the building inspector's report of 2008. We were delighted to receive a grant of \$5,000 from the Carlton Fund towards the cost of these projects (the Carlton Fund dispenses funds specifically for needed work to rectories) and the grant allowed us to complete the most urgent repair requirements in the kitchen and bathrooms.

The heavy rains experienced this summer resulted in the appearance of multiple leaks in the rectory roof, the result of severe cracking in the shingles – in August, the leaking caused the collapse of the ceiling in one bedroom. A new roof was installed after a great deal of research to obtain the most reasonable quotation and assure the use of good quality materials.

Next on the agenda for the Wardens is a review of contracts for groundskeeping and snow removal, with emphasis on cost containment.

Welcome back to all from summer vacation – we're looking forward to a terrific Autumn!

*The Wardens*

### EMERGENCY!

**A leaking Rectory Roof caused a bedroom ceiling to collapse! Roof and essential repairs will cost about \$10,000. Your help with a special gift marked "Rectory Roof" to help with this unexpected expense will be most appreciated.**

*Bert Chandler*

# Financial Update

St. Patrick's Finances updated: January 1, 2010 to July 31, 2010

**OPERATING FUND:**

Revenue	Forecast	\$103,972
	Actual	100,530
 Expenditure	Forecast	 \$116,851
	Actual	 112,486
 Deficit	Forecast	 \$ 12,879
	Actual	 11,956
 Balance	Forecast	 \$ 7,439
	Actual	 8,362

Shortfall in Revenue was largely offset by savings effected in Expenditures, resulting in the July 31 balance being better than anticipated. However, it is noted that regular offerings to Ministry (top line on the weekly envelopes) at \$42,579 was \$4,421 (about 9%) short of the forecast.

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND OTHER FUNDS:**

Major expenses were incurred in Capital Funds, but all funds are "in the black".

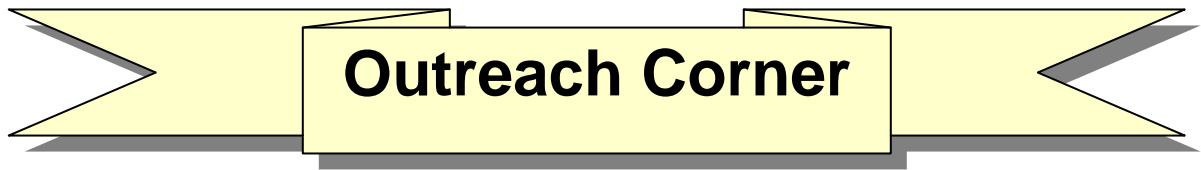
**ASSETS:**

	<u>Jan 1/10</u>	<u>July 31/10</u>
Cash on deposit	\$31,524	\$13,201
Term deposits	<u>25,008</u>	<u>25,000</u>
	\$56,532	\$38,201
 Liabilities	 none	

Assets have benefited from a Diocesan Grant of \$5,000 from the Carleton Fund to help pay for major repairs to the Rectory, which do not include the Rectory Roof and related work (see Emergency – page 2), and the cost of which will reduce the Assets in August.

*Bert Chandler*  
Treasurer

E. & O. E.



# Outreach Corner

Email received from Paul Thistle – July 6, 2010

Dear Reverend Kovar,

It is with sincere appreciation that I received your letter and gift in the mail yesterday.

With this letter, I would like to formally express our thanks to you and the good folk of the Thursday morning group for your kindness. Your loonies and toonies go a long way on our shoe string budget to provide hope and health to thousands of people in our surrounding villages.

I regret not having the privilege of participating in worship at St. Patrick's this year. The Lord willing we hope that we will see each other again in 2011.

Please accept this letter as a small token of gratitude for journeying the extra mile with us on the dusty dirt roads of Chiweshe. Your contribution positively influences the health and wellbeing of the rural poor in this corner of Zimbabwe.

Thank you.

Paul

Captain Paul Thistle BSc (Hon), MD, FRSCS (Ob/Gyn), LL.D  
The Salvation Army Howard Hospital, PO Box 190  
Glendale Zimbabwe

Letter forwarded by Paul Thistle – July 2010

Howard Hospital, Box 190, Glendale, Zimbambwe

Dear Delores Thomas,

I am so pleased to write this letter to you. How is life over that side of Toronto. Here we are fine and the boys are doing well.

Our project is not going well. We were sewing uniforms but people they don't have money to pay so we were charging with maize. So we only bought two cows with the maize we exchange.

By now we have no money. So these cows we were waiting for the electric project, which is going to be done this year in August. We are going to sell them and have to share the money, so that we can have something we have done in our project.

May God bless you all  
Elizabeth Mufuka

# Just for Laughs!

## Zen Sarcasm

Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me either. Just pretty much leave me alone.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and leaky tire.

It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal your neighbors' newspaper, that's the time to do it.

Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

Always remember that you're unique. Just like everyone else.

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Some days you're the bug; some days you're the windshield.

Everyone seems normal until you get to know him or her.

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

Duct tape is like 'The Force'. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.

Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

Never, under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

### **In the category of 'you just can't win':**

The all-male pick-a-preacher committee had the job of deciding if the latest applicant had what it takes to be their minister. They didn't quite know how to proceed, because this candidate was a woman.

"Let's take her fishing," suggested one of the committee members.

Out they went, early in the morning, the five men and the minister. Soon they were busy casting for trout, when the line of one of the men got snagged on a floating log. His tugging wouldn't dislodge it.

So the lady minister stepped out of the boat, walked across the surface of the water, unhooked the snag, and walked back into the boat.

"Hmmmph" muttered one of the men. "Just like a woman. Can't swim!"

# Spiritual Learning

## To Expand our Minds – FILM SERIES

The first 2 films are a tie-in with the book being read by the Book Club in January 2011. All are included to provoke, and to encourage discussion. As in past series some scenes and language may be disturbing.

Wednesday, October	6	Priest
Wednesday, October	13	Doubt
Wednesday, October	20	Dogma
Wednesday, October	27	Shadowlands
Wednesday, November	3	Philadelphia

Each movie begins at 1pm followed by a discussion and ends at 4pm.

Beginning November 24, 4 Wednesdays of Advent preparation for Christmas.

## BOOK CLUB

The “Book Club” is a group of people who love to read books and enjoy discussing them. Anyone can attend a meeting, but it’s helpful if you have read the book of the month. The group meets from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the church on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, September to May, except December.

We resume on September 24, 2010 with a discussion of “The Other Boleyn Girl” by Philippa Gregory. The brochure listing all the books scheduled for 2010/11 is available.

## ***Prayer Corner***

The following ancient prayer was written by Augustine of Hippo (354-430).

### ***‘The House of the Soul***

***O Lord, the house of my soul is narrow; enlarge it, that You may enter in.***

***It is ruinous, O repair it! It displeases Your sight; I confess it, I know.***

***But who shall cleanse it, to whom shall I cry but to You?***

***Cleanse me from my secret faults, O Lord, and spare Your servant from strange sins.’***

This famous quote is from Augustine of Hippo:

**‘You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.’**

Delores Thomas  
Parish Prayer Rep

You are invited to submit a prayer for publication – it can be a favourite or one composed by you.



# Up-Coming Services

**September 5 Pentecost 15**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**November 1 All Saints**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**September 12 Pentecost 16**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**November 7 Remembrance Day**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**September 19 Pentecost 17**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist & Healing

**November 14 Pentecost 25**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist & Healing

**September 26 Pentecost 18**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**November 21 Christ the King**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**October 3 Harvest Thanksgiving**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**November 27 Advent 1**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**October 10 Pentecost 20**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

**October 17 Pentecost 21**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist & Healing

**October 24 Pentecost 22**

8:00am Holy Eucharist  
10:30am Choral Eucharist

