



PAT'S PATT'ER

St. Patrick's Church Newsletter

PENTECOST 2011

www.stpatricksac.ca

Across the Rector's Desk

Spirit is a word much in vogue today and used in a multitude of ways. Even the outspoken shrill voices of atheists talk about the spirit of a person or an organization or even the spirit of an age. And everyone gives weight to the spirituality of humans.

But the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the attendant signs of new life and power and experience, is of a totally different order and of a totally different nature. Perhaps this can be best seen in the words of Jesus when he promised:

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

(John 16:13,14)

It is not that the Spirit was not present before, it is not that there was no spiritual dimension to human existence before Pentecost. But clearly the coming of the Spirit ushered in a new age in human experience and understanding of the creator God.

Whereas we might think of the universality of human spirituality, this new life and energy that the Holy Spirit brings is different because it is given in response to faith and belief. It is the life of the new creation that Christ promised, the ultimate new heaven and earth that will finally be the kingdom of God. To realize this God

requires a response from us, a commitment to follow Jesus.

Why don't we experience more of this life-giving work of the Spirit?

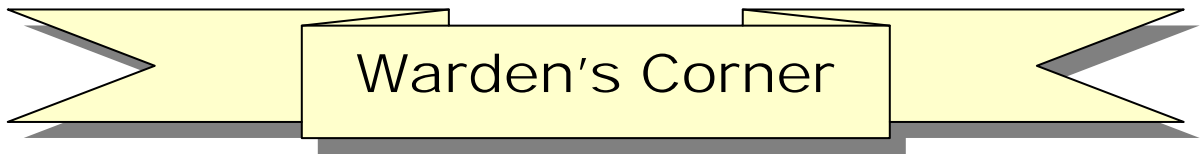
Is it because we haven't asked? Jesus said **"ask and you will receive"** (John 16:24).

Is it because we have allowed too much else to fill our lives and our time that there is no more room for God? **Jesus said "blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."** (Matt 5:6)

Is it because we are too busy that we haven't stopped to wait upon the Lord? Jesus told his disciples to **"wait for the promise of the Father when they would receive power."** (Acts 1:4,8)

The day of Pentecost marks the beginning of the church, the beginning of the age of the Spirit. For us it is a good time to reflect on our commitment to the work of God in our lives and our world by his Holy Spirit. It is a good time to quietly ask to be once again filled with the fullness of God – so that we can truly serve Christ all our days.

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.



Warden's Corner

Spring has finally arrived! ... and with it lots of activity for your Wardens!

Foremost, we'll be welcoming our new priest-in-charge, The Reverend Claire Goodrich Dyer, on August 1 -- Claire has been appointed by our area Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu, for a fixed term until May 30, 2014. This exciting event means that Claire will occupy the Rectory and selected refurbishment work must begin immediately; some rooms which had not been painted in many years will be repainted, replacement light fixtures will be installed, and worn carpeting replaced. Where possible, old carpeting is being removed to reveal hardwood floors.

The Special Events Group hosted a very successful garage sale at the Rectory in May, and managed to sell some items left over from the previous priest's residency! Proceeds of the sale totaled more than \$600.

Plans are in the early stages for a parish visitation programme during the coming months. Fresh plantings, and some general garden clean-up have been in progress around the Church building. St. Patrick's parishioners responded with their usual generosity to the disaster in Japan, and all monies collected were forwarded directly to the Canadian Red Cross for use in the ongoing relief efforts.

St. George's final services with us will be on July 31 followed by a special reception for St. Patrick's, hosted by St. George's, after the 10:30 Eucharist. Our best wishes will go with St. George's as they resume their parish journey in their beautiful new building.

The Wardens

How Are We Doing Money-wise?

<u>Compare this year with last:</u>	<u>As of April 30/10</u>	<u>As of April 30/11</u>
Operating Fund:		
Revenue:		
Offerings	\$25,350	\$19,928
Shared Costs	30,716	36,670
York Rectory Fund	1,480	1,480
Other Revenue	<u>1,023</u>	<u>4,074</u>
	\$58,569	\$62,152
Expenditures:		
Personnel	28,708	19,641
Church & Parish Hall	21,741	22,657
Allotment	7,154	7,344
Rectory	4,564	4,902
Groundskeeping	4,510	6,817
Sundry	3,178	3,782
Communications	<u>1,640</u>	<u>885</u>
	\$71,495	\$ 66,028
Excess (deficit) revenue over expenses:	(\$12,926)	(\$ 3,876)

The considerable drop in offerings has been offset mostly by increased revenue from Shared Costs and reduced expenditures.

Good News

It's a Party!

During the summer the people of St. Patrick's will be formally invited to be the guests of the corporation at a Celebratory Dinner on
Saturday, September 24

to welcome and embrace (in a metaphorical sense!) Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer, our new minister, and celebrate our achievements over the years. An opportunity to renew old friendships and enjoy!

There will be no charge for this event. Planning is underway and details will be announced later, but you may expect a dinner, supplied by a reputable caterer. This is a night for good food, good company and happiness!

Summer is here!

Christmas is coming!

You are surely familiar with the Canadian Tire Toy Drive which we have conducted together with the good folks at St. John's York Mills over the past number of years.

Canadian Tire coupons and cash donations are traded at Canadian Tire on a "2 for 1" basis. Every one dollar of coupons or cash purchases two dollars of gifts for needy youth and children.


Last Christmas our combined effort meant we were able to supply \$3,600 of gifts to Robertson House Women's/ Children's Centre and St. Stephen's Downsview Youth Covenant.

Your support is appreciated; any coupons may be given to me, left in the box in the Narthex or delivered to the Church Office. Cash donations or cheques should be identified as "Toy Drive". Cheques should be made payable to St. Patrick's Church. Receipts will be issued in the usual way.

Thanks for your help!

Bert Chandler





OUTREACH CORNER

The following is an abridgement of Dr. Paul Thistle's most recent newsletter.

Dear Friends,

March 2011

It has been a season of wet weather and inclement socio-economic conditions at Howard in 2011. The heavy rains have brought disease and everything from malnutrition to malaria, from road accidents to animal bites.

For the average Zimbabwean health care is inaccessible and unaffordable, starting with the costs of transport to the nearest hospital and continuing with the country's 'fee for service' public health system. Recent negative national statistics reflect this reality: An increasing number of children (82 out of 1000) will die before the age of five. Maternal mortality has quadrupled in the last ten years. Coupling this last statistic with the HIV pandemic, it is no wonder that 1 in 4 children in Zimbabwe are orphaned, the highest ratio in the world. The underprivileged are on the outside looking in. 'If you are poor, no one talks to you,' was a comment at our recent Zimbabwean Strategic Planning Workshop for Health.

Howard Hospital has been heavily hampered by a zero operating grant from the Ministry of Health in 2011. In the absence of government funds, we either have to pass our costs onto the patient or rely on the support of our friends abroad. We are grateful for the recent containers from Direct Relief in the US and Health Partners in Canada that have restocked our supply rooms. But there remain the day to day emergencies that require cash flow.

Some good news: our new cervical cancer screening sponsored by Rotary Clubs in Toronto has promoted and protected the health of thousands of women in our community. 100's of our Home Based Care volunteers have been supported by the Stephen Lewis Foundation in the training, and the implementation of income generation projects. Our Ve'ahavta sponsored HIV mother to child transmission project was recently presented at an international scientific meeting.

Please remember the following requests for prayers:

.....National unity and economic stability in Zimbabwe. The rumours and rattlings of an election will set back the country's recovery.

.....Accommodation of our health care workers. We thank God for renewed support in this area from our 'Peterborough people' amongst others.

.....Our community projects: Home Based Care, the Tariro 'Hope' Clinic, our Orphan and Vulnerable Children program, and our latest initiative to support Mothers Living with HIV.

.....Finances for the daily operations of the hospital. Our patients cannot afford the current fee schedule. We need more folk who will consider direct support for Howard Hospital such that we can provide for the poorest in our community.

.....The completion of our new midwifery school and the new hospital.

.....Safety and sanity for the Thistle family in all situations.

There remains deep satisfaction in caring for people unconditionally, constantly, year after year, simply because they are God's creation, created in his image, deserving of our care and respect.

We look forward to seeing many of our friends and family when home this summer.

Paul and Pedrinah, James and Alexander

Just for Laughs!

Selected excerpts from "The Gospel of Golf"

"If a lot of people gripped a knife and fork as poorly as they do a golf club, they'd starve to death."

- Sam Snead

"Golf appeals to the idiot in us and the child. Just how childlike golf players become is proven by their frequent inability to count past five."

- John Updike

"Man blames fate for all other accidents, but feels personally responsible when he makes a hole-in-one".

- Bishop Sheen

"If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt."

- Dean Martin

The reason grandparents and grandchildren get along so well is that they have a common enemy!

- Margaret Mead

Anglican Definitions:

Ushers – the only guys in the church who still do not know the actual seating capacity of a pew.

Relics – older Anglicans who still remember when to sit, stand and kneel during an Anglican service.

George Bernard Shaw said ...

"My reputation grows with every failure."

"The secret to success is to offend the greatest number of people."

"If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance."

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."

"A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. "



Thinking of others...

Prayer Corner

I said a Prayer for You Today

I said a prayer for you today
And know God must have heard -
I felt the answer in my heart
although He spoke no word.

I didn't ask for wealth or fame.
I knew you wouldn't mind.
I asked Him to send treasures
of a far more lasting kind.

I asked that He'd be near you
at the start of each new day.
To grant you health and blessings
and friends to share your way.

I asked for happiness for you
in all things great and small.
But it was for his loving care
I prayed the most of all.

Submitted by *Ann Young*

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

Delores Thomas

Parish Newsletter Prayer Coordinator

(The following reprinted from 2009:)

CANADIAN GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

January 30, 2009

Dear Capt. Mort Lightstone and Aircrew Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind to acknowledge receipt and **thank all of you** for the boxes of used stamps delivered to us yesterday. We appreciate your time and effort to collect the stamps and your interest in helping our organization to reach its goals.

We continue to raise money with this initiative, thanks to the help of our volunteers who process the stamps for us before they are sold. We would be pleased to receive more stamps from you in the future.

We wish you all the best in 2009.

Sincerely

Caroline David,

National Office & Training Centre

4120 Rideau Valley Rive North

P. O. Box 280, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A3

FLIGHT PLAN Editor's Comment:

Good work ladies and gentlemen, let's keep those stamps coming; there is always a deposit box at our General Meetings available for the stamps YOU have collected.

Why not ask your family, neighbours and friends to save stamps for us.



Although the above was written some time ago, the programme is ongoing. I'll be happy to take your postage stamps to the Aircrew Association for forwarding. Stamps can be left in the box in the Narthex, dropped off at the Church office, or given to me.

Thanks.

Bert Chandler



Coming Attractions

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

**July 16
6 pm**

Evening BBQ at the Rectory

... celebrate summer with delicious BBQ foods

September 11

“Bringing Back the Sheep” Lunch

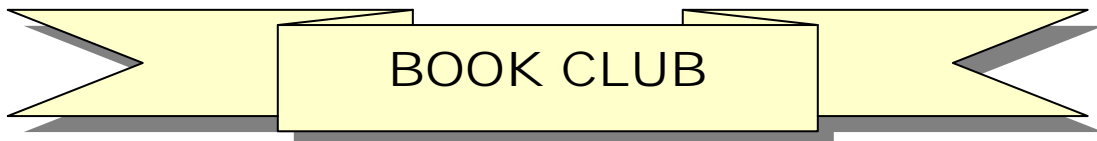
Following the 10:30am Service

September 24

Parish Celebratory Dinner

... welcome our new Priest and renew old friendships as the guests of the Corporation

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



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 4th Friday of each month, September to May, except December.

We resume on September 23, 2011. The brochure outlining the books for 2011/12 will be available at the beginning of September.

Upcoming Services

June 12 8 am 10:30 am	Day of Pentecost Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist	Aug 7 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 8 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist
June 19 8 am 10:30 am	Trinity Sunday Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist and Healing	Aug 14 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 9 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist
June 26 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 2 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist	Aug 21 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 10 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & Healing
		Aug 28 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 11 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist
July 3 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 3 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist		
July 10 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 4 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist	Sept 4 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 12 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist
July 17 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 5 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & Healing	Sept 11 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 13 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist
July 24 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 6 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist	Sept 18 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 14 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist & Healing
July 31 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 7 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist (final service with St. George's – reception to follow 10:30 service)	Sept 25 8 am 10:30 am	Pentecost 15 Holy Eucharist Choral Eucharist

