



PAT'S PATTTER

St. Patrick's Church Newsletter

HARVEST 2011

www.stpatricksac.ca

Across the Rector's Desk

Dear people of St. Patrick's,

It is good to be amongst you and doing Christ's ministry together in this corner of his kingdom. I am gradually getting to know you and learn something of the parish's wonderful history. St. Patrick's ministry through the years has indeed been amazing.

For those who I have not met yet, you may like to know something about me. I was born during the war in England at a place of convenience (close to my grandparent's home). Since then I have been on the move. I am fourth generation priest so my whole life has been connected with the Church. Except for a few years, my father's ministry was as a Chaplain in the Royal Air Force so growing up I lived in Scotland, England, Singapore and Cyprus.

I trained in Portsmouth as an X-ray technician and having worked in England for a while volunteered for work overseas. For my sins, I was sent to St. Lucia and then Montserrat where I met my husband. In the 70's we immigrated to Toronto. I have two daughters – one who is in Vancouver with her husband and two children and one here in Toronto, who you may have met, with her husband and daughter.

My whole family is extremely diverse. My sister married a Pakistani Muslim and my brother a Somali Muslim. I was only marginally better for my poor Presbyterian mother. I married a West Indian Roman Catholic. So you can understand my interest in Interfaith and my passion for Social Justice. For most of my life, my physical home has been wherever I hang my hat. My spiritual home, however, is with the Sisters of St. John the Divine with whom I have been an associate for the last 23 years.

In the 90's, I felt the call to move from caring for bodies to caring for souls – as a lay person I might add – so I started part time studies at Wycliffe. Being a layperson for the rest of my life was not to be and so, when the girls finished university, I left my hospital job to study full-time and was led into finally being ordained in 2003. The rest, as they say is history!

I am connected with many areas of the church and beyond. I served as a lay member of the Synod and sat on Bishop's Area Council and the Diocesan Community Ministries Board. At present I am connected with Mosaic, an interfaith group of seven different faiths up the Bayview corridor. In the National church, I sit on the board of the ecumenical Canadian Churches Forum for Global Ministries, in the diocese I am on the FaithWorks allocations committee and am also a board member of the Canadian Friends to West Indian Christians. Because of this, I may not be in the office every day.

It is beholden on us to connect beyond the parish but first and foremost I am your parish priest and you all come first 24/7. I have a cottage in 'Church Camp' just east of Barrie and escape there on my days off in the summer but for emergencies I am available there also. You may contact me through Pat in the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings but for pastoral emergencies don't hesitate to call me at the rectory – 416-221-2024 – I often work at home.

I hope to meet you all soon but in the meantime, God bless.

Your priest and pastor,

Rev. Claire

YOUR MONEY

In this year of change, much of it unplanned, your money has been managed to yield positive results.

However, within the Operating Fund there is both good and bad news. Offerings to this fund as of August 31 are down by \$11,375.00 compared to the same period last year. The good news is that this was offset by increased revenue from Shared Costs and other sources, which, together with lower expenditures, result in a modest surplus of \$1,499.00.

Examination of the total of all funds shows that revenue exceeded expenditures by \$3,179.00.

Bert Chandler

Reaching Out!

As of August 31 we have donated \$3,568 between FaithWorks, Japan and Somalia Relief and the Christian Children's Fund. There are other worthy causes that merit our support if only we had the money – we have some set aside for the Christian Children's Fund and the Toy Drive.



In the meantime, urgently needed food items in the food box in the Narthex are taken regularly to the Flemingdon Park Food Bank. We continue to solicit Canadian Tire coupons and donations for the Toy Drive and stamps for "Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind".

Please consider how you can help.

Your Outreach Committee

P. S. The most urgently needed items for Flemingdon Park Food Bank are baby food and diapers, Kraft Dinner, cereals and canned fish.

PARISH UPDATE

Our Faith, Our Hope – Re-imagining Church

Archbishop Colin Johnson and the Diocese of Toronto are in the midst of a major campaign to enable us to respond to the challenges of a rapidly changing society. The vision is as follows:

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Today our Church and parish communities are faced with new needs and blessed with exciting opportunities to respond to God's call to draw all people to the light of Christ. We possess valuable resources, but the needs of our communities call us to do more. We must keep our parishes strong, continue to teach our faith, and reach out to those in need. We are challenged to renew, Re-Imagine, and revitalize the Church of tomorrow. The strategic objectives are:

- 1) *Strengthening local parishes*
- 2) *Building the Church for tomorrow*
- 3) *Revitalizing our inheritance*
- 4) *Giving to others*

I strongly support this diocesan campaign as it focuses on ministry to those who are outside our church and not on church buildings.

40% of the money raised comes back to the parishes and I am excited that St. Patrick's will spend much of that on a similar focus by establishing a trust fund in the name of St. Patrick's for future theological students.

Every parish in the diocese is participating and every parishioner will be approached. The aim is to give each Anglican a chance to be a part of this vision.

Over the next few weeks either I or a lay member of the parish will be contacting you. I welcome this opportunity to get to know more about you all so that I can serve you better.

Rev. Claire

Just for Laughs!

Real-life Humour:

Aboard an airplane one day, everything was going fine until someone noticed smoke coming out of one of the engines. The pilot came on the PA and announced "I'm sorry to inform you that one of our engines has failed, but don't worry we still have three more. This will just mean a slight delay in our scheduled arrival time. Just to re-assure you, I'd also like you to know that nothing will happen to this plane as we have four ministers of religion on board." Someone at the back of the plane piped up "I'd feel happier if we had four engines and three ministers!"

- from Javacasa.com

Thinking of others...

Prayer Corner

The Door of Prayer

When you feel you are forgotten
and no-one seems to care,
Close the door on all your troubles
and open one in prayer.
Let the light and love surround you
and leave the world behind,
and with the healing gift of prayer
discover peace of mind.

When your rocky road seems
endless
without a bend or turn
Light a candle in the darkness
and watch it gently burn.
Seek the hidden strength within
you
and find new courage there,
Close the door on all your troubles
and open one in **Prayer**.

Iris Hesselden

*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
Fellowship of Prayer
Bishop's Committee on Prayer

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'.



Coming Attractions

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

Sunday, December 18 Bake Sale

(other activities are in the planning stage -
watch the Fridge Notes for details)

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, October 2011 to May 2012, except November.

Our first meeting will be on October 28, 2011 with a discussion of "Lamb, The Gospel according to Biff" by Christopher Moore. Following selections are: December 2 - "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett, January 27 - "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Mira Bartok, February 24 - "Blind Faith" by C. J. Lyons, March 23 - "Shake Hands with the Devil" by Romeo Dallaire, April 27 - "Safe Haven" by Nicholas Sparks, May 25 - "The Egoboom" by Steve Maich and Lianne George.



Upcoming Services

October 9 Harvest Thanksgiving
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

October 16 Pentecost 18
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

October 23 Pentecost 19
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

October 30 Pentecost 20
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Morning Prayer

November 6 All Saints Day
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist – Remembrance
Day Service

November 13 Pentecost 22
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist – Outreach
Speaker

November 20 Reign of Christ
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

November 27 Advent Sunday
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

December 4 Commitment Sunday
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

December 10 (Saturday)
1 pm Healing and Bereavement
Service

December 11 Advent 3
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

December 18 Advent 4
8 am BCP Holy Communion
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

December 24 Christmas Eve
10:30 pm Sung Eucharist

December 25 Christmas Day
10:30 am BCP Holy Communion

Mid-week Eucharists:

Thursday, October 13 – 10:30 am

Thursday, October 20 – 10:30 am

Wednesday, November 2 – 10:30 am
(All Souls)

Thursday, November 17 – 10:30 am

Thursday, November 24 – 10:30 am

Wednesday, November 30 – 10:30 am

Thursday, December 8 – 10:30 am

Thursday, December 15 – 10:30 am

Thursday, December 22 – 10:30 am