



THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Dr David Kent & Dr Margo Swiss
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MICHAELMAS 2005

An occasional Newsletter for Parishioners and Friends of Saint Thomas's Church, Toronto

Choir Sings Daily Services at York Minster, Gloucester

*Parishioners accompanying
hail trip to England
"Remarkable undertaking"
- Tuttle*

*Reflections of the
tour organizer*

by David Montgomery, tenor

Six years ago when I booked a week of singing at York Minster I had no idea I'd actually be singing there with another choir from another city. When the idea was advanced for us at St Thomas's, I was overwhelmed by the positive response from everyone; clearly this was something that our Parish truly wanted to do. Normally it takes considerable lead time to be accepted to sing in an English cathedral – but our week in residence at both York and Gloucester came about because other choirs who had previously booked needed to change their plans. Our audition tapes were quickly accepted, and we were on our way.

Although this was my fourth tour of English cathedrals, I could sing Evensong in one of these holy and historic places every day for the rest of my life and never become bored. It cannot be matched, and has to be experienced to be believ-

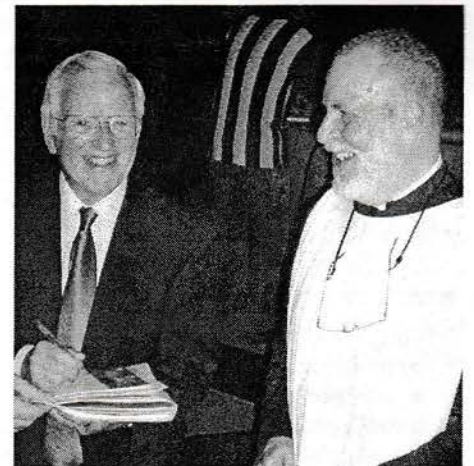


Saint Thomas's Choir before the High Altar, York Minster

ed. Especially I love watching first-time cathedral singers after the first cadence at the first rehearsal: their jaws drop in joy and bewildered awe as the sound soars for another 7 seconds or so after the choir stops singing.

From the beginning, I referred to this trip as a "parish trip", not just a choir trip. Thirty percent of the travellers were not in the choir. "Instant congregation", we called them. We were all pilgrims from St. Thomas's. We strengthened old friendships, made new ones, searched our souls, talked with God, and existed as a community that centred around the worship of God and the singing of His praise in places where Christians have

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Composer Christopher Bray meets John Tuttle after hearing first performance of his Anthem at York Minster.

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HEALTHY GIVINGS – PARISH TREASURER

A note by Anna Kennedy

The accompanying financial update shows that, to date, givings are up 12% above budget. Of this, the various Deficit Reduction efforts have so far produced \$9,058 – with the bulk of the “Dine-Away” revenue still to be realized. We have four months to see if this positive trend continues, and to what extent we exceed our budgeted envelope receipts of \$265,000 along with the \$11,300 Deficit Challenge mandated at the Annual Vestry Meeting, for a total of \$276,300. I am pleased to report as well that expenses are in line with the budget. Thank you to all those generous parishioners who have contributed to this fiscal good news during the first two-thirds of the year.

New Poetry Book to launch October 29

by David Kent

The *St. Thomas Poetry Series* will publish its 23rd volume this fall. Ottawa poet Marianne Bluger has published nine books of poetry with such presses as Penumbra and Brick Books. Her father was a Holocaust survivor, but she was raised as an Anglican. Her collection, *The Eternities*, explores these legacies of Judaism and Christianity in the context of her relationship with her father.

Please consider attending the launch for *The Eternities* on Saturday afternoon, October 29, at 2 p.m. The reading in the church will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Order this book by October 1 and save 40%: only \$12 (plus \$2.50 postage if necessary). Cheques should be made payable to *The St. Thomas Poetry Series* and sent to the parish office.

“God is not solitude, but perfect communion. For this reason the human person, in the image of God, is realized in love, which is the sincere giving of oneself.”

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, Feast of the Holy Trinity, May 22, 2005.

Operating Fund 2005 August YTD

Income	Actuals	Budget
Envelope Givings	173,871	152,640
Cash Givings	10,122	10,400
Memorials & Bequests	5,196	5,145
Miscellaneous Income	2,350	2,230
Parish Committees	5,025	9,635
Rental Income	22,722	22,381
Total Income	219,286	202,431

“Revelation implies a something revealed, and what is revealed is imperative on our faith, *because* it is revealed. Revelation implies imperativeness; it limits in its very notion our liberty of thought, because it limits our liberty of error, for error is one kind of thought.”

John Henry Newman, Lecture 2 from ‘Discussions and Arguments,’ 1872.

Expense

Operations		
Administrative Costs	11,534	11,301
Parish Committee costs	4,460	6,499
Sanctuary Costs	3,751	2,610
Total Operations	19,745	20,410
Outreach	53,273	50,104
Property		
Maintenance	20,442	20,660
Risk Management	13,288	13,742
Utilities	21,791	22,707
Total Property	55,522	57,109
Staffing		
Benefits	15,689	16,028
Clergy Salaries	42,448	43,303
Other Staff & Service contract costs	58,823	59,910
Choir Section Leads	29,255	29,973
Total Staffing	146,215	149,215
Total Expense	274,756	276,838
Net (Income less Expenses)	-55,470	-74,407
Transfers from T&E	45,000	40,000
Total Net Income:	-10,470	-34,407

Les Barnes Window Restored

by the Rector

One of the stunning TS Eliot windows in the north aisle, dedicated to the memory of Les Barnes, was damaged by vandals last winter. It has now been beautifully restored and reinstalled. The artist who produced the windows over twenty years ago, Rosemary Kilbourn, was able to locate her original cartoons and with the help of a colleague, Pattie Walker, she replaced and repainted the damaged glass.

The window was reinstalled by leading experts in the field, who found time to work on our window in rare trips to Toronto from Ottawa, where they are repairing and installing the windows in the Parliamentary Library. They have also installed protective coverings over the other small stained glass windows in the church in order to prevent future damage.

Fortunately, a number of years ago a parishioner made a contribution to the church for stained glass window repairs. The foresight of that parishioner has enabled us to cover the cost of repairs without impacting our budget.

It gives great pleasure to see Ms Kilbourn’s window back in place, particular-

ly in the late afternoon when the sun pours through the pair of them.

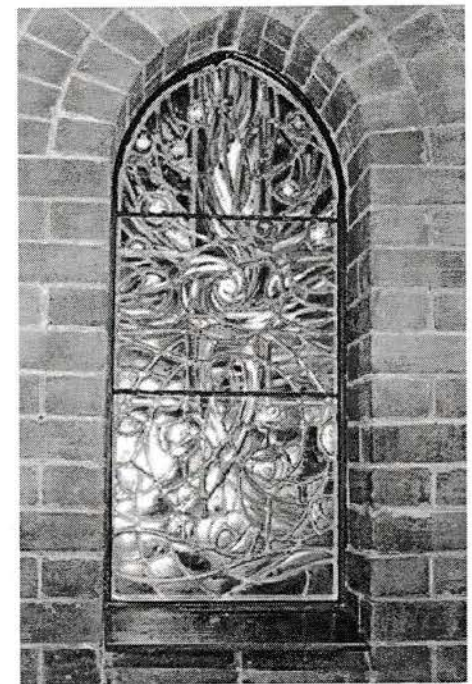
Love is most nearly itself

When here and now cease to matter...

We must be still and still moving

For a further union, a deeper communion...

– TS Eliot



Clergy & Corporation Appeal to Diocese on Behalf of St Stephen-in-the-Fields

Neelands, Tri-Lingual Congregations face Eviction September 30th

Background:

June 16th saw Diocesan Council vote to reject St Stephen's plan to re-invent itself as a centre for Inner City Ministry, and to evict Fr David Neelands (Priest-in-Charge) and the parishioners of St Stephen's – which comprises Spanish, French and English-speaking congregations – from their buildings 'on or before September 30, 2005.' It is claimed that the Parish owes the Diocese some \$400,000, and faces another \$250,000 of building repairs. The closure has brought wide public attention to the historic church in the heart of the Kensington Market area of Toronto, including a September 18 'Save St Stephen's' Concert featuring Bruce Cockburn, Michael Ondaatje and other supporters. Active interest in St Stephen's plight has also been expressed by diverse elements of the community including MPP Rosario Marchese and NOW magazine. St Thomas's and St Stephen's have enjoyed a close relationship in recent years through a sharing of responsibilities for food programmes such as Out of the Cold. For details and the latest news, the Parish's web site is <http://www.saintstephens.ca/index.html> [Ed]

Text of Clergy & Corporation's Letter of September 10 to the Rt Revd Philip Poole, Area Bishop of York-Credit Valley:

The Clergy and Corporation of Saint Thomas's is concerned by the decision of Diocesan Council to order the congregation of St Stephen-in-the-Fields to vacate their church building by the end of September. This decision has significant impact on neighbouring parishes as well as the people of St Stephen's. Having initiated discussions within the Parkdale Deanery exploring urban ministry, and having set dates for future discussions, we believe that the Diocese, the Deanery, St Stephen's, and its neighbouring parishes, will all benefit by allowing the congregation of St Stephen's to remain in their building at this time.

We believe, further, that when the Diocesan Council



undertakes a cost-benefit analysis of closing any given parish that the costs to neighbouring parishes be fully weighed in terms of increased financial and human resources demanded of them. St Thomas's has been asked to consider taking responsibility for a couple of ministries currently undertaken at St Stephen's. We believe that our parish is in a healthy position to expand our ministries in the neighbourhood, but our ability to reach into the areas once served by St Alban's and currently served by St Stephen's is significantly hindered by limited resources.

We recognize that the Diocese has spent a great deal of time discussing St Stephen's. We encourage you not to allow exhaustion of the subject to create greater future difficulties. We believe that refusing to allow the congregation of St Stephen's to continue to use the church will be a decision that shall be regretted and may increase the resentment toward the Diocese that has been expressed by Anglicans in the Parkdale Deanery.

Sincerely,

Mark Andrews, Rector
on behalf of

Fr Brian Freeland & Fr Robert Ross, Associate Priests;
Charis Kelso & Gene Stewart, Wardens;
James MacMillan & Marlene Fader, Deputy Wardens;
Anna Kennedy, Treasurer

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Marilyn Ramsingh, John Aimers

\$60,000 raised by Foundation Stones Campaign

Parishioners, Friends direct gifts honouring 130th Anniversary

by the Rector

The Foundation Stones Campaign was launched last year to provide past and present parishioners an opportunity to make a donation in thanksgiving for Saint Thomas's 130 years of ministry. The Anniversary Committee envisioned a campaign that would raise funds for two purposes: to help to refurbish the Festive White High Mass Set, given to the parish by Gerald Larkin in the 1950s; and to begin to endow four primary areas of the parish's life: Outreach, Music, Education, and Worship. There has been a very impressive response to the campaign, with nearly \$60,000 raised. Donations continue to trickle in as we approach the close of the campaign at the Feast of the Dedication this year.

What quickly became apparent is that many givers wanted to direct their thanksgiving offerings in a manner different than originally envisioned. Several made large gifts to the parish for specific property improvements. More than half the cost of the renovations of the washrooms in the Parish Hall has been covered by a Foundation Stones gift. Another parishioner made a thanksgiving gift to encourage the parish to find a sound system. A small committee, which

includes John Tuttle, has been exploring a system that will assist parishioners to hear the spoken word without distorting the natural sound of the choir. More information will become available as the committee continues to search for a suitable system. **Total gifts received for property: \$27,000**

The Altar Guild retired the threadbare white set this year and is looking at the best options for restoring it. Many parishioners believe it is important to support local liturgical artists; thus the Guild has looked at the handiwork of several local artists, including the Diocesan Altar Guild. Others believe that the set should be restored by Watts & Co, of London, England, the original producers. There is a very significant difference in costs between the two options. Donations to the Foundation Stones Campaign toward the restoration of the white set will probably cover more than half of the cost if done locally. If it is restored by Watts then the Altar Guild will probably have to spend a further \$10,000. **Total gifts received for the restoration of the white mass set: \$3,500**

Donations to help endow the Choir have been received in two forms. The majority of gifts received will be used to raised funds for the music programme generally. Two donations were earmarked specifically to establish an endow-

ment to support the Organ Scholar. This endowment has been removed from the Foundation Stones Campaign in order to allow others the opportunity to build up the endowment. **Total gifts toward the music programme: \$7,300... toward the Organ Scholar Endowment: \$7,950**

Several parishioners directed their thanksgiving gifts toward outreach ministries. Some asked that their donation be used for immediate needs, in the parish and in Darfur. One long-time parishioner, Grace Falls, who moved to Guelph ten years ago, made a donation to the Campaign directing the funds toward our outreach ministries. When Miss Falls died earlier this year her family and friends contributed funds to the Campaign in her memory. **Total gifts for outreach: \$4,485**

The Foundation Stones Campaign was launched as the Kitchen Renovation Appeal came to an end. Given the excellent response to the Kitchen project, the expectation of the Anniversary Committee was that there would be only a modest response to the 130th Anniversary fundraising campaign. The results of the Foundation Stones Appeal show clearly that parishioners past and present are grateful for St Thomas's ministry, and committed to seeing it flourish in the future.

“Coming out of the myriad distractions of our daily lives, we must remind ourselves that when we enter our parish churches for Holy Mass that what we are about to participate in is not merely a ‘memory’ of something that Christ did a long time ago, and for which we are now nostalgically grateful... Mass is not just a good example to promote social work or warm caring feelings. When... Mass begins we have passed suddenly into a mysterious and timeless space wherein what we do and say not only recalls to mind past events but actually, by the doing and saying and God’s own action through our words and deeds, makes those events present to us now and we to them.”

Fr John T. Zuhlsdorf, writing in The Wanderer, November 13, 2003

“Explain it how you will, in this strange world the way of the Cross is the way to Angel-music. Every one of us has got a cross to carry: the rich and poor meet together there. Now there are two things you can do with that cross of yours, and only two. You can disown it – you can push it from you; or you can take it up and welcome it and carry it. And the singular thing is that when you do the former, invariably all the music ceases. But when you do the latter, lo, you are come to Jesus, and to an innumerable company of angels.”
from a sermon by the Revd Dr G. Morrison, extracted from the September 2005 Newsletter of St Clement’s Church, Philadelphia.

“...it is through our Scripture reading, our prayers and our actions that our Lord is able to surprise us the most. A powerful thought occurs to us about the wondrous grace of God that has never occurred to us before, even though we may have read a particular Scripture passage many times...Or we discover a prayer is answered and find ourselves stunned that God actually heard us and replied. Or someone approaches us after we’ve done something we think is absolutely trivial and says ‘You were the answer to my prayer. You will never know how much you meant to me.’ These are the surprises which come tumbling out of the Bible, our prayers and our actions, time and time again...”

Fr John Folts, Rector, St John’s Church, Essex, CT, writing in “The Living Church,” October 10, 2004.

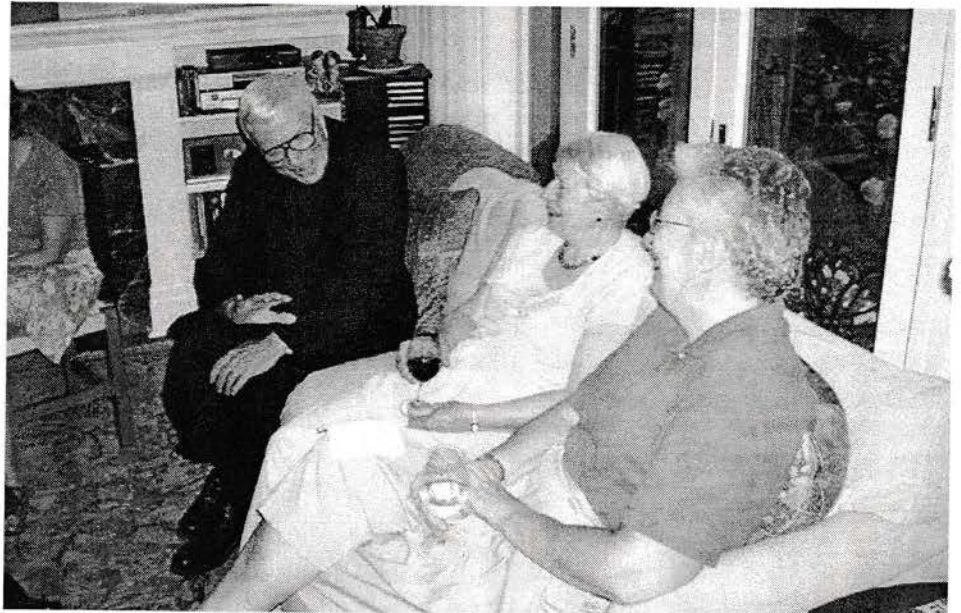
Gastronomic Storm Hits the Annex Dine Away the Deficit Update

by Michael Rowland

Thirteen lucky parishioners were treated to a delightful meal at Nigel Wright's home in the Annex on August 27th. Nigel's garden was in splendid bloom and guests were able to enjoy a quick refreshment there before the heavens opened, leaving Nigel to barbecue in the pouring rain. Thankfully Jelana Duncan (our resident golf instructor) produced a golf umbrella from her car so that the chef could keep dry.

Along with a side-dish of satisfaction for helping to dine away St. Thomas's operating deficit, the group feasted on grilled meats, mushroom risotto, roast potatoes, grilled radicchio, and asparagus. Peach pie with sour cream put an exclamation point on the evening's menu.

Nigel was ably assisted in the kitchen by sous-chef Mary Wilson who stirred the risotto to creamy perfection while adding a few of her own secret ingredients when Nigel was not looking. Susan



(above and below) Nigel Wright hosted one of the first "Dine-Away-the-Deficit" events

Lang hosted 22 individuals in her charming garden. A wonderful time was had by all as the group supped on crab legs and delicious salads surrounded by the elegance of Carol's crystal and china.

Many thanks to Carol and Nigel for creating such fabulous events and getting us off to such a great start.

There are many more Dine Away the Deficit events to come. See the display and sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall, or register for an event by leaving a message at (416) 979-2323 ext. 5 (press 5 to bypass the general message). A wonderful meal, good fellowship and a great way to support the parish for just \$20 per person (\$5 for children).



"I was once told that you should give till it hurts. Well let me tell you, this is painless giving."

— Participant

Seh Foo contributed his talents as prep-chef, general assistant, financial administrator, and photographer.

The Dine Away the Deficit program was launched in style in July when Carol

Church School Teachers Needed!

The church school at 11:00 is urgently seeking two or three more teachers to replace some who have had to step down owing to scheduling conflicts.

The time commitment of a teacher is not heavy. In each of the three terms (September-December, January-March, April-June), each teacher is asked to be on duty for two Sundays of choice. From 10:30 to 11:00 they supervise a gathering activity, usually a craft. When the bell rings for the start of the Communion service, the children assemble for opening prayers, and the teachers give a lesson lasting for roughly twenty minutes. (Craft materials and lesson outlines are provided.) Afterwards a member of the choir comes down to

teach a hymn. Children and teachers enter the church at the offertory hymn, and sit in the two pews at the front reserved for them. They remain in church until after Communion, at which time they return to the church school room for informal playtime.

No previous experience is needed; all that is required is patience and an empathy for children aged 4-12, and a willingness to share your faith in a child-friendly way. (A basic security and reliability check is also required.) If you would like to volunteer, or want more information, please contact church school coordinator *Diana Versegby* or a member of the Corporation.

Choir...

continued from page one

been worshipping for over 1,000 years. The bonding that took place has followed us back to Toronto where we will continue to learn and grow as a community.

We were warmly welcomed at both York and Gloucester by the Deans, clergy, vergers (a job I want for my retirement) and the local residents. The Precentors (senior Canons responsible for cathedral music) of both cathedral churches were splendid hosts and helped us to feel part of their communities, inviting all of us to their homes for evenings of drinks, discussion and discovery. People from all over the UK thanked St. Thomas's for visiting and sharing our gifts. Many thought that *John Tuttle* must surely be British, and went into shock when they learned he was not!

The feast day of the Blessed Virgin Mary was our first day of singing, and we got off to a great start. In honour of the BVM we sang *Hymn to the Virgin* by British composer *Christopher Bray*. Some months ago, he learned by accident that we would be singing this work at York on

August 15, and he immediately made plans to travel with his wife from London to hear us. It turns out that he had written the piece 50 years ago for his cousin, Derek Holman, but had never heard it sung. Without realizing it, we had planned to perform the UK premiere in front of the composer! Mr. Bray was so thrilled with our singing of his work, and we in turn felt thrilled by his enthusiasm. He greeted us after Evensong, and spent quite a while with John and the choir, talking about music and signing our scores. He has already expressed his appreciation and that of his wife, writing that "*for us, your friendship further enhanced a uniquely moving experience.*"

Needless to say, all 51 of us were sad to leave England. We will always be grateful for the overwhelming support of the Parish. The Planning Committee was just part of the army of some hundreds of people who helped to make these two weeks a reality. True, our time in England is over, but only technically. The impact starts now, and we will be talking about this trip forever.

On behalf of the entire Parish, the Rector adds:

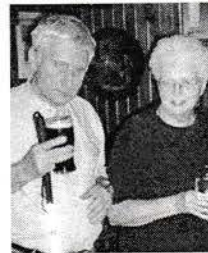
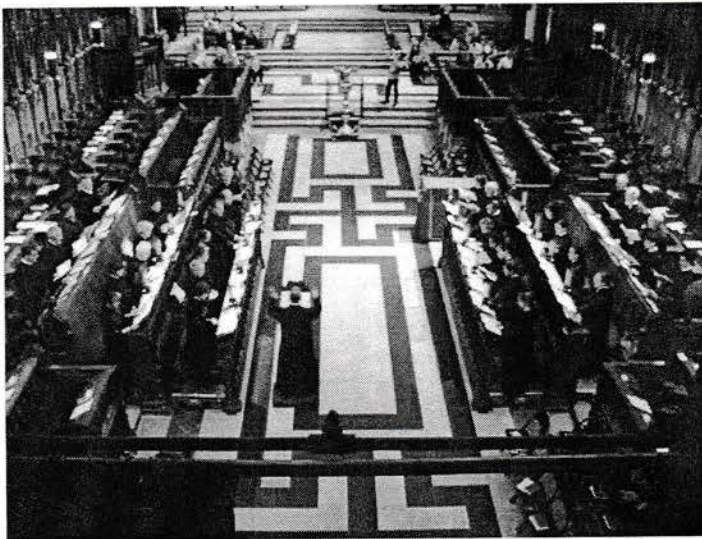
David Montgomery was the mastermind and prime mover in getting the Choir Tour off the ground and making it happen so flawlessly. David had previous experience leading tours, most notably while singing at St John's, Elora. The Choir Tour was probably not much of a holiday for David, but he must feel enormous satisfaction in knowing that his hard work bore such good fruit.

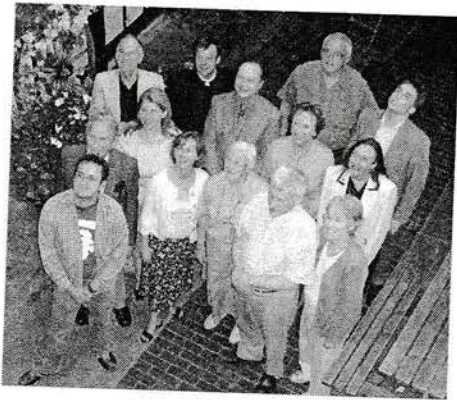
The Choirmaster's Report

by John Tuttle, DLitts

First, I am so grateful to those choristers who helped lead the services at St. Thomas's in the absence of those who went to the UK, and to *Andrew Ager* for his willingness to step in for the three Sundays we were away. One of the major concerns I had about making this tour was over who would mind the shop while we were away.

The whole undertaking was remarkable, in that it brought so many people together in common purpose; so many individuals gave a great deal to make it a reality, many of whom could not participate in the trip itself.





There is nothing which builds an ensemble's corporate musicianship and technique so much as the opportunity to rehearse and perform daily. Indeed, each day the choir made noticeable improvements in their singing; by the middle of our time at York, what had started as an amalgamation of different singers had become a unit. It is rare, sadly, that in our normal, week-to-week work in Toronto, with the pressures of work and family life, we have everyone in attendance, so a little musical detail is frequently lost. But for the two weeks abroad, everyone was present and focussed on the task, and the results were remarkable.

It took a little time to develop a sense of the pacing in each cathedral, both for the liturgy and for the space. The psalms were by far the most challenging thing we did, as our tradition is to sing them to plainsong, and we were expected to sing a psalm or portion of a psalm each day to Anglican chant. Added to this challenge were the slight alterations in text between the Canadian and the English Book of Common Prayer.

From the experience of two other choral tours (Diana and I travelled to the UK with Derek Holman when our four boys sang at St. Simon's Church) I have learned to appreciate the opportunity to sing and hear this great music in the buildings which inspired its creation. It

John Tuttle Receives Honorary Degree

Trinity College recognizes Parish Choirmaster's contribution to Canadian Music

based on a report by Fr David Neelands

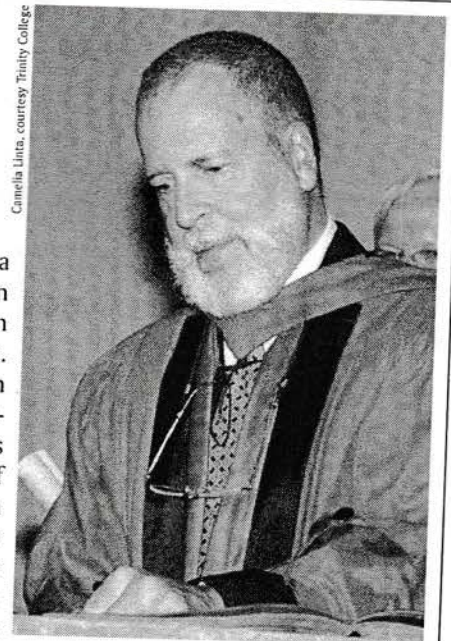
On Wednesday, September 7th, at a Trinity College Convocation in Convocation Hall, University of Toronto, our own John Tuttle was made a Doctor of Sacred Letters. This honorary degree was conferred on John in recognition of his considerable contributions to church music, in addition to his recital work, his long career as University of Toronto organist, leadership of the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus and the Hart House Chorus, among many others. Dr. Giles Byrant gave the citation, recalling in a highly entertaining way John's strengths and the vagaries of the careers of church musicians. St. Thomas's choirs combined to provide the music for the event, singing Herbert Howells' *Te Deum (Collegium Regale)* as a musical tribute for John at the moment when his degree was conferred. The organ bench was occupied brilliantly by one of John's organ students, *Christopher Ku*, while *Elizabeth Anderson* conducted.

The Friday evening following Convocation, a large group of John's friends met to congratulate John, and to celebrate with him and Diana. Amongst the presentations were a tribute book, a weekend away at an Ontario Inn and a significant contribution raised by a number of friends for the Parish's Organ Fund, designed to allow the eventual installation of vertical trumpets. On Sunday, the Parish at large recognized John with a cake at Coffee Hour. In a typically-modest reply to the applause of the congregation, John avowed that he accepted the degree in recognition of the work of all his fellow musicians in the Parish, with gratitude for having as a job tasks which he loves, and conscious of the loving support of his wife Diana.

was significant to us all that we sang *I sat down under his shadow* by Edward Bairstow, who served as organist at York Minster some years ago. There were many other highlights for me, including a breathtaking offering of the *Te Deum* at Matins in York (Imagine, St. Thomas's Church Choir singing Choral Matins!) which Herbert Howells wrote for Kings College; his *Gloucester Service* written for Gloucester Cathedral; and the *Edington*

Service by Grayston Ives, which requires the large acoustic we enjoyed in both places. But there were simple moments, too, when the choir sang a beautiful bit of plainsong in *In Pace* and *Christe qui lux es et dies*, both anthems which we sing in St. Thomas's.

Which brings up a final thought; we are so very fortunate to worship in a parish where this great music is part of the fabric of our liturgy.



Carmela Linta, courtesy Trinity College



A Warden's Reflections

by Charis Kelso, Rector's Warden

It was an absolute joy to listen to the outstanding St. Thomas's Tour Choir singing to the glory of God in two of the most beautiful cathedrals in England. The hallmark of an excellent choir is the degree to which voices blend together successfully, and *John Tuttle* achieved excellence with the tour choir – a result all the more impressive because it involved blending members from the 11:00 am and Evensong choirs.

Our dedicated organ scholar *Elizabeth Anderson* hit her stride as she brought the organ in York to life and filled the nave of that glorious cathedral when the choir sang at the Eucharist on Sunday morning. John's skilled and magnificent playing shone in both spaces: his musicianship at the final service in Gloucester was particularly fabulous.

The nave of Gloucester Cathedral contains a Labyrinth patterned on the eleven-circuit Chartres Labyrinth. Walking the Labyrinth was a very moving experience in and of itself, made all the more memorable because the choir was carrying out its final rehearsal of the tour at the same time. Because Gloucester is smaller than York, the sound was incredible there, and I often found myself moved to tears by the sheer beauty of the music being delivered in that glorious space. Each member of the choir sang with such precision and joy that it was thrilling and wonderful to hear. The sounds were, in a word, awesome. Solo performances in both cathedral spaces were equally impressive and moving, as were the expressions of sheer rapture on the faces of choir members engrossed in singing to the best of their ability. Gloucester was also very special because it afforded *Frs Andrews and Nichols* the opportunity to sing Evensong.



Thoughts from One of the Attending "Groupies"

by Clair E. Kelso, a friend of St Thomas's

Kudos to those who planned the trip! We all enjoyed the transportation, accommodations, and marvellous English breakfasts which their meticulous planning produced.

What a pleasure to listen to the choir in those magnificent venues at York and Gloucester! In each cathedral the space occupied by the organ, the choir stalls and the sanctuary alone could easily enclose the entire bulk of St. Thomas's church; yet their blended voices filled those great voids from wall to wall and floor to lofty roof and spilled out into the farther reaches of these immense buildings.

It was also satisfying to hear the expressions of genuine approval registered by those attending the services. In York, a man eating his dinner and seeing a couple of choir members perusing the menu in the front window of the restaurant came rushing out in the middle of the street to congratulate them on the quality of their singing and the skilful directing of the choir master.

We all enjoyed participating in the trips laid on for the choir – in Yorkshire to Rievaulx Abbey, Castle Howard and Scarborough on the North Sea; out of Gloucester to Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwick Castle and Anne Hathaway's Cottage. There was also time for us groupies – who did not have to attend choir rehearsals – to make side-trips especially out of Gloucester to the Cotswold villages, to Tintern Abbey in Wales, to Stonehenge in Wiltshire and even as far afield as London.

Music is such an important part of our life at St. Thomas's. The way in which the entire parish supported this tour is a testament to the esteem in which we hold John, Elizabeth and all the members of the choirs. In addition to non-choir member parishioners who joined the tour – the groupies as we called ourselves – so many people who remained in Toronto were instrumental in making the trip happen. Each time that the choir wowed themselves and the congregation of the cathedral they did all of us at St. T's proud. All the members of the planning committee deserve praise and appreciation for organizing and executing such a wonderful trip.

St. Thomas's will benefit from this trip for years to come since the calibre of our already superb music program will be enhanced by the experience.

Sidebar from the Rector:

Several Thomasites met the Choir Tour en route, including Marlene Fader & Marjorie Burdon, and Mary Kate Garden, a former acolyte now a Glaswegian, at York. Gloucester brought welcome faces Chris Adler (France) & Tom Spanyol (London), both former choiristers; and Susannah Gill now moving to London where she will be recording *Hansard* at the Houses of Parliament.

Choir Tour Photo Credits

The Editor gratefully acknowledges the high-spirited visual account of the tour provided by *Elizabeth Anderson, Fr Mark Andrews, Gregory Laxton, David Montgomery & John Meadows*.



Reflections on Rievaulx

by the Rector

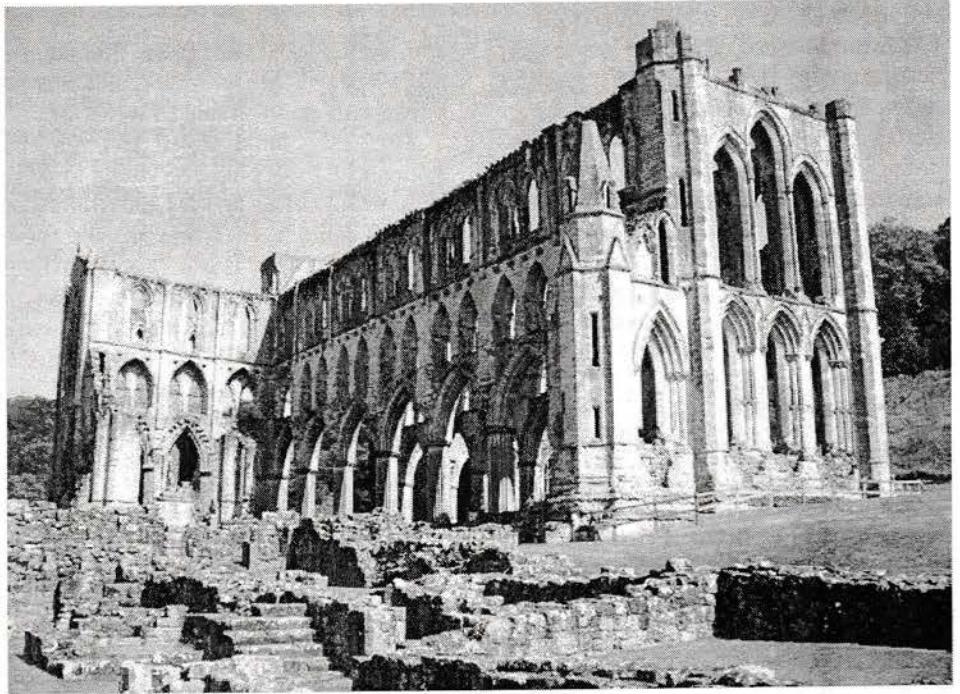
After four days of worshipping and singing God's praise in glorious York Minster, it was strangely moving to wander through the ruins of Rievaulx Abbey. The Minster towers over the town and the surrounding country-side. Everything about it is impressive. It contains the largest collection of medieval glass in England. The south transept, seriously damaged by a lightning strike in the 1990s, has been beautifully restored. It is well maintained, and the level of activity indicates that it continues to be in ministry, as well as structure, an impressive witness to the Christian faith.

Rievaulx Abbey was once as grand. Founded in 1132 by eight Cistercian monks, it flourished under the leadership of St Aelred, (Abbot from 1147-67), into a community of 140 choir monks and 500 lay-brothers. Aelred developed the Abbey modestly, but his successors used the Abbey's great wealth to beautify and enlarge it.

Nestled in a lush valley the Abbey had bountiful lands, woods, and water, and even an iron mine. Yet the end of the 13th Century found the Abbey deeply in debt. By the time of its dissolution in 1538 the Abbey had been reduced to twenty-two monks and no lay-brothers. It was a ripe target for Henry VIII, who stripped it of its riches to help pay for his war with France.

Wandering through the ruins today one is struck by the pervading sense of holiness. It is not simply a romantic nostalgia that inspires pilgrims walking through the nave and around the cloisters. Looking through the remnants of the East Window and down into the valley below, one sees God, Nature, and Humanity all at once. God created the gorgeous landscape, and inspired the monks, the architects, and the benefactors, to build something of great beauty to God's glory. Human hands built it and set about to destroy it. Nature, once subdued by human industry in the service of God, has serenely overtaken it once again.

Strangely, the beauty of the site makes one aware of how God continually builds and renews the Church. The demise of Rievaulx did not mark the end of the Church in England, but it did mark



The ruins of Rievaulx Abbey

a decisive change in the relationship between the Church and the culture in which the Church exists. Every generation and era faces shifts in this relationship, and there are dreadful losses as well as tremendous opportunities arising from the conflicts.

When we look at the Anglican Communion today we are conscious of significant struggles, but we should also be aware that the world-wide Communion is growing. The Church in Africa is booming, and not for the first time. In St Augustine's day the Church in Africa was the vibrant centre of the Faith. God raised up great spiritual leaders in that continent, and in time, He raised up leaders in other parts of the world as the Church in Africa declined. Now, as the relation between Church and culture in the West is changing and causing stress here, we see God's creative, and re-creative power at work in other parts of the globe, including Africa once again.

Rievaulx is a holy site to be cherished. It is a reminder that God is continually leading the Church and that the well-being of the Body of Christ is not discernable through the magnificence of temples built by human hands, but by the spiritual temples of souls transformed by a living relationship with Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit invigorates the

Church, which is so much larger than we are aware, and inspires and renews all those who seek nourishment from the Bread and Wine of Christ's own life.

“Young people will give their lives for a mystery but not for a question mark.”

His Excellency the Most Revd Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of Milwaukee

“For the [Tractarian Fathers]... ‘apostolical’ was a favorite word. They saw Church and faith being eroded by secular tides. They grasped that if this was to be resisted, the Church must return to its roots: to the apostolic ministry; it must teach the apostolic faith; and in must engage in the apostolic mission. This was no retreat into traditionalism which has been defined as ‘the dead faith of the living’ but what tradition truly is ‘the living faith of the dead’.”

From a Sermon preached at St Barnabas, Pimlico, on the Feast of Title, June 11, 2005, by Fr Alan Moses, Vicar, All Saints Margaret Street.

Hot Summer Vestment Challenges: Notes From The Altar Guild

by Doreen Stanton

Because of this summer's prolonged heat, Fr Freeland, the priest-in-charge during Father Andrews' holiday, decided not to use the very heavy – at least in summer heat – green vestments. A secondary unlined chasuble, ordinarily used at the 8:00 a.m. Mass, was worn by the celebrant and the dalmatic and tunicle for the deacon and sub-deacon were dispensed with altogether. This was not only kind to those officiating but also to the vestments themselves because excess perspiration literally eats silk. Presently a second green set is in preparation to be used in summer heat. While not quite up to our usual richness, from a distance it will still look to be of the St. Thomas' style. Made of a good cotton

and unlined, it will quite literally be machine-washable with care, and ever so much more comfortable to wear.

The Altar Guild toiled through the summer heat keeping everything looking as it should. The articles most affected are the amices. Fr Freeland calls them neck sweat rags. It is true that in the heat they come off the celebrant needing to be wrung out and committed to the wash as quickly as possible. And they are the very devil to wash and iron!! I say that as one who does them!! They look simple enough but their long ties wrap themselves up in knots, no matter how carefully handled, and require the patience of Job to undo.

Fr Freeland commented at one point that there is probably something in the

labour, health and safety regulations that says workers should not have to toil in such heat. Think about that the next time you are sitting in church trying to keep cool and say a prayer for all the "workers" who contribute to the service: clergy, acolytes, choir and organist and the invisible ones, the Altar Guild and the Parish Administrator, *Barbara Obrai*.

Property Committee Report

*Volunteers needed for Benedictine
Day October 15*

by Rob Kennedy

"Does a body get a chance to white-wash a fence every day?" For the upcoming Benedictine Day on Saturday Oct 15th, don't look at it as an obligation to help dispose of old furniture, carpets and other clutter in the undercroft and Parish Hall. Or mount the Rosemary Kilbourn prints in the ambulatory, or replace a broken window in the sacristy or replace a light bulb in the alleyway to the sexton's cottage. Or, for that matter, investigate how to make the walkway from Huron Street safe from heaving flagstones. Don't look at it as an obligation but rather as an opportunity to have fun. Its not Work; its Play. Lunch provided!

And speaking of someone who picks up the whitewash brush with alacrity, thanks to *Janet Stewart* who led the effort to refit the Parish Hall washrooms this summer. The refurbishment is elegant. It employs natural materials that are beautiful, durable and easily maintained. And on top of that it was a cost effective project. Kudos! Three more fun projects are also being considered by Advisory Board. We are looking to refurbish the South Meeting Room in the Parish Hall – the storage requirements which today clutter that room will be incorporated into the design. We are looking at a dedicated choir facility – mostly likely in the undercroft. And lastly we will propose the creation of a large meeting / education facility – again a likely location is the undercroft. In developing these proposals it is critically important to understand the requirements of all concerned. If you have a view, please talk to a property committee member – Rob Kennedy, Janet Stewart, Gene Stewart, Marlene Fader, Jennifer Grange or Fr. Andrews. Or put a bug in the ear of the Advisory Board member whom you know best.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

by Elizabeth Thoms

Out of the Heat Program

The Out of the Heat program continues to serve about 60 guests every Friday evening in the parish hall. They receive sandwiches, fruit, cookies and bottled water. The program will continue until the Out of the Cold program starts serving hot meals in December. Contributions of sandwiches and other food will be much appreciated. There is a particular need for tins of tuna, salmon, and ham and packets of cookies. Donations of new socks and underwear and airline-sized toiletries will also be most helpful. If you wish to make a donation or volunteer please contact Maggie Helwig at 416.537.7290 or maggie@web.net.

Fourth Diocesan Outreach Networking Conference October 1, 2005

The conference will take place on Saturday October 1 from 8.45 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Tyndale University College and Seminary in Toronto (near Bayview and Steeles). Registration is free to all Anglicans interested in social concerns, outreach, and social justice and advocacy issues. Bishop Colin Johnson will be celebrating the Eucharist. The keynote speaker is the Reverend Paul Hansen. There are numerous workshops on various aspects of advocacy. The workshop leaders have extensive experience in their fields and come from diverse backgrounds. You can register on line at www.sjab-toronto.org. If you have questions, please talk with Natasha (natasha.klukach@utoronto.ca), who is on the planning team for the conference.

Advocacy for Affordable Housing

In keeping with the diocesan advocacy campaign concerning the issue of homelessness, St. Thomas's Outreach and Education committees will be working to raise awareness of the great need for affordable housing in our city. On November 20th, we will make a special effort to learn more about the issues involved and what we can do through the circulation of a letter from Bishop Johnson and through particular focus in the sermon. There will be displays on community outreach initiatives in the parish hall at the coffee hours on that day. A Housing Advocacy Kit has been produced by the diocesan Social Justice and Advocacy Board. If you wish to obtain the kit, please contact Maggie or Natasha.

Tracts For These Times: A New Publishing Venture at St. Thomas's

by David Kent

Last winter a subcommittee of the parish Communications Committee consisting of John Aimers, Hugh Anson-Cartwright, and David Kent proposed publishing the stimulating addresses that had been given by Fr. Tony Jarvis last Michaelmas on the occasion of the parish's 130th anniversary.

This idea would have remained just an idea had it not been for Doreen Stanton's generous offer to underwrite the production costs for the 32-page pamphlet. Her gift has resulted in the inclusion of the addresses with this issue of the Parish Newsletter.

The subcommittee has imagined this publication as possibly the first of a series of occasional publications and dubbed the series "Tracts For These Times." The intended allusion is, of course, to the original *Tracts for the Times* published between 1833 and 1841, the founding documents in the Oxford Movement (eventually known as Anglo-Catholicism). We are hoping that future tracts will re-examine the roots of Tractarianism and initiate a dialogue between present and past.

Our intention is to focus on what unites us rather than what divides us. In this spirit Willem Hart has designed the format and typography of the first tract to echo and imitate features of the original publications while simultaneously incorporating contemporary elements. The quality of the product is also attributable to our neighbour, Coach House Printing, well known for their attractive books and pamphlets.

The Jarvis addresses are being sent to all recipients of this Newsletter free of charge, including those designated as "Friends of St. Thomas's." In addition, John Aimers has compiled a list of about 175 Anglo-Catholic parishes in Canada, the United States and overseas to which single copies of the addresses will be mailed. If additional copies are requested by anyone, these will be available for \$3 each (plus postage if necessary).

The Wardens have been asked by the Rector to set up a "Publications Fund" where monies generated by the pamphlet can be deposited. Donations can also be made to this fund by parishioners

and friends who would like to see more publications of this kind. We hope there may be sufficient interest that the proposed series can become a reality.

NEW IN THE PARISH LIBRARY

Seeking Salvation, a CD about the history of the Black church in Canada

Except the Dying and other mystery novels by Maureen Jennings. She will be speaking at St. Thomas's on Oct. 16 about the social issues of 19th century Toronto, which serves as the setting of her books.

Many Good Things: Fall Education Committee Offerings

Michaelmas Speaker on Middle East — Detective Murdoch at Book Club — pre-Advent Quiet Day at SSJD Convent

by Carol Kysela

Here it is late Trinity, and time for an update on the Adult Education Committee's programming offerings, many of which have changed since they were first announced.

Thursday, September 29:

6:15 pm — Solemn High Mass, followed by Acolytes' Guild-hosted dinner and speaker.

Our Michaelmas Feast speaker is Prof. Paul Kingston who has recently returned from Bangladesh on PWRDF work and plans to bring some of the insights he's been gaining on worldwide Islam to his presentation to us of "Politics and Religion in the Middle East". Those interested in hearing of Prof. Kingston's work in Bangladesh may attend a lecture on Sunday, November 27, 5:45 pm, at the Church of the Redeemer.

Sunday, October 16:

4:30 pm — Book Club discussion

We have been very fortunate to engage Maureen Jennings, author of five Detective Murdoch mysteries set in late 19th Century Toronto. Meticulously researched, her books describe with great sensitivity and clarity the social ills of the period and the crimes that arose from them. The life and struggles of her Roman Catholic detective in predominantly Protestant Toronto will resonate particularly with St. Thomas's parishioners whose church was, during the same period, developing her distinctive Anglo-Catholic character. Jennings' discussion will replace the originally planned discussion of P.D. James' work.

Saturday, November 19:

10 am - 4 pm — Pre-Advent Quiet Day at the new SSJD convent.

This event on the Reign of Christ weekend has taken a more personal direction, with a focus on prayer and developing an inner life. Three reflection periods will be led by Frs. Freeland, Ross and Andrews. In addition to the noon time Eucharist, lunch, and tour of the new convent, we will be focusing on prayers for busy times and spirituality for materialists. \$25 for the Quiet Day includes use of the Convent's retreat facilities, noon-time dinner and refreshments. Those who wish to spend Friday evening may do so for an additional \$25: guests arrive after supper, and share breakfast with the Sisters on Saturday prior to the commencement of the Quiet Day. Reservations by Nov. 1 to Carol Kysela: 416-461-9595

Saint Thomas's Church

DIRECTORY

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(416) 979-2323 phone

(416) 979-0261 fax

www.stthomas.on.ca

E-mail:

Parish Office saintthomas@rogers.com

Rector rector@stthomas.on.ca

Rector: Fr Mark Andrews (416) 345-8787

Rector Emeritus: Fr Roy A. Hoult

Assistant Priests:

Fr Brian D Freeland (416) 461-7025

& Fr Robert A Ross (416) 588-6946

Honorary Assistant Priests:

Frs James E. Hunt, A. Thomas Little,

W. David Neelands & Ian D. Nichols

Layreaders:

Walter O. Hardacre & Mary Suddon

Churchwardens:

Charis Kelso (416) 590-7401

Gene Stewart (416) 961-4565

Deputy Churchwardens:

Jim MacMillan & Marlene Fader

Organist & Choirmaster:

John H. Tuttle (416) 516-2503

Parish Administrator

Church Office & Parish Hall Bookings:

Barbara A. Obrai (416) 979-2323

Financial Officer & Treasurer: Anna Kennedy

Bookkeeper: Greg Anderson

Church School Supervisor: Diana Verseghy

Nursery School Supervisor: Maggie Murre

Web Master & Computer Consultant:

John Meadows john@meadowsonline.com

Coordinator of Sidesmen and Sideswomen:

Suan Seh Foo (416) 928-6809

Sexton: Colin Anderson

WORSHIP AT SAINT THOMAS'S

SUNDAYS

Masses: 8:00 am (BCP, plain celebration);

9:30 am (BAS, Sung); 11:00 am (BCP,

Solemn High)

Mattins (said) 10:30 am – Solemn

Evensong & Devotions 7:00 pm

WEEKDAYS

Masses: 5:30 pm Monday & Friday –

12:15 noon Tuesday & Thursday

7:30 am Wednesday, 10:00 am Saturday

Morning Prayer is said daily 8:30 am,

Saturday 9:30 am

Evening Prayer is said daily at 5:00 pm,

except Tuesday and Wednesday at

5:15 pm. Candelight Meditation follows

Evening Prayer on Wednesday.

Confessions: At times announced or by
appointment with any of the Parish Clergy

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

As you read of the diverse life of this church, it becomes clear that Saint Thomas's offers a host of ways for parishioners and friends to become more closely involved in the work of the Parish as well as of the many organizations which make their home here. Here are contacts who would welcome your inquiry and assistance. You can find them at mass, or leave a message at the Parish Office.

ORGANIZATION/ACTIVITY

CD/ROM project

loans of archival materials

Church School

teaching, enrolment

Communications Committee

Writers, copy-editors, proof-readers. Desk-top publishing and word processing support (need own computer and software) to assist in creating flyers and posters. Parishioners with media relations expertise and fax/internet access capability.

Confraternity of the

Blessed Sacrament

Daily Offices

officiating, reading Lessons

Education Committee

planning Parish teaching events

Parish Newsletter

Writing, production, delivery

Pastoral Committee

Support of parish community:
visiting, driving, encouraging

Property Management

Committee

Light maintenance, carpentry & general clean-up

Social Committee

Event planning and kitchen volunteers

The Society of Mary

KEY CONTACTS

John Meadows:

john@meadowsonline.com

Diana Verseghy: diana.Verseghy@ec.gc.ca

(416) 979-2323

Ann Welsh (416) 972-1930

awc@interlog.com

Fr Freeland

Any of the Parish Clergy (416) 979-2323

Carol Kysela (416) 461-9595

mckys@idirect.com

John Aimers (416) 975-2608

john.aimers@sympatico.ca

Pat Kennedy (416) 652-8566

pkennedy@mcdelland.com

Robert Kennedy (416) 691-7637

kennedy@sympatico.ca

Susan Clarke (416) 484-8164

Fr Ross, David O'Rourke

FALL RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22: 10 am – 1 pm

VOLUNTEERS, RUMMAGE SOUGHT!

RUMMAGE:

Please drop your contributions to the Sale on or beside the desks to your right as you enter the Parish Hall, clearly labeled "Rummage Sale"

VOLUNTEERS:

Thursday, October 20 at 7 pm

(for set-up, some heavy work involved)

Friday, October 21 (daytime for sorting donations)

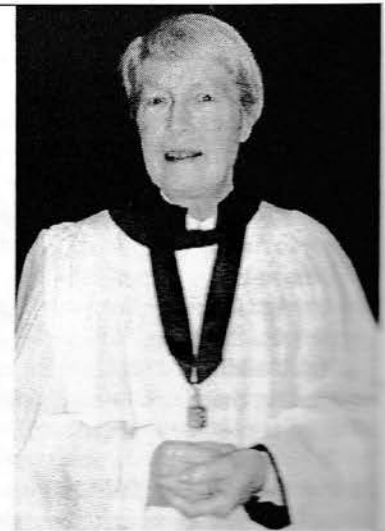
Saturday, October 22

(help during the Sale 10 am – 1 pm)

and especially immediately after the Sale for clean-up (some heavy work involved)

If you are able to help,

please call Mary Suddon at (416) 924-6179



Indefatigable Rummage Sale organizer Mary Suddon wants your help...