



Thurible

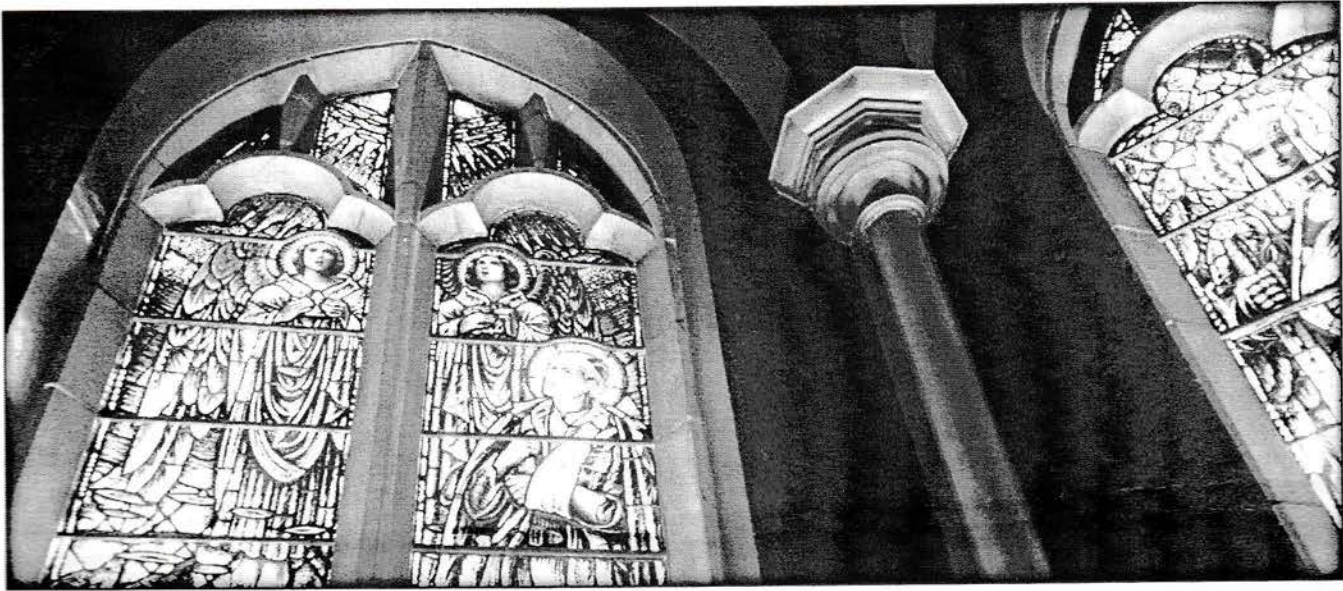
A NEWSLETTER for ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH

383 HURON ST. TORONTO ON M5S 2G5



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LENT 2014



The St. Thomas's Baptistry

and the Centennial of the First World War

Carl Benn

The 2014 parish calendar, sold to raise funds for our outreach ministries, contains an interesting article by Jean-Paul Napier on the baptistry. It is a fitting commentary because 2014 is the centennial of the outbreak of the First World War, and the people of St Thomas's built the baptistry to honour parishioners who died in military service during the conflict. Before the room's construction, the baptismal font stood near the western entrance to the church, with clear sight lines between it and the high altar at the east end, visually linking the sites of the Church's two great sacraments. That clarity was lost by moving the font into the baptistry in the early 1920s, but much else was gained.

Despite its small size, the baptistry is one of the more culturally complex spaces from early-twentieth-century Toronto, incorporating a number of layers of meaning, including articulations of the architecture of Christianity's first purpose-built churches in the ancient world, chivalric ideals of the Middle Ages, and values associated with faith, suffering, identity, and regeneration in the early 1900s. It also is an uncommon space because it fundamentally has not changed since it was new, aside from acquiring the patina of age (along with an unfortunate layer of grime, a few nicks, and other minor disasters that easily could be put right). 4-5

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News in Photos



Above The newly confirmed pose with acolytes, clergy, and Bishop Philip Poole on January 5.

Middle The young Virgin Mary (Julia Meadows) and Joseph, her mature spouse (Fr. Theo Ipema) in a scene from the pre- Christmas Nativity play.

Bottom Brian Martin conducts instrumentalists and choristers who provided music for the Nativity play.

Parish Register

+

In Memoriam

FUNERALS (dates)

Anne (Sue) Davidson Polanyi
January 13 2014

Silvan Petelin
December 14, 2013

Jean Wood
November 2

∞

Episcopal Visit

Bishop Philip Poole, January 5, 2014

Baptism

Gerald Stewart

Confirmation

Gerald Stewart, David Joseph Montgomery, Matthew Isaac Neugebauer, Jiwon Tina Park, Peter Edward Madgett, Philip Andrew Arnold

Reception

Kathryn Angeline MacDonald

∞

Congratulations

Two choristers, long time alto lead, Janice Kerckamp (vocal performance) and Alistair Williams (piano performance) have become Associates of the Royal Conservatory (ARCT).

∞

Special Thanks

Gordon Walsh, who spearheaded a donation programme for the OOTC/OOTH which has resulted in further support for this area of outreach.

Tina Park and Leonel Abaroa, for producing a St Thomas's desk liturgical calendar, for a second year.

St. Thomas's Church

www.stthomas.on.ca



The Diocese of Toronto

www.toronto.anglican.ca

The Anglican Church of Canada

www.anglican.ca

The Anglican Communion

www.anglicancommunion.org



Rector The Rev'd Mark W. Andrews

Associate Priest

The Rev'd Robert Mitchell

Rector Emeritus The Rev'd Roy A. Hoult

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd Canon Brian D. Freeland

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Rev'd Canon W. David

Neelands, The Rev'd Ian D. Nichols

Parish Administrator Barbara Obrai

Assistant Verger Leonel Abaroa-Boloña

Organist & Choirmaster John H. Tuttle

Organ Scholar Elizabeth Anderson

People's Warden Diana Versegghy

Rector's Warden Julia Armstrong

Deputy Wardens Phil Spencer

Bruce McEachern

Treasurer Tim Wright

Pastoral Care Contact Phyllis Garden

Outreach Contact Alice Degan

Co-ordinators of Sidespeople

Teri Dunn, Wendy Woodworth

Friars' Guild Coordinator

Jennifer McCallum

Newsletter Editor Jennifer Grange

Newsletter Designer

Leonel Abaroa-Boloña

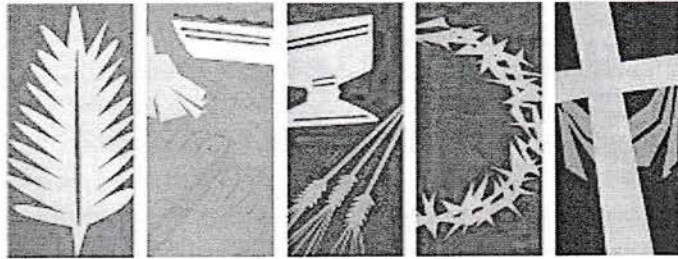
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Web Editor Julia Armstrong

Church & Hall Bookings

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Holy Week 2014



PASSIONTIDE STARTS SUNDAY, April 6 | LENT V

PALM SUNDAY | SUNDAY of the PASSION | April 13

Eucharists: Said Eucharist 8 am | Modern Rite 9:30 am |

Traditional Rite 11 am

Solemn Evensong, Way of the Cross & Devotions 7 pm

MONDAY in HOLY WEEK, APRIL 14

Eucharists: 7:30 am & 12:15 pm

Confessions 5:30 pm in the St Agnes Chapel

Way of the Cross & Eucharist, starting at 6 pm

Baroque Music by Candlelight 8 pm

TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK, APRIL 15

Eucharists: 7:30 am & 12:15 pm

Confessions 5:30 pm in the St Agnes Chapel

Way of the Cross & Eucharist, starting at 6 pm

WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK, APRIL 16

Eucharists: 7:30 am & 12:15 pm

Confessions 5:30 pm in the St Agnes Chapel

Way of the Cross & Eucharist, starting at 6 pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 17

Confessions 7 pm in the St Agnes Chapel

Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Supper 8 pm

followed by the Gethsemane Watch at the Altar of Repose

Candlelight Way of the Cross, beginning at 11:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 18

Liturgy of the Passion 10:30 am

Candlelight Way of the Cross 7:30 pm

HOLY SATURDAY | APRIL 19

Ante Communion 10 am | Easter Vigil 9 pm

The Baptistry of St. Thomas's Church (from cover)

One curious quality of the baptistry is that the imaginative language of the windows and the other elements is reminiscent of the Pre-Raphaelite period of the mid-1800s that partially inspired and pre-dated Arts and Crafts artistic expressions that dominate the rest of the building's physical heritage. Thus, for the most part, this 1920s addition to the church seems to embrace an older aesthetic than the main 1893 structure. We do not know why this occurred, but our rector, Mark Andrews, suggested that Pre-Raphaelite design may have spoken well to those who grieved the loss of the people commemorated in the baptistry, particularly among the parents of the fallen, especially within the room's focus on emotions associated with redemption, resurrection, and transcendence. Such values often were expressed in Great War memorials throughout the British Empire; in contrast, monuments created by the defeated Germans and their allies often employed modern artistic forms to communicate ideas of anger, accusation, and despair.



To a large degree, the names commemorated in this special room are strangers to us: a name, a rank, a regimental or other affiliation, and a date of death. Yet, with the smallest amount of research, we can learn a lot about the people honoured in the baptistry. One person, for instance, was Captain William Arthur Peel Durie, who lived on St George Street and worked as a clerk for the Royal Bank before going overseas in the 58th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Arthur received a bullet wound in both lungs at Ypres in 1916, but made an unexpected recovery to fight again at Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. Subsequently, he fell in action in the frontline trenches near Lens on 29 December 1917. He gained some posthumous notoriety when Veronica Cusack published *The Invisible Soldier* in 2004, centred on the story of his mother's response to the loss of her son. Arthur Durie was buried in France with some of his comrades (as he had said he wanted to be should he not survive the war). His mother, Anna Peel Durie, however, wanted to bring him home, contrary to government policy, and secretly dug up his grave to recover his remains, but was caught and sent back to Canada while Arthur was reinterred with his friends.

(continues on page 5)

Excerpt from

The Globe

of 24 August 1925

Covering the funerals of Captain W.A.P. Durie

Brought to Canada for final funeral
Remains of Capt. W.A.P. Durie
conveyed from war zone Cemetery

WAS KILLED NEAR LENS

On Saturday afternoon the funeral took place of the late Captain W.A.P. Durie, who fell in the Great War in December, 1917, and whose remains were recently brought to Canada.

At 2:15 o'clock a private service took place at his late residence, 306 St. George Street, conducted by the Rev. C. Templeton, and attended by relatives and immediate friends of the family. The pallbearers were officers of the 58th Battalion, who served in France with the late Captain Durie.

A public service at St. Thomas's Church, Huron Street, followed, when the church was crowded to capacity with men of the 58th Battalion, and friends of the deceased. Rev. C. Ensor Sharp officiated, the service being fully choral. Clergy and choir met the funeral cortege at the entrance to the church, the first hymn being 'For All the Saints Who from their Labours Rest.' At the conclusion, 'Abide With Me' was sung, followed by the Dead March in Saul.

Rev. C. Templeton officiated at the service of reinterment in St. James's Cemetery. As the noise of the Last Post sounded, the remains of this gallant Canadian soldier were at last laid to rest in his native land. ...

(from page 4)

Anna returned to Europe in her grief and succeeded during her second attempt to smuggle his remains to Toronto. She reburied him in St James' Cemetery on Parliament Street after a choral service at a packed St Thomas's (described in *The Globe* on 24 August 1925). Anna then placed a cross of sacrifice over his grave (which recently was pushed over by vandals). As well, in 1920, she published a book of poems in his memory, *Our Absent Hero*. Arthur's name on the wall of the baptistery fittingly commemorates him with quiet dignity without reference to this strange tale.

A second example is that of Nursing Sister Dorothy Mary Yarwood Baldwin of the Canadian Army Medical Corps. Canada lost approximately 66,000 men during the Great War (out of a population of eight million) but less than 100 women in the military, so her presence on a memorial is something of a rarity. Born in Toronto in 1891 and trained as a nurse, Dorothy lived on Lowther Avenue, went overseas in 1917, and was mortally wounded when a German plane bombed the hospital in France where she was on duty, on 19 May 1918. If she was conscious in her final days before passing away on 30 May, she probably knew that other nurses and their patients had been killed and wounded during the raid and that her own life was coming to an end amidst the confusion and terror of the bombing's aftermath. Her remains lie in the Bagneaux British Cemetery on the Somme. She was twenty-seven when she lost her life: she was probably older than the majority of people commemorated in our baptistery.

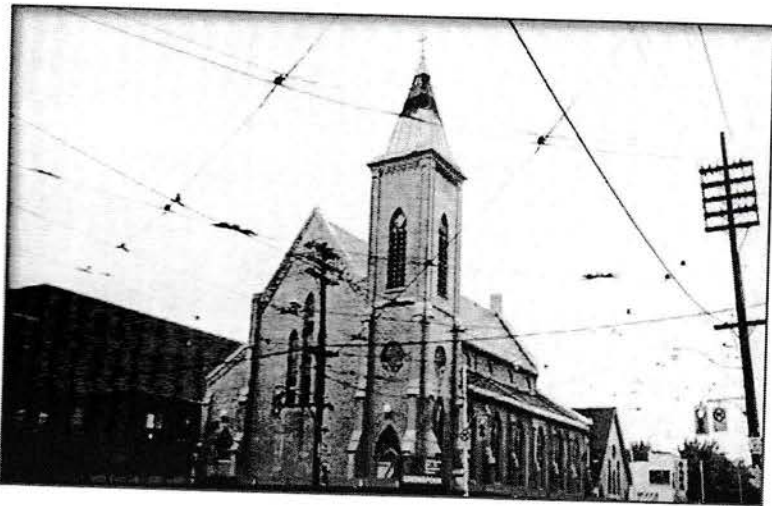
The construction of the baptistery after the war, as well as the placement of commemorative plaques elsewhere in the church to some of the fallen during the conflict itself, along with the acquisition of the black funeral vestments in 1917 and a number of other additions to the parish during the First War all hint at how devastating the events of 1914-18 were for the people of St Thomas's.

During the parish's Great War centennial years, running from 2014 to the hundredth anniversary of the completion of the baptistery in 2022, perhaps we could recover the identities of those commemorated at the church, investigate the parish's life during the traumas of the conflict, restore some of the features from the period, and communicate what we learn to a broad audience. Such endeavours would allow us to comprehend the history of our particular community and its place in the wider world, and would enable us to contribute to the war's broad commemoration while providing an opportunity to consider how the experiences of a century ago might resonate with us today. ■

✎ Dr Carl Benn is a history professor at Ryerson University and a member of the St Thomas's congregation

Lost Churches of Toronto tour

As neighbourhoods change over time, church communities adapt in response. Our own parish of St Thomas's once worshipped in a different building at Bathurst and Wells Streets before the building was moved to the southwest corner of Huron and Sussex. Our present building at the intersection of Huron and Washington did not open until 1893.



When the parish of St Phillip's, Spadina (above) decided to build a new church on Caribou Road, its historic building at the corner of Spadina and Dundas would become a Roman Catholic church. The building itself eventually gave way for the shopping mall that now occupies this location.

Registration is now officially open for the Lost Churches Tour. As previously advertised, the Pastoral Care Committee has invited Fr David Harrison of St Mary Magdalene's Church to lead a bus tour for our parish based on the work he has done for his blog, (www.lostanglicanchurches.wordpress.com). The tour will be on Saturday, June 7th, from about 9am-4pm and will cost \$25.00. Participants can bring a bag lunch or will need to purchase their lunch at a restaurant where we will be stopping. If you have already indicated your interest through our survey last month, you still need to register. The forms provided last month were only a survey and did not constitute registrations. There are a limited number of seats on the bus and so first chance will be given to those who have already indicated their interest through the survey. Others will be placed on a waiting list. Please speak to Marilyn Ramsingh in the parish hall today in order to confirm your registration. Payment is due upon registration. ■

Better know a parishioner

Carl Benn



The author of this newsletter's article on the baptistery, Carl Benn is an historian whose most notable expertise is military history, particularly the War of 1812-14 and First Nations history.

Much of his career was spent with the City of Toronto, where among other posts, he was Chief Curator of Toronto's Museums and Heritage Services, while teaching at the University of Toronto.

In 2008 he went to Ryerson University as the history department head. Over five years as head, he reorganized the department so that there is now an undergraduate specialist degree as well as a degree with history minor. With his term as head ending in 2013, he has had a year off before returning to teaching.

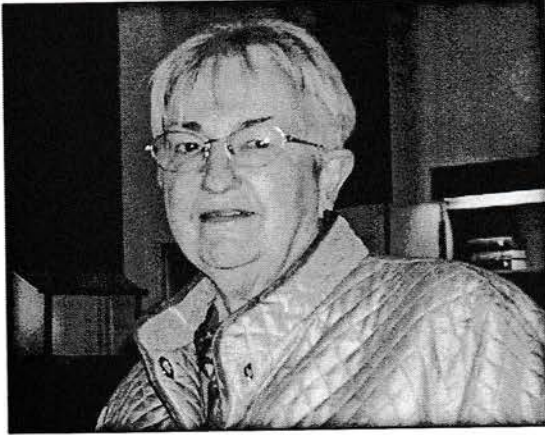
Carl has attended St. Thomas's since the early 1980s. "The combination of the quality of the preaching, liturgy, and music within an aesthetically pleasing environment has kept me here."

His interest and knowledge of the arts and crafts movement makes him a natural for the property committee on which he serves. He and his wife, Anne, have two children well on their way to adulthood. ■

In memoriam

Jean Wood 1938 – 2013

*✎ Mercia Stacey with notes
from Ron Wood, Jean's husband*



Jean Wood (nee Sheridan) was a most devoted member of our church. A long-time member of our Altar Guild and founding member of our local ward of the Society of Mary, she joyfully contributed to their work over the years. A woman of exquisite manners, she was known for always sending out an appropriate letter or card for every occasion.

Raised in Port Hope, Ontario, after graduating from high school, she trained and became a public school teacher. In her first year teaching she realized she'd rather switch to nursing, and went on to graduate as a Registered Nurse. After specializing in psychiatry, she worked in London, Ontario, then moved to Toronto in 1967 and worked at the Clarke Institute, then at East General, and later at the Scarborough Grace Hospital.

Jean married Ron in the church and subsequently had her three children baptised, as were her four grandsons. An enthusiastic devotee of hockey she relished her grandsons' progress in the game. ■



Images in this issue

Thurible drawing: Willem Hart / St. Thomas figure: Birgitte Nielsen / All baptistry photos & Confirmation group: Leonel Abaroa / Nativity play photos: Tom Sheridan / Jean Wood photo: Linda A Russell / *Mardi gras* photo: Robert Mitchell.

In memoriam

Anne (Sue) Davidson Polanyi 1929-2013

✎ Larry Beckwith



Longtime St. Thomas' parishioner Sue Polanyi passed away peacefully at the age of 84 on December 28, 2013. Her funeral was held at the church on Monday, January 13, followed by a warm and elegant reception at the York Club.

As Sue was a first-rate musician, teacher and patron of the arts, the funeral was full of music, highlighted by the extraordinary harp playing of Erica Goodman in music by Carlos Salzedo and Claude Debussy.

Eloquent memories of Sue were provided by Father Neelands during the service and her daughter Margaret, son Michael and son-in-law Jim at the reception. What emerged from those memories was a portrait of a confident, generous, strong-willed woman who was deeply creative.

Her studies, travels, teaching, painting and boundless dedication to her family and friends combined for a long and rich life and her legacy is one of kindness and love. In the words of her daughter, Margaret, "she leaves us with these moments and memories, and with the strong message that there is joy to be found everywhere and in everything". ■

Mardi Gras at St Thomas's

by Tim Wright



The tradition of a Mardi Gras celebration featuring the myriad talents of St. Thomas's parishioners continued on Saturday March first. This year's show comprised readings, opera, art, songs, Gilbert and Sullivan, Broadway, Coward, and Music Hall. For a change of pace, Anna and Rob Kennedy performed a tango. Tim Wright set the stage with Noel Coward's *World Weary*, a nod to this year's horrendous winter.

Performers displaying an amazing range of talent included Robbie Laughton, John Meadows, Crystal Saylor, Janice Meadows, Anneli Pekkonen (reading), Jennifer McCallum, and Laura Meadows with Mika Sneyd. Accompanist for the evening was Matthew Craig.

The evening was planned by the Friar's Guild who prevailed upon Tim Wright to arrange the entertainment. As usual, Lindsay Squire provided an imaginative backdrop for both the entertainment and dining. The New Orleans inspired menu featured a citrusy salad created by Rob and Anna Kennedy, proving that they can do more than tango, Merry Anne Stewart's peppery gumbo and vegetarian chili, and a bread pudding with bourbon sauce from Jennifer Grange. Meredith Scourfield Thomas poured the drinks. Thanks to Merry Anne and her crew who coordinated the meal and cleanup.

All in all it was camaraderie in the best St. Thomas's tradition. ■

Worship

At St. Thomas's Church

Sundays

Early Eucharist 8 am
(Said Traditional Rite)
Sung Eucharist 9:30 am
(Modern Rite)
Mattins 10:30 am
(Said Traditional Rite)
Solemn Eucharist 11 am
(Traditional Rite)
With youth and children's programs
Solemn Evensong & Devotions
7 pm (Traditional Rite)

Daily Masses

Mondays & Fridays 5:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:15 pm
Wednesdays 7:30 am
Saturdays & Holidays 10 am

Daily Offices

Mattins 8:30 am Monday to Friday
9:30 am Saturdays
Evensong 5 pm Monday to Friday

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard every Friday in the Lady Chapel between 6:00 and 6:30 pm. Priests are always ready to hear confessions at other times: call their personal telephone numbers (listed on the weekly bulletin) to arrange a time.



Next Issue of **Thurible**

Trinity 2014

