

Patronal
Festival
2011

Thurible

St Thomas's Anglican Church • 383 Huron Street, Toronto M5S 2G5 • 416-979-2323 • www.stthomas.on.ca



**Altar Guild and
Yard Sale News**
page 3

**Earthquake Relief
Fundraiser**
page 4

**Three Parishioners
Made Deacons**
page 6

**Update on Friday
Food Program**
page 7

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE

Church Directory

Tel: 416.979.2323 Fax: 416.979.0261

E-mail: saintthomas@rogers.com

Website: www.stthomas.on.ca

Church & Hall Bookings: saintthomas@rogers.com

Rector

The Rev'd Mark W. Andrews

416.979.2323 ext. 1; rector@stthomas.on.ca

Associate Priest

The Rev'd Robert Mitchell

416.979.2323 ext. 3; mitchell@stthomas.on.ca

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd Canon Brian D. Freeland

Rector Emeritus

The Rev'd Roy A. Hault

Honorary Assistant Priests

The Rev'd A. Thomas Little

The Rev'd Ian D. Nichols

The Rev'd Canon R. Bruce Mutch

The Rev'd Canon W. David Neelands

Organist & Choirmaster

John H. Tuttle

Organ Scholar

Elizabeth Anderson

People's Wardens

Jennifer Grange, Diana Versegby

Rector's Wardens

Phil Spencer, Anthony Dale

Financial Officer & Treasurer

Erik Penz

Bookkeeper

Greg Anderson

Parish Administrator

Barbara Obrai

Vergers

Jeremy Rempel

Assistant Vergers

Leonel Abaroa

Sextons

Leeman Kessler

Head of Acolytes Guild

Mike Degan

Church School Supervisor

Michael Wood

Nursery School Supervisor

Theodor Aust

Pastoral Care Contact

Phyllis Garden

Outreach Contact

Diana Versegby

Coordinators of Sidespeople

Teri Dunn, Wendy Woodworth

Communications Coordinator, Web Editor

Julia Armstrong

Webmaster, Computer Consultant

John Meadows

Upcoming Events

Patronal Festival: July 3

For the second time, a joint Eucharist will be held at 10:30 am to mark the Festival of our Patron, St Thomas. Following the 10:30 am service, there will be a barbecue. The 8:00 am Said Service and the 7:00 pm service of Evensong and Devotions will be held as usual. Refreshments will be served outside following the evening service thanks to the 20s and 30s Group.

Back to Church Sunday: September 25

Following the success of last year's events, the parish will again participate in the Anglican Communion-wide effort to welcome friends and strangers back to church.

The focus last year, to be repeated this year, was to encourage students to discover the parish. Posters – some formal, others whacky – were put up in the neighbourhood and in various colleges, libraries and other public buildings. A light lunch was provided following the 11:00 am service. Various guilds and organizations set up booths in the Parish Hall following the 9:30 and 11:00 am services so that parishioners and visitors could discover the broad range of activities that take place at St Thomas's.

Plan to invite someone to church that Sunday. And put your creative talents to work to celebrate the ways in which you participate in our beloved parish. Speak with Alice Cooley for more information.



A 60-year milestone The Feast of St Barnabas, June 11, marked Fr Freeland's 60th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. To celebrate, cake was served at coffee hour following the 11:00 service.

Altar Guild News

It is with great satisfaction that the Altar Guild has received the beautifully restored Lady Banner from the Diocesan Sewers Guild. The exquisite embroidery was lifted off the old banner and reset on new silk, and the lettering placed on handsome new velvet. This work, which took a year and a half to complete, was made possible through the generosity of an anonymous parishioner. The banner will be carried in procession at the Patronal Festival, July 3.

Altar Guild member Donalda McTaggart displayed the partly constructed chasuble of the new Black vestments during Doors Open in May. The Guild is hoping that the new set will be ready for dedication on All Souls' Day. More fundraising is required to bring the project to completion.

Other treasures on display during Doors Open included the Roper Cope, which is currently being replicated in memory of Walter Hardacre. That project is several years away from completion.

This year marks 100 years of service of one of the parish's greatest treasures. Our "Best Chalice," which is used on high festivals, was made by Keith and Co., London, and donated by parishioners in response to a Lenten mission in 1911. Fr Sharp gave a large diamond, which was exchanged for several smaller ones, to beautify it, and other parishioners followed suit with various precious and semi-precious stones. At the same time, and under the same inspiration, parishioners raised funds to purchase a country estate (in the Bathurst and St Clair area!) to establish a home for unwed mothers. Eden Smith made the necessary architectural renovations, and Humewood House opened the following year. While its mission has changed over the years, Humewood House continues to serve women in need in our community.

Fr Mark Andrews

Yard Sale Report

St Thomas's is apparently on the good side of the Lord. The entire week before our June 11 yard sale, held in conjunction with the Huron-Sussex Residents Association (HSRA), Environment Canada had predicted heavy rain for the morning and afternoon of that Saturday. Although there were near misses, the rains held off and the General Public shopped with, more or less, wild abandon.

This was the second yard sale within a year. While furniture failed to sell last fall, it was a hot item this time around. Savvy marketing and pricing made a pile of silver jewellery another coveted commodity. We even made a dent in our stockpile of books. Advertising in the *Annex Gleaner* and the *Star* had buyers raring to go before the 10:00 am opening. Although some yard sale veterans were annoyed that we were not ready sooner, they had praise for the quality of goods on offer. We added barbecued burgers and sausage, along with cookies and drinks. Thank you to grillers Fr Mark, Fr Mitchell and Rob Kennedy.

Marilyn Ramsingh and Mary Wilson did a fine job of setting up the sale on Saturday morning, then set about separating people and their money. Not enough thanks can be given to Jean-Paul Napier, who had everything priced by late Friday afternoon, helped set up, and showed fine negotiating skills throughout the sale. Ditto to the rector, who did much of the picking up and then selling. We appreciate the work of everyone who helped in any way, from donating items to doing clean-up. Molly, the advertising dog, was given the day off.

We made \$1,200. Members of the HSRA raised a further \$250 for our food program, and beyond the funds we have raised our profile in the community and have received promises to help with OOTH/OOTC and to return for worship.

Jennifer Grange



PHOTOS: PETER TIEFENBACH

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase

On May 29, Rogation Sunday, the church gardens were blessed at the end of the 11:00 am service. Psalm 67 was recited as the procession moved from the front garden to the urban garden behind the church, where the blessing continued with Psalm 65, verses 10 to 15. Produce from the garden is used when preparing meals for the Friday Out of the Heat program. See page 7.

Earthquake Relief Concert

On March 26 at 4 pm, more than 150 choristers representing eight Toronto choirs took part in a remarkable fundraising concert at St Thomas's, with donations collected for the Diocese of Christchurch, New Zealand, to support earthquake relief efforts. Hosted by Giles Bryant (right) and with a capacity crowd in attendance, the event featured the choirs of St Clement's Church (Tom Fitches, conductor), the Church of St Mary Magdalene (Stephanie Martin, conductor), and St Thomas's Church (John Tuttle, conductor), as well as The Tallis Choir (Peter Mahon, conductor), Schola Magdalena (a resident ensemble of the Church of St Mary Magdalene), and the Toronto Children's Chorus (Elise Bradley, artistic director). Organ scholar Elizabeth Anderson and Fr Mark Andrews (pictured below right) spearheaded the organization of the event. "I couldn't think of a better cause to sing for," said Elizabeth. I think it was Mother Theresa who said, "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love."

A highlight of the concert was the performance by the Toronto Children's Chorus of music from New Zealand, their conductor Elise Bradley's homeland. Included were arrangements of Maori songs, featuring graceful and powerful choreography and accompanied by Ms Bradley on guitar. Two members of our own St Elmo's Youth Group, Juliet Beckwith (below centre) and Alison Beckwith are members of the TCC. Thanks to the generosity of all in attendance and those who contributed in the weeks following, \$13,883 was forwarded to the Diocese of Christchurch. In May, a thank-you note was published in the leaflet: "We wish to record our heartfelt and profound appreciation for your great generosity," it said. The funds are going toward the greatest areas of need, determined by the bishops. *Julia Armstrong*



A letter from Bishop Victoria Matthews, read at the March 26 fundraising concert at St Thomas's

Dear friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our beloved Saviour Jesus Christ, who was, and is, and is to come. I give thanks for every remembrance of you, and my heart is very full at the thought that you are holding this benefit concert for the Diocese of Christchurch. Each and all of you are very dear to me. I was baptised at St Thomas's Huron Street and attended Evensong there regularly for over twenty years. I came to know St Mary Magdalene's through their 9:30 am liturgy and stunning sacred space. Both parishes have extended to me pastoral ministry over many years and have helped form my spirituality.

In Christchurch, the earthquakes and aftershocks have left the city ravaged and precarious. There are still many buildings in danger of collapse and most of the central business district is cordoned off. After more than one month the state of emergency continues. Although most of greater Christchurch now has electricity and water, the sewage system is highly compromised and drinking water must be boiled. As you have probably heard, an estimate of 10,000 homes will be demolished and whole suburbs relocated due to liquefaction. Many businesses will never re-open and estimates as high as 70,000 have temporarily left Christchurch for more stable ground. This means many schools have greatly reduced attendance on top of the earthquake damage which their buildings sustained. The Diocese of Christchurch has seven Anglican schools, three Anglican aged-care facilities and a hospital. They have almost all sustained serious damage as have 25 churches plus the Cathedral. The Anglican Centre, which consisted of more than three floors of office space in a high-rise, is in the cordoned-off area of the central city, so the twenty plus members of staff are presently recreating the Anglican Centre in a small parish hall in a suburb. (We are getting to know one another very well indeed.)

Nevertheless our hearts overflow with gratitude for the gift of life, for the care and love that has been shown to us, and for the excellent emergency response of both the Mayor and City Council and our government. The spirit of the people is positive and upbeat and communities are outdoing themselves in helping each other get back on their feet. Two thousand young adults armed with shovels and good will formed a student army, organized by an Anglican undergraduate on Facebook, to dig people out from liquefaction. At the national memorial service for Christchurch, there was a standing ovation by 40,000 people when the urban search and rescue teams, and other emergency services, entered Hagley Park. Our approximately 300 clergy have been engaged in long hours of community outreach and pastoral care as well as assisting with the funerals for the 200 who died in the February earthquake. Christchurch is an Anglican city, and in many ways the city has looked to us for leadership.

Thank you to Elizabeth Anderson for organizing the concert and for all who have and are contributing. May God bless you richly, even as you are blessing the Diocese of Christchurch with your prayers and generosity.

*In Christ,
+Victoria
Christchurch*



PHOTOS: JOHN MEADOWS

Three Parishioners Made Deacons

On May 1, the Octave of Easter, Maggie Helwig and Rachel Kessler were two of eleven ordinands made deacons in the Church at a massive service at St Paul's, Bloor Street. Both of them have been appointed to parishes in which they had served student placements. Maggie is at St Timothy's, North Toronto, and Rachel is at Grace Church-on-the-Hill.

Maggie's services to St Thomas's shall be missed particularly in relation to the Friday food program, which she led for many years. Since arriving in the parish five years ago, Rachel has been a faithful acolyte, participated in the food program, and was a prime mover in the 20s and 30s Group.

Deanne Patchett was made deacon at Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton, on the Feast of Pentecost, May 12. Deanne served at St Thomas's as a student and as a summer intern. She participated in the Acolytes' Guild, led Bible Studies, and assisted with many social events, as well as the food program. She has been appointed assistant curate to St George's, Guelph, beginning August 1.

Parishioners donated generously toward the parish gifts for the new deacons. Maggie was given a beautiful home communion set. Rachel and Deanne were given funeral cloaks.

We are grateful to these three women for their services to St Thomas's, and are pleased to have provided an opportunity for them to grow in their faith and to discern their vocation to serve Christ's church in full-time ministry while worshipping with us. We also are pleased that former student, Robert Porter, is to be made deacon on June 25, at the cathedral in Kingston, and we wish him well in his ministry.

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who hast been pleased to call these thy servants unto the office of Deacons in thy Church: Make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble, and constant in their ministration; to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they, having always the testimony of a good conscience, may continue ever stable and strong in thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



Maggie Helwig



Rachel Kessler with Fr Mark Andrews



Deanne Patchett

PHOTOS: FELICITY PICKUP (FAR LEFT, CENTRE); MARLENA BLACKMAN (NEAR LEFT)

Moses and the Pharaoh Summer Camp



The third annual summer camp for children will be held from July 25 to 29. Kim Kendrick, a Master Orff specialist, will be returning to lead the camp designed for children between the ages of 5 and 7. Kim is a parishioner at St Mary Magdalene's and was the artistic director of our 2009 camp, *Bel and the Dragon*. She did her Orff training at the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, where she is now a faculty member in the Children's Programmes and Teacher Training departments. Kim also teaches for the Toronto District School Board as an Orff Specialist in the Staff Development Programme. She has done teacher training work with the education department of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and is an experienced workshop clinician. Kim has been teaching children of all ages for 30 years, and is the founder of the St Mary Magdalene Orff Ensemble. Her son Michael Roth is a St Thomas's chorister.

Orff-Schulwerk, developed by the composer Carl Orff and a former student, Gunild Keetman, is a multi-modality style of music pedagogy. In the Schulwerk – which means “school work” – speech, movement, singing and the playing of specially designed instruments are used to introduce the basic elements of music. Children are presented with a musical concept and explore it through a variety of experiences such as singing games, chanting of rhymes or poetry, and guided listening experiences. Finally, they create a melody or poem or movement piece, using the new skills they have acquired, in a culminating experience.

With a team of St Thomas's volunteers, Kim will lead the children through the stories of Moses and the exodus. The week will culminate in a final performance for parents on Friday the 29th.

Through the generosity of parishioners, we have been able to offer the camp at a very reasonable price. If you would like to make a donation, you may use the specially designed envelopes in the narthex. In addition, various materials are needed for crafts: tissue paper, old curtains and cloth, cardboard boxes, pipe cleaners, construction paper, egg cartons, straws, Egyptian/biblical-themed objects, etc. Please contact Julia Meadows (416-895-5954) to make arrangements to leave your materials at the church. *Fr Rob Mitchell*

Out of the Heat

Many parishioners and other volunteers make it possible for St Thomas's to provide food and a place for good community to flourish throughout the summer months. St Thomas's shares responsibility for this program with other parishes in the Parkdale Deanery. Our sister parish, St Mary Magdalene's, takes full responsibility for the third Friday of every month. On the fourth Friday, we jointly host the meal with the parish of Epiphany-St Mark. St Thomas's takes sole responsibility for the first, second and fifth Fridays.

It requires a tremendous effort to run this program, and we are grateful for all the support that makes it possible. There are Thursday Sandwich Bees, one that meets following the 12:15 mass, the other following Evening Prayer. Parishioner Anna Kennedy and her colleagues at TD Bank provided a large number of sandwiches for one of the meals in June. St Elmo's Youth Group member Wolfgang Quan and his classmates at Equinox Holistic Alternative School, Toronto, produced the rest of the needs for one meal and all for a second. We continue to receive great assistance from students at Royal St George's College and St Joseph's School, both of which are planning to spend a full day at St Thomas's in the autumn planning, budgeting, creating, and serving all the food for one of the meals. Well done, one and all!

Volunteers and donations are always most welcome. One of the positive benefits from our recent yard sale was to be able to speak of the program to people in our neighbourhood, and we have garnered volunteer support and donations as a result. On the long weekends in the summer, we change the regular sandwich menu to a barbecue.

To help or donate, please sign up in the Parish Hall or e-mail Diana Verseghy: diana.verseghy@sympatico.ca.

Neighbourhood News

The Huron-Sussex Residents Association (HSRA) and St Thomas's have had an increasingly productive relationship in recent years. A couple of summers ago the parish was able to serve as the vehicle by which residents participated in a government-sponsored tree-planting program. And for the past couple of years the neighbourhood has had a yard sale, with proceeds going to our Friday food program. The parish hall is used regularly for the annual HSRA Victoria Day potluck dinner and for community meetings.

This spring there have been a couple of important meetings to discuss neighbourhood issues. The fraternity house north of the Campus Co-op Houses has been donated to Mount Sinai Hospital

for its community outreach services. Despite the desire to support the hospital's plan to offer services to members of minorities with mental health issues, the initial plan met with considerable opposition. To the great satisfaction of the HSRA, a new plan was introduced at a meeting in May, with the concerns of the community fully addressed. The revised plan includes renovating much of the historic house, thereby maintaining the street front, with an attractive modern structure in the back. In addition there will be a public walkway along the side of the building, leading to a small garden. The hospital is keen to consider ways we might work together to serve members of our community, particularly those who participate in the Friday food program.

A second meeting was convened to discuss growing concern over traffic issues in the neighbourhood. As congestion on the main roads continues to increase, Huron Street has become a significant thoroughfare, with an astonishing 3,000 vehicles per day travelling between Bloor and College. Many residents are urging the city to make Huron Street one way, or partially one way, to reduce the amount of traffic. Councillor Adam Vaughan, who chaired the meeting, will call together a neighbourhood group, including representatives from St Thomas's, to consider options. The Advisory Board will also spend time considering the issue and the implications it might have on our parish life.

Fr Mark Andrews

Poetry Readings

On June 8 the St Thomas's Poetry Series hosted an evening of readings. **Susan McCaslin** of British Columbia launched her new book, *Demeter Goes Skydiving* (University of Alberta Press, 2011), and **Richard Greene** of the University of Toronto read from *Boxing the Compass* (Signal Editions) for which he won the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 2010. Between 40 and 50 people attended. Hugh and Betty Anne Anson-Cartwright oversaw the book table and sold \$450 worth of books.

David Kent



Poets Susan McCaslin and Richard Greene

PHOTO: DAVID KENT