



# THE FLAME

AND

# THE CROSS

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30 November 2008

I could not decide what to call my new column.

**P**eripatetic  
parson's  
page?

The Rector's Ramblings? The Incandescent Incumbent? Or perhaps the Prowling Priest's prattling? Hmm, perhaps rather Church of England that last one. I guess we will have to stick with *The Rector Writes...(next time. Editors.)*

This being my first written musing since coming to St George's, it is *incumbent* upon me to thank you all for the many ways you have welcomed me into your community. Much hard work was done before I arrived, all of it very much appreciated by me. To be able to move into a house that was made so wonderfully ready has made our transition into life at St George's much less stressful and much more enjoyable. I thank you all also for welcoming me as your priest amongst you. It is a privilege indeed to have been asked to come and serve as your parish priest.

I am enjoying very much getting to know people around the parish. The building of relationships always takes time, but it is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

*Next page*

All across our parish community, I meet people of every age and background and what always impresses me, is the breadth of Christian commitment I find everywhere. None of us expresses our Christian faith in exactly the same way and none of us is in the same place on our Christian journey. I liken being a Christian to riding a roller-coaster: there are highs and there are lows, twists and turns. It is not always easy, but it is always rewarding to live out our Christian life.

The more I meet people and get to know of the kinds of things going on in our parish community, the more thankful I become. The congregation of St George's is certainly diverse: we are an eclectic mix of spiritualities, passions and backgrounds. But we are also energetic: people are energetically involved in the life of their Christian community. In many and diverse ways, much energy is being expended to support the life of the Parish of St George. This vigour is one of St George's great strengths and is not to be taken for granted. If I were to encourage us in anything, it would be this: to look around at what God *has* given us with gratitude. So often in Church life we look around and see what we *don't* have. Often we long for more. But we at St George's have something of inestimable value in our people, in the lively joy we all take in our Church. I can tell you from personal experience, this is a rare quality. I give thanks to God for you all, and for the joy it is to be your priest.

I look forward to offering you all much torturous twittering on in the future.

Yours truly,

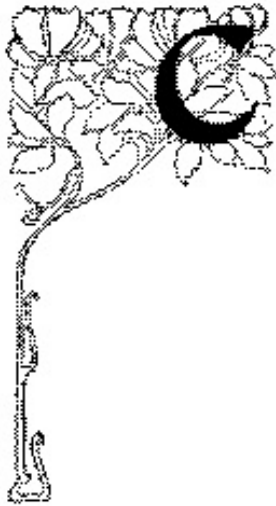


*Neil*

“The true saint goes in and out amongst the people and eats and sleeps with them and buys and sells in the market and marries and takes part in social intercourse, and never forgets God for a single moment.” - Abu Sa'id

One congregation decided to have four worship services every Sunday in order to keep everyone happy. One service was for those new to the faith. The second was for those who like traditional worship. The third was for those who had lost their faith and wanted to get it back. And the fourth service was for those who had had a bad experience of church and wanted to complain about it. They have names for each of the services: Finders, Keepers, Losers, Weepers.





# orporation team

**Greetings:** It is such a privilege for us to be the Leadership Team of St George's Church during this time of transition! Our new rector, Neil Mancor, has been with us for only ten weeks, but in that time, he has entered into all aspects of our church life. He is keeping us hopping! We are so thankful that God has brought Neil to us; a teacher, a facilitator and a priest who is finding new ways to meet our spiritual needs.

Members of the Team are grateful to all parishioners who helped to prepare and repair the Rectory, in preparation for the arrival of the Mancor family. It is delightful to know that this dwelling is again a place to meet and to watch a family grow...even a new puppy!

The next major renovation project will be the kitchen. A budget of \$11,000 has been approved for renovations which will include a new 6-burner gas stove, with two electric ovens, a new exhaust vent, and reconstruction of counter space to accommodate the stove by the window. This project has been spear-headed by Harriet Tunmer for Meals-on-Wheels, and MOW will be contributing \$3,000 to the cost of the project. We are hoping that MOW will be eligible for a Federal grant to assist with the project, for a ministry that serves seniors and shut-ins in our communities.

The Corporation receives reports from ministries requiring approval of budgets, or requesting funds for special projects. We are so encouraged by reports from The Heritage Organ Fund, Fundscrip, and of course, from our capable treasurer, Bart Sellitto, who reports that our budget is on target at this time. A Ministry Fair and Stewardship Sunday encouraged our giving of time and resources to continue the multi-faceted mission of our church.

At our meeting in October, special recognition was given to David Ogden, Jennifer Wheeler and a team of gardeners who have been preparing our garden and church property for the winter ahead. Our garden looks lovely in every season, thanks to their hard work and dedication.

The Corporation Team is thankful for the many parishioners who lead and support the work in this vibrant church. We thank God for all of you.

*Ann Cumyn* Rector's Warden

*Libby Madramootoo*

People's Warden

*Sue Winn* Deputy Rector's Warden

*Bart Sellitto* Treasurer

*Richard Howarth*

Envelope Secretary

*Neil Mancor* Rector

# GOINGS ON



The Heritage Pipe Organ Fund thermometer is inching up.

Rentals are taking off with regular meetings of A.A. and Al-Anon and irregular sleepovers for children.

Meals on Wheels is cooking for its house bound clientele three times a week. Emily, who comes in regularly to wash the pots and tidy up, has just popped in to see the cook.



The children's drama group uses the hall all day every Thursday.

The Altar Guild meets in the chapel. The Wednesday Communion service is a quiet one in the chapel at 10.30 a.m. There is a regular little group who come and more would be welcome. Also the Bible study which meets three weeks per month both at 11.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. is going well. Those attending are studying the Gospel of John and would welcome those who would still like to join. Their emphasis is upon learning how to handle the Bible.



Pizza lunches fill the hall on Wednesdays.

Ste Anne's Farmers' market sets up shop every Saturday from 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m.



# LOOKING AHEAD to

*Peace on Earth*

This afternoon, 30 November, at 4.30 p.m. we shall celebrate an Advent Choral Evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer. This is a combined service with Christ Church, Beaurepaire here at St George's. Our combined choirs will be singing under the "baton" of our organist Jean-François Gauthier.

3 December at 7.00 p.m. the Parish Council will be meeting in the hall.

6 December from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. the Christmas Fair, not to mention the Ste Anne's Market, will be filling the church hall. On our tables will be baking, jams, apple pie, crafts, Christmas pudding and tourtière; children's activities will be helped by the Pincourt Pathfinders and lunch will be co-ordinated by Sue Winn and Brenda Hatchell. All this is to raise money for our diocesan mission commitment. The Ste Anne's market will be offering organic produce, organic meats, honey and beeswax candles which would make beautiful gifts.



6 December (yes, the same day) at 7.00 p.m. the Montreal Welsh Male Choir will be singing upstairs in the church itself. There may be goodies left over to enjoy with coffee afterwards.

7 December is White Gift Sunday; please indicate suitability (i.e. age and gender) and use plain wrapping.

14 December is the time for the Sunday School Pageant and light lunch; for more see page six.

24 December, Christmas Eve Family Service at 4.00 p.m. and Holy Communion at 10.00 p.m.

25  
December,  
Christmas

*Joy to the World*

Day Holy Communion at 10.00 a.m. This will be as usual a low-key, quiet service.

# MORE TO COME



5 December. Come to the "Christmas Wassail", an evening of carol singing followed by refreshments, to be held at Christ Church, Beaurepaire, 455 Church Street, Beaconsfield (corner of Fieldfare Ave.) on next Friday 7.00 p.m. For more information, please call 514-697-2204.

6 December. As already noted, this is the day of the Christmas Fair. It is not only the day for shopping but it is also the day on which help is needed: before the fair to set-up, during the fair to help the team leaders of each activity and afterwards to clean up. This is a plea from the coordinators, Joanne Jackson and Libby Madramootoo.



On hand will be the Honey Man with beeswax candles and organic goats' cheese. Also on hand will be the lady with a freezer full of organic meats and another with hand made soaps.

14 December. Following many rehearsals after the 10.00 a.m. services in the church on the previous three Sundays, as well as a dress up rehearsal on the afternoon of Saturday, 13 December, the Sunday School children will be ready for their great day. On Sunday, 14 December, they will present their pageant as part of the regular 10.00 a.m. service. We have been warned that their energy is high.



Immediately following the service, the Sunday School will be serving lunch to the entire congregation. The menu includes hearty home-made soup, baguette, veggies and dip and cake. Their message is to welcome all to fellowship and sustenance as we praise, worship, give thanks and celebrate the birth of our Lord.

# LOOKING BACK

**Lay Readers,** we now have two!

Nick Pang was commissioned for the next year as a Lay Reader on Saturday, 15 November, at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Pointe Claire during an evening prayer service at 4.00 p.m.



Our own Sue Winn's commission was confirmed at the same service.

The Bishop hosted a reception following the service, for all in attendance.



**Servers,** we now have eight.

Our young servers have been through a wonderful training session which was held in October. The servers have to light the candles, and dout them afterwards. They have to anticipate the needs of the

clergy and follow the rituals of the service: offer the bread and wine, bring up the water for ablution, and on Palm Sunday, distribute the palm crosses.

Will and Andrea Carter, who also "man" the Fundscrip table on Sunday mornings.



# SUITCASES FOR AFRICA

has been the ongoing concern of the Sunday School for some time. Various events have been supporting this initiative.

2 November: The parish welcomed Sister Agnes who later helped in the Sunday School. Then at coffee hour she showed pictures and shared information on the difficult situation in Kenyan hospitals and orphanages. On the other hand, she highlighted all the good that was coming from St George's and a few other local churches and schools. Basically all the money and supplies that we send go straight o where they are most needed.

16 November: Cunningham's pub in Ste Anne's Village hosted a lunch/supper event and gave a percentage of the proceeds from ticket sales to Suitcases for Africa.



Dix Milles Villages

On Friday, 21 November from 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., the fair-trade boutique in Pointe Claire village was open for us to buy gifts, tea, coffee, crafts and much more. Not only were the artisans in the developing world getting a fair deal, but 20% of the profits were going to Suitcases for Africa. Jen Otto and members of her youth/young adult group were on hand to run the store.

*"If wealthy countries had the courage to seek out the source of their wealth, they would discover that it comes largely from the misery of the Third World." Dom Helder Camera.*

# CHRISTMAS CHILD

22 November: The shoe boxes are waiting to be picked up and sent the next day.

# MINISTRY FAIR

On 9 November, after the 10.00 a.m. service, an impressive effort on the part of ministry coordinators meant that at least twenty ministries were represented at the fair. The response from all the parishioners was very encouraging. Libby thanks everyone for celebrating the work at St Georges's.

She is hoping to prepare a digital scrapbook highlighting the last ten years as a way of preserving our history.

