

## RECTOR'S NOTES

In ten weeks we have done the unimaginable. We have moved beyond our glorious building and been forced to live out what we have always known but often forgotten – the church is God's people, not stones and wood. Oh how I miss the daily drive up the hill and chatting with people who were in the lot or the building doing their own thing. I miss the smell of the worship space, the sight of the light coming through the colourful windows, the books waiting to be opened for song and the organ pipes ready to fill the church with sound. I miss hugging people, shaking hands, giving the children candy and having tea in the church hall together. I miss sacraments, meals, and services, and gatherings, and learning together and I bet your list goes on and on too.

But the church is thriving, even in its lament. We are finding our way through the technological challenges, we are figuring out how to stay in touch, and instead of people coming to one building, suddenly each week we get invited into each other's homes through Zoom. I love preaching and seeing people pour a coffee, pat a dog, and tidy a kitchen. I feel like you have welcomed me into your most holy space – and you have. Our homes are now our primary source of faith, and it is good.

You have declared with every login or phone call that your faith is important and that Jesus matters to you. You have heeded the call of Jesus to feed the hungry and care for the lost in new and creative ways. Like me, I am guessing you have found some bumps to be quite unpleasant, but you have discovered new riches in your faith, our faith, too.

We are making history together people and I couldn't ask for a better bunch of siblings to walk through it with.

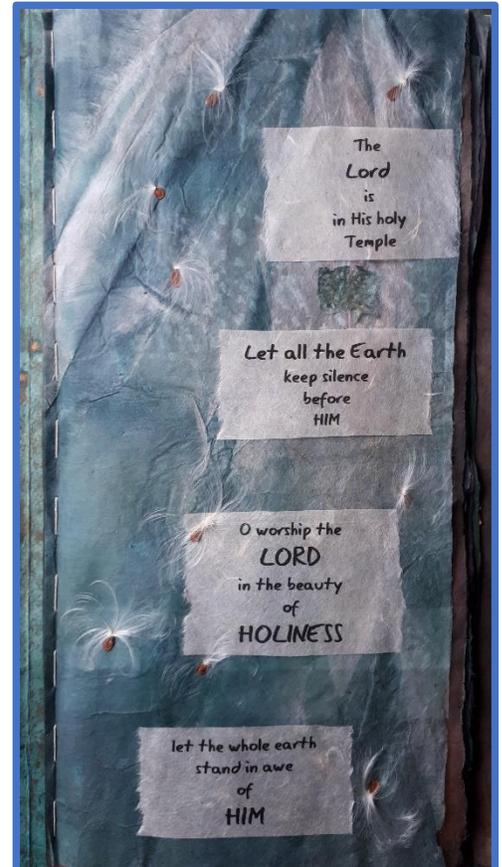
*Jennifer*

## ASSOCIATE'S NOTES

As I said in my homily for the sixth Sunday of Easter, since the beginning of this pandemic and the implementation of emergency measures and all the physical distancing restrictions, I have been going back and forth between grieving what is lost that was good about the way things were, recognizing the things that were broken that we should not go back to, grateful for the ways we can still find connection with the technology available, painfully aware of those the technology cannot reach, overwhelmed by the steep learning curve of new ways being thrust upon me, feeling inadequate about my ability to minister using the technology available and the restrictions in place, and feeling excited by the possibilities this forced change presents. All of those feelings exist together, and I think it's important to acknowledge all those feelings, not labeling them as "good" or "bad", but trying to see how God is at work through all of them.

I am also filled with gratitude for all the amazing people connected to St. Peter's, who are showing through their words and actions that, even before the pandemic, they already knew that the Church is the people of God who worship together, work together, and love one another and their neighbour as Jesus taught, even if we are physically distanced from one another.

*Maria*



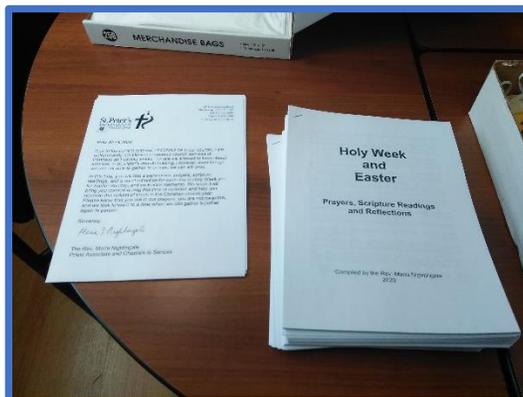
## CONNECTING WITH OLDER ADULTS THROUGH PRAYER

The pandemic lockdowns started one week earlier for me with the communion services I usually do at long-term care and retirement residences being cancelled, and then being told that I would not be able to visit individuals in person either. The clergy, the pastoral care team, and other volunteers have been trying to connect with as many people as possible through telephone calls. In addition to this, at the request of one of the retirement residence's recreational directors, I have been creating weekly prayer services that I post to my YouTube channel

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp4mR6aBF-G-bU2GpKg98og?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCp4mR6aBF-G-bU2GpKg98og?view_as=subscriber) under the heading "Prayers in Exile", as well as an accompanying text version of the service that I email to the various residences for distribution.

Unfortunately, our Easter Senior's Tea had to be cancelled, but we were able to repurpose some of the favours that had already been created for it. For Holy Week and Easter, and again at Pentecost, prayer kits were created that included prayers, scripture and reflections for the holy days, as well as some other goodies to cheer body, mind, and spirit. Approximately 45 kits were delivered just prior to the holidays. I am hoping to put together a summer time prayer kit for the beginning of July. "No contact" electronic versions of these kits are available by emailing me at [associate@stpeterserindale.org](mailto:associate@stpeterserindale.org).

Other prayer resources such as a virtual Stations of the Cross, and a virtual Labyrinth Walk can also be found on my YouTube channel. I hope you will find these resources helpful in strengthening your spirit during these extraordinary times.



## SENIORS' TEA – MESSAGE FROM LENNA

Hello folks, hope all is well with everyone and that you are staying safe during these challenging times. It's unfortunate that we weren't able to have the Seniors' Tea at Easter and, circumstances being what they are, it remains unclear whether we'll be able to have one at Thanksgiving. Nevertheless, I just wanted to express my thanks to those of you who help us when we do have these treasured events; for instance, Doris Huggett for making the favours; and Maria, who delivers the worship package to the seniors. This is also a good time to introduce my new partner, Margo Duncan. Together, we will try to keep this Ministry going as always.

Hopefully, our next Tea won't be too far off; if not Thanksgiving then, perhaps, Christmas. In the meantime please stay safe and many blessings to all.

*Lenna McLaughlin*

## QUIET TIME AND FRESH AIR?

Dawn Pollard and Lillian Newbery have been working in the gardens and would like to invite any interested parishioners to come up and have a look. There are many plants already in bloom, with the promise of more to come. There is also the option to stroll through the cemetery for another view and some fresh air. If you do come for a visit, please practice social distancing and observe other measures, as appropriate, to protect yourself and others from the risk of Covid-19.

*Dawn & Lillian*

## UPDATE FROM DEACON'S CUPBOARD

I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on the operation of the Deacon's Cupboard. Please know that it makes a huge difference in the lives of many people and, throughout these difficult times, we have continued to respond to the needs of our guests; with at least 22 served each Wednesday. At time of writing, monthly totals for March reveal that we greeted 97 guests; in April, we served 81.

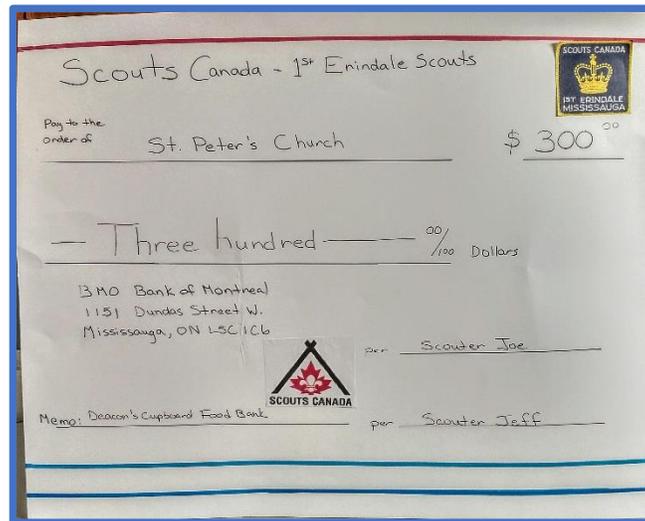
Recently, we received a letter of thanks from one of our guests in appreciation for the care we are providing. This person hasn't always come to our Cupboard but has been to service 3 or 4 times.

The pandemic has required us to adapt our practices; initially, we observed 'physical distancing' protocol by distributing small bags of groceries from our shelves, supplemented with vouchers. Once our shelves were empty, my colleague, Belinda, was able to obtain Loblaws gift cards through the Mississauga Food Bank. We were given a 25% discount, buying \$8000 worth of gift cards at a cost of \$6000. This was paid for by drawing on our 'money cushion' – funds that had been set aside for 'emergencies' – which describes these times perfectly!!

Looking ahead, until further notice, we are unable to accept donations of food. We do gratefully encourage and ask for your financial support. Here's one quick anecdote – earlier this month we received a cheque for \$300 from a local Boy Scout troop. They usually do a food drive, but when informed that we weren't able to accept gifts of food, they stepped up and, instead, did a bottle drive to raise funds!

Thank you to everyone who continue to support the Deacon's Cupboard with your generous donations.

*Cathy Matthews*



## PANCAKE TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 25

St. Peter's would like to thank the choir for their many prior years of service in providing the Pancake Supper, and the First Erindale Mississauga Scouts for enthusiastically taking up the mantle this year.



## BONUS DAY EVENT FOR SENIORS & YOUTH – FEBRUARY 29

On February 29th we held a “Bonus Day” event for Seniors and Youth. Though we were a smaller group on this occasion, there was a good time of sharing our stories of faith, and we took the opportunity to do some brainstorming regarding “what’s next?” in inter-generational ministry. We decided that we would preface all notices about upcoming events with the name: “Senior Youth Connections”. The present situation means that we are unable to meet in person right now. If you have suggestions for online events in which seniors and youth can interact, please send your ideas to Maria Nightingale ([associate@stpeterserindale.org](mailto:associate@stpeterserindale.org)) or Lydia Cordie ([stpetersyouth14@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersyouth14@gmail.com)).

*Maria*



## MIRACLES DURING COVID - 19

Returning to church, albeit our new on-line version, has been a miracle for me. It is great to see people again that I knew before I became shut-in several years ago. Although I am used to working online, this has been a wonderful opportunity to return to church and I hope it will continue in the future for shut-ins. Normally, after the services, I’ve observed that churchgoers tended to congregate into groups with people they know; that was my practice, too. Now, however, using Zoom, I am renewing old friendships and making a few new contacts face-to-face; it’s wonderful. After the services, we are randomly sent to breakout rooms - just like speed dating! It has been interesting to see how slow we are to start speaking with each other. We first look at all the names and try to match faces to names. Mostly “Hello” occurs first, to those we know. Then grandchildren talk to grandparents. This week, some random discussions began happening. My contribution was to ask whether anyone had written their family history. My colleagues shook their heads. So, I shared that I was writing poems for my grandchildren and great-grandchildren’s birthdays during Covid-19. Living in Canada, being ‘a long distance’ Granny to my family in Australia, has made it difficult for me to tell ancestral family stories as a natural part of family discussions. A fellow parishioner encouraged me, saying that to write poems for my grandchildren was a lovely thing to do and that the children would appreciate what I had done, as they got older. She also suggested that we write our thoughts about the Covid-19 pandemic for our family histories.

*Julia Morton-Marr*

## rites of passage

### *Deaths*

February 15, 2020 – Helen Margaret King  
March 8, 2020 – Christopher Peat  
March 15, 2020 – James Albert Mumby  
March 17, 2020 – Roland Deloy Rhooms  
March 19, 2020 – Loretta Sean  
March 23, 2020 – Barbara Lois Adamson  
April 1, 2020 – Alan (Cy) Wilfred Finch Haycraft  
May 9, 2020 – The Rev. Canon Dennis Avon Dolloff  
May 13, 2020 – Walter Morrison  
May 17, 2020 – John Beattie

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## Clergy

**Incumbent:** The Rev. Canon Jennifer E. Reid  
**Chaplain to Seniors:** The Rev. Maria Nightingale  
**Honorary Assistants:** The Rev. Canon William Kibblewhite, The Rev. James Ferry,  
The Rev. Canon David Long  
**Deacon & Music Director:** The Rev. Clement Carelse

## Wardens

**Rector's Warden:** Lucy Hart  
**Deputy Rector's Warden:** James Beckwith  
**People's Warden:** Rod Lewis  
**Deputy People's Warden:** Carol Bailey

**Email:** [stpeters@stpeterserindale.org](mailto:stpeters@stpeterserindale.org)

### Contact Us

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