

RECTOR'S NOTES

It is nice to be back with everyone. The slow return has been helpful in re-building my strength and energy. Thank you, all, for the kind notes and letters and cards that gave me encouragement and love.

St. Augustine said of our Risen Lord. "He disappeared from before our eyes, that we might find him in our hearts". During this past year many things have disappeared before our very eyes. We have lost jobs, loved ones, marriages, health and even hope. We may have felt abandoned, as the disciples did on that Good Friday. We may have wept, feeling that what we have known is gone forever.

What never fails to surprise me is how Easter Sunday always comes. The day of Resurrection always happens. It may take three days or many years, but the promise of Hope and New Life always comes. The risen Lord is forever to be found, in the hearts and lives of those around us; and, when we are still, even in our own. We are beginning to feel a little relief and dare to dream that we can gather again as a parish and as families and friends. Let us give thanks to researchers, scientists, doctors and all who have enabled these vaccines to come to us.

Holy Week is a time to remember the story of the last week of Jesus' earthly life. We enter into that story when we gather in worship from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. As the liturgies unfold, we find ourselves reminded that we are an important part of the narrative. We have a place at the table, at the cross and at the empty tomb. God calls us to enter into the story where our lives might be healed again and again, and we may be transformed and renewed by the promise of the resurrection.

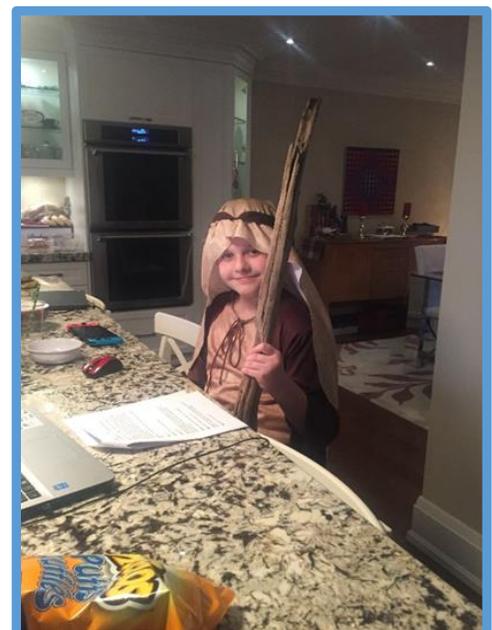
There will be a variety of ways to walk with Jesus through Holy Week and I invite you to join in to one or more. This is a chance to give thanks, to ponder, to renew your faith and find hope in unexpected places. May this Holy Week and Easter be blessed and may you find peace and joy at the foot of the empty cross.

Jennifer

ASSOCIATE'S NOTES – MINISTRY DURING COVID

It was just over a year ago that Covid-19 completely up-ended our lives, forcing us to alter everything we were doing. Despite that fact, there is much for which to be thankful during a year in which St. Peter's weathered the combined blow of the pandemic and the medical leave of our rector for several months. While there is a great deal we miss about "the way things used to be" and much that was lost to lament, ministry has continued as we've adapted and come up with new ways to connect and to continue doing God's work in the world. With that in mind, this edition of Associate's Notes offers a visual look back at the past twelve months.

Worship services continued online using Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook. We even held our first ever "hybrid" Baptisms and a Christmas pageant online! Funeral services have also become hybrid. We've learned new skills that can be used even after the pandemic is over.



For a brief six weeks during autumn we were able to have limited in-person Sunday afternoon communion services.

Robert Townshend was ordained a Deacon by Bishop Jenny Andison on October 18th, 2020.



The Deacon's Cupboard never stopped operating! Every Wednesday from 9-11am, faithful volunteers handed out grocery store cards to guests of the cupboard. Food and other items are available in the Little Deacon's Cupboard at the bottom of the hill. We also reached out to many people in need through our Christmas Cares program.

Children's Ministry has continued with Sunday School online, Bedtime Bible Stories and Prayers on Wednesday evenings, and packages sent periodically to our Sunday School kids and Youth. The Youth Group has continued to meet faithfully every Sunday on Zoom. VBS was also held online. All much appreciated by the kids, the Youth, and their parents!



Prayer Care Packages are sent to isolated older folks, most of whom are not able to access online worship, every church season. Our first package went out last year, just prior to Holy Week and Easter. Since then, packages have been sent for Pentecost, the Summer months, Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas, and Lent; respectively. Fifty physical packages went out each time and more than 20 additional people received an electronic version. A package is being prepared for Holy Week & Easter, 2021. In the fall, we started collaborating with the Rev. Roshni Jayawardena, who has provided some of the prayers and reflections for the devotional booklets, and the people of Trinity-St. Paul, who have begun making packages for their older parishioners as well.



The Seniors' Teas have also gone online (please see article in the March edition of The Anglican on page 10, <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/the-anglican-mar-2021.pdf>), reaching more people than we were able to in person. Accompanying the pre-recorded YouTube video are Tea Party boxes for the Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes that previously came in person.

Parishioners also contributed in many ways to keeping us healthy and keeping our spirits up. Just a few of the many ways that happened: Judy Hutcheson and Birdena Fleming made masks. The Prayer Shawl Ministry team met online every month to knit and crochet together. Photographer Samantha Gaetz took porch photos of parishioners. Mary Frances Cappuccitti created an amazing Bake Sale Cookbook from the contributions of many parishioners. Thom and Mary Ellen Wigle put on a Valentine's Day fundraiser for the new Boiler that saw them make 112 dinners to go, and Gary Spence hosted an online Zoom gathering for those who wished to participate.



These are some of the highlights illustrating the way in which ministry has continued over the past twelve months. It has been a long and busy year. I've probably forgotten to mention some of the other ways that ministry happened in this article, and for that I apologize. The availability of vaccines is giving us new hope, even if transitioning to a new normal will take some time. We encourage you to continue to give of your time, talent and treasure as we continue through this transitional time. Know that God's work never stops, even if the way it's done is altered from how it was done in the past.

Maria

SENIORS' TEA

At this time of year we always look forward to the Seniors' Communion and Tea Party and Service. Sadly, during Covid, we have not been able to set all the lovely tables and have all those wonderful cakes, cookies and sandwiches – not to mention the lovely services, the sing-a-longs and the looks on the faces of the seniors. I miss all of that.

Fortunately, despite our inability to gather in person, the Rev Maria Nightingale has arranged virtual services on YouTube. With that in mind, the Easter Senior's Tea will be April 12th on YouTube; premiering at 2pm.

We will have a great service with lots of participants from the church so please take the time to watch this wonderful event. Many thanks to Maria and Sharmini for working hard to make this event happen; thank you both.

Many blessings to all and please stay safe.

Lenna McLaughlin

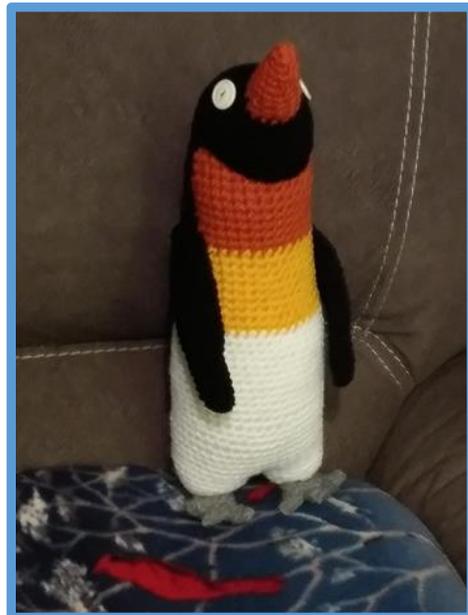
CROCHETED CREATURES FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Dear friends at St. Peter's Erindale,

If you would like a crocheted wild animal, ocean creature, or bird, please contact me on this email ihtecispq@gmail.com. Let me know your favourite creature, any colours. They take me up to a week to complete, so I will do them on a first come first served basis. (Please see the sample here.)

To get started I will need your Facebook or Messenger name, and email so I can send you the patterns that I have so you can choose. I tell the children that every stitch is either a hug or a kiss, "Made with Love by Granny Julia". A donation to St. Peter's when I get yours finished would be greatly appreciated.

Julia Morton-Marr



EARTH HOUR

Saturday, March 27 at 8:30 pm is Earth Hour. Even during this pandemic, you can help draw attention to our planet and issues we face. A simple symbolic act you can do is switch off all non-essential lights for an hour. The website www.earthhour.org has creative ideas for activities for all ages during that hour as well as fascinating learning resources. While browsing the website you might consider signing the "Voice for the Planet" Petition, directed at world leaders. On March 27, you might also check one of their social media pages (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) to view a "must-watch" video they will be posting on that date, and then share it to as many people as possible. For so many of us, nature has been an invaluable source of coping with the stresses of this pandemic so now is our chance to speak up for nature!

Cathy Robertson

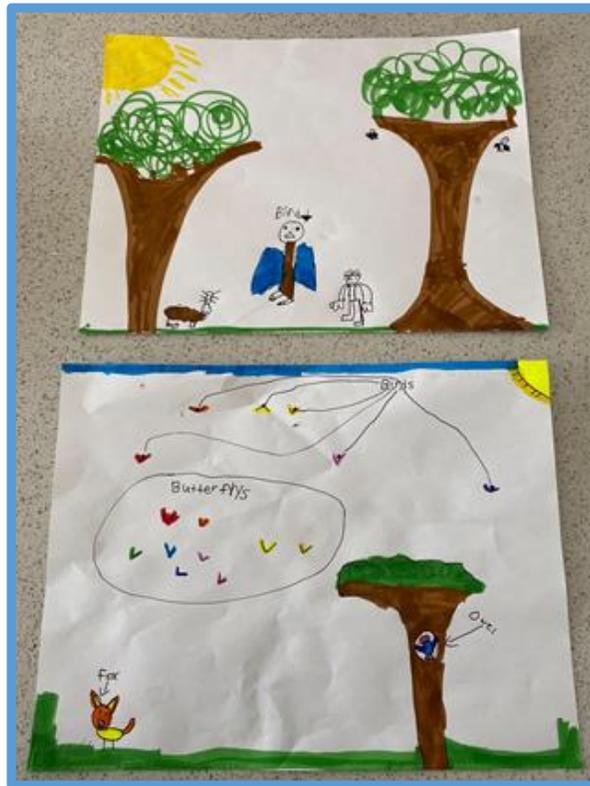
ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PANDEMIC DECLARATION

March 11, 2021 marked the one year anniversary of the World Health Organization's declaration of COVID-19 as a global pandemic. In a [reflection by Archbishop and Primate Linda Nicholls](#), she offers a prayer to mark the day:

God of infinite compassion and mercy,
Our hearts are overflowing with a flood of emotions from the past year,
Fear and sorrow and grief — endurance, relief, and hope,
For the families of all who have died, who have been unable yet to mourn,
we ask your comfort
For health care workers persevering in the battle with the disease
we ask your strength and courage,
For government and public health leaders
we ask your wisdom
For all facing the relentless uncertainties that continue
we ask your endurance and peace,
We give thanks
for the resilience discovered within us,
We give thanks
for all who continue to work to protect and care for us
We give thanks
for your unending love and compassion in our midst at all times.
As we face the year ahead
fill our hearts with that same love and compassion for our world and its needs
For in you we find all that is needed — for whatever lies ahead. *Amen.*

A LENTEN JOURNEY THROUGH THE WILDERNESS

The following pictures and poem were inspired by reflections on the wilderness in our Lenten Study and the Children's Talk on the first Sunday in Lent.



(Drawings by Isabella and Isaiah)

WILDERNESS - The Journey

Based on my life in the Australian wilderness in 1965-1971 from Goolwa, South Australia to Alice Springs and Darwin, in the Northern Territory

4 beats: Written by Julia Morton-Marr. 13 February 2021

In Goolwa a small Tourism town
Sir Richard Peninsula, was covered with grasses
(spinifex and marram)
Ten kilometres of sand dunes and pristine white
beaches
Sixteen foot long roots, connecting the sand dunes
Remove one plant and the sea undermines.
Five barrages separate fresh water from the salt
The Murray River's water now turns into brine
Migrating birds from Japan journey in
Beautiful white Pelicans flying so low
Whales and dolphins birthing their calves
Off road vehicles driving through dunes
Destroying the ecosystem not knowing at all

Then on through Adelaide we drove up to Quorn
and
Marie, where catching the Ghan just before dawn

Cars hitched a ride on the train, by a bloke
Heading for the desert, flies covering our backs
The train line washed away from under our feet
Fasting began, as we ran out of food
Tinned bully beef for there's nowhere to shop

England tested nuclear weapons outback in
Woomera, scientists knowing what they did
People would hide outback from the law
Collaborative spy monitoring out at Pine Gap

We back tracked onto Oodnadatta
Looking for opals in Coober Pedy
Sleeping overnight in an underground town
Men in the pub were covered with dust
Digging underground because of the heat
A tractor and a trailer await for us now
Sitting on hay bales, it won't take us long

Off to the airport, to a small Cessna plane
North through The Gap into The Alice again
Here once a year on the dry river bed
Bottomless boats pulled out of their sheds
A race is held, by running bare feet
The sand is so hot, it is quite a feat

Gather your CB (radio), let the police know
Your expected arrival times, say prayers, here we go
No cell phones, only battery short range radio
Flying Doctor may come, if in an accident, you know
Very few people will you pass on this Track Road
trains frequently help in a fix.
Communication satellites just didn't exist

Water dries up along dry river beds
You'll never know, when it might rain
Protect yourself don't camp here again
If you don't want to die, find elsewhere instead

The Alice is built on red sand and rock
Boiling by day and freezing by night
Water and hessian in front of a fan
Making life bearable, no conditioners ran
Linear mountains and beautiful gorges
Granite created Ayers Rock high in the sky
(Uluru 500 mill years old) Conglomerate rocks
formed 'The Olgas' near by,
Aboriginal spirits still live in the rocks
Please take your water as you wander the trail
For if you get lost, your life may fail

Heading north again along the Track,
A one way highway, there and back
Pull off the road, a road train ahead
The Devils Marbles lining each side.
A walk on the Henbury Meteorite (180m diameter)
Stop halfway at the Elliot Pub, suitcases
underneath the springs in the bed,
No pipes connected the tap to the floor
Toothpaste on toes, never happened before!

Daly River pub for fish steaks on a plate
Camping halfway down a 30 ft bank
Found a 6ft snake in the toilet block
Next came the drovers with brumbies galore
A tinny of beer cooling sweat as it goes
Traveling all day seeing nothing between
Carry ice in an esky, or hot food and beer
Fuel in the car and your jerry cans dear

North to Katherine Gorge, we wait on the road,
the river's in flood, so people just wait
On our aluminum chairs,

feet in the river drinking a beer.
Chew your gum as you'll need it to fix
The petrol tank hole from a rock underneath
Sleeping overnight in the car my dear
A passable river in the morning take care.

Katherine Gorge what a sacred space
High cliffs either side, three different boats in place
Ocre paintings, nearby the docks
Films made here by jumping off rocks

Mattaranka Hot Springs, to wash off dust
Look out here they come, the fruit is ripe
The flying foxes plan to stay for the night.
New friends round the campfire singing Aussie
songs
Building new communities in Never Never Land

Tropic of Capricorn we stop for a drink.
No civilization anywhere near
Night shows the sky with the Milky Way
The Southern Cross, shows up until day

Darwin ahead, where saltwater crocodiles live
(16 foot)
Casuarina estuary at Buffalo Creek
Joined in our picnic, looking for dogs
Here is a kookaburra laughing at you
Down from a gum tree to shake up my steak.

Prepare before you go, research what to take
Understand the difficulties you might make
For others who come, as the rescue party
Might search,
but it's better if they don't have to start.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021:	Services at 8:00 am, 9:15 am and 11:00 am on Zoom
Monday, March 29:	Morning Prayer service at 9:00 am on Facebook
Tuesday, March 30:	Morning Prayer service at 9:00 am on Facebook
Wednesday, March 31:	Family Compline Service at 8:00 pm on Zoom
Maundy Thursday, April 1:	Service with washing of feet live-streamed at 7:00 pm on Zoom
Good Friday, April 2:	Family Service at 9:15 am on Zoom Solemn Service at 11:00 am on Zoom Stations of the Cross – in person at 3:00 & 3:30 pm <i>(limited to 20 people per session, registration required in advance)</i>
	<p><u>The Stations of the Cross</u> that Rev. Maria Nightingale filmed in 2020 can be viewed at any time on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ez8NSIE4gMA</p>
Easter Sunday, April 4:	Services at 8:00 am, 9:15 am and 11:00 am with Communion on Zoom <i>(Consecrated communion wafers can be picked up from the church on Saturday, April 3 between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm)</i>

RITES OF PASSAGE

Deaths

February 9, 2021 – Douglas Murdock
February 17, 2021 – Barbara Claire Phillips
February 27, 2021 – Brinsley Winston Lloyd
March 2, 2021 – Sheila Boliska

Clergy

Incumbent: The Rev. Canon Jennifer E. Reid
Associate & Chaplain to Seniors: The Rev. Maria Nightingale
Honorary Assistants: The Rev. Canon William Kibblewhite, The Rev. James Ferry,
The Rev. Canon David Long
Deacons: The Rev. Clement Carelse, The Rev. Robert Townshend

Wardens

Rector's Warden: James Beckwith
Deputy Rector's Warden: Michael Davies
People's Warden: Carol Bailey
Deputy People's Warden: Ken Baxter

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conversation online!