

## Rector's Notes

At the Candlelight service on the Thursday after Easter Day I commented to the congregation that my day was, well, like many days we have all had. I was running from one important thing to the next, funeral planning, counselling, and singing with seniors, prepping bulletins, answering the phone and into the midst of it all a caller asked me if I would like to sell the church. PARDON???. There is, he told me, interest in land near the university for a new ministry and they thought we might be willing to sell since most churches are closing. I explained that we are a healthy and vibrant church and he countered with "if that is the case why don't you sell it to us and expand elsewhere".

I hung up laughing and shaking my head but I must say it got under my skin. What is our future? Today we are busy, we see the value in the ministry we have with the poor, the elderly, and the lonely and so on. We know the beauty of the worship we offer to God and the strength and peace it brings us who attend. What will tomorrow look like? We can't drag people into church and make them like it. We can, however, spend time growing in our faith and learn how to share the good news of Christ with others. Before Jesus ascended to Heaven he gave the commandment to "go and make disciples of all nations". At baptisms we promise to proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ. Who have we told lately about hope? About life? About love? And when we do tell our stories of strength and determination do we give credit to God publically? This is hard stuff, because we don't want to make people feel uncomfortable nor do we want to say the wrong thing or look foolish. So, we err on the side of not sharing how important our faith is and risk watching the future gradually shrink away.

Please come to one of our studies or small groups and grow as a disciple of Christ. If it has been a while since you have attended the service, come on in and remind yourself of why worship and parish life are important. Please continue to pray and give thanks for all that God is doing in your life, even when it is incredibly hard. Call one of the clergy to help when you just can't find the words or energy to pray anymore. We won't be able to fix your problems, but we will walk with you. We have good news to tell, and this Easter season let's find the courage to tell it. Hope, new life, forgiveness and redemption – and that Love always wins.

Jennifer

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## Associate's Notes

The cycle of suffering, death, and new life is one we all experience in our lives, but we become particularly aware of it during the seasons of Lent and Easter. The gospel story for the Monday in Holy Week is that of Mary anointing Jesus' feet, and Jesus praises her for it because she faces the knowledge of Jesus' coming suffering and death and was willing to walk with him through it in the most loving way she knew how. Mary's act is held up by Jesus as one of loving service, and an example of discipleship. Mary also celebrates the hope of the resurrection. I would like to give thanks for all those in this parish who minister to others, and who accompany them through both joyful and difficult times of their lives, and who live out the hope of the resurrection in this ministry. I give particular thanks for those who are Home Communion Ministers, on the Pastoral Care Team, the group that organizes the Seniors Teas, and those who help with worship services at Long Term Care and Retirement Homes. I am grateful for long serving members of these teams and for the new people who have joined the work over the last several months. Please let me know if you feel called to serve older adults in these or other ways.

Maria

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## Thursday by Candlelight

On January 4th we held the first of our new worship services at 8:30 pm. Each week we use music from a variety of genres (e.g. jazz, bells, chant, modern, country) and forms of Night Prayer from different parts of the Anglican communion. On the second Thursday of each month we offer a Eucharist. This service is intentionally created for people who find it difficult to attend on Sunday mornings or are looking for a different style of service from the traditional Sunday liturgy. These evening services last between 35-45 minutes, are in a quiet and candlelit church, and involve no posture changes. We sit, reflect, listen, and receive together. It is off to a remarkable start with many people finding it is a place to invite family members or friends to try church again. Often there are 5-8 people present who do not attend on Sunday mornings and find that this service is meaningful and welcoming. Consider bringing someone who hasn't come to St. Peter's for a while, or ever, and see if this service helps you to connect with the Holy One in a new way.

## Richard Dentinger Farewell

The Rev. Richard Dentinger has been an Honorary Assistant at St. Peter's for eight years and is moving on to a different parish, one much closer to his home. Join us for a reception between services on April 22 (at 10:20 am) to thank Richard and Janet for all they have done to help the parish. We will miss Janet's care of the bereaved and warm welcome of all. We will miss Richard's excellent sermons, liturgical assistance, and general helpfulness wherever he could lend a hand.

## Anglican History

While you can learn a lot from the internet about Anglican history, why not come out for informative and interesting classes on April 11, 18, and 25 at 7:30 pm for a chance to connect your faith with a historic perspective. Three parish leaders will engage you in conversations about the early beginnings of the Anglican Church, the historic changes, and the recent life of Anglicanism. What a great chance to meet people, grow in faith, and engage your mind.

## Marathon time changes

Please note that the service times are slightly different on Sunday May 6th, to allow easy access to the church during the Mississauga Marathon. Services will be at 7:40, 9:30, and 11:15 am. The early service will have a light breakfast served afterwards, to keep you happy while the runners go past. The easiest routes to enter the church before 9:20 am are using eastbound Dundas Street, or enter from The Collegeway. A map is on the bulletin board, on our website and on the Mississauga Marathon website to help you negotiate your way to church.

## Last Night of the Proms

Prepare yourself for all things British and join in the fun on June 2nd at 7pm. Sing along with the Choir, cheer the soloists, and then come on down to the church hall for a pint or two. Tickets will be available starting in May and the cost is \$10 for the concert.



## Organ Recitals finish May 31

Did you know that every Thursday at noon we have free organ recitals? Come over, bring in a tea, sit in your favorite pew and enjoy the music offered by various musicians. AND, did we mention it's free?!

## **Babytime Show**

For the third time our parish will be setting up a booth at the Baby Time Show during the weekend of April 27-29<sup>th</sup>. We will be handing out bedtime prayer cards, talking with people about raising children in the faith, and encouraging families to grow in faith. If you are interested in helping at the booth for a few hours (we are at the International Centre) please let Canon Reid know.

## **Roshni's Ordination**

On May 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm at St. James Cathedral in Toronto, Roshni Jayawardena will be ordained as a transitional Deacon for the Diocese of Toronto. She will then begin her ministry as an assistant curate at Church of the Redeemer at Avenue Road and Bloor Street. Roshni has grown up in this parish and taught Sunday School, been a choir member, worked for us during a summer or two and grown to know Christ and hear His call. After the service, around 7:15 pm, we are hosting a reception for Roshni in the church hall. Anyone who wishes to attend may do so. Please sign up on the bulletin board, or let the office know that you are attending. An informal meal will be served.

## **Interfaith Progressive Dinner Event on May 5 from 3pm to 9pm**

After the great response from the families who came to the Peace Camp last year, Rabbi Pollack, Sheikh Jaffer, and Canon Reid have been working hard to create a day for the adults of our communities. On Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm we will gather at the Mosque for a tour and first course of dinner. Then we will move to St. Peter's for a tour and the main course, and a few hours later go to the synagogue for a tour and dessert! Cost is \$5/person and is limited to 25 people (at time of printing this SPAN, the list is FULL). Canon Reid is seeking 4-5 people to help plan and serve the meal (kosher, halal, and vegetarian ...wow!).

## **Sharing Our Stories: An Event for Youth and Seniors**

By the Rev. Maria Nightingale and Ms. Lydia Cordie

Older adults and youth have a lot to share with each other, and they benefit from knowing each other. So, on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, we brought together an integrated group of youth and seniors for fun and fellowship. This event was all about making connections. Through games, worship, conversation, sharing a meal, and sharing a bit about the stories of our lives we were able to get to know one another better. One of the wonderful things was at the end when the participants were asked to pick an age group not their own and name something they appreciated about that group. It was heartening to hear different generations talk positively about one another. One of the senior participants said about the youth "The differences I thought were there were only because I'd never had any connections to them before. I appreciate their honest and fresh observations." One of our youth participants said about the older generation that she appreciates "the stories they had to tell, their ability to adapt to new technology, and the ability to teach us how to do things without technology!" This was what Paul meant when he instructed the Thessalonians to "encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." We will have another age-integrated event related to the environment on April 22 at 11:00am (rain date May 27). Details will be announced in the bulletin, on the website, and via social media.

## **THANK YOU...**

To the choirs, readers, musicians, choirs, sides people, golf cart drivers, bulletin folders, mailing helpers, churchwardens, chancel guild members, greeters, servers, children's program volunteers, Easter fire helpers, communion assistants, intercessors, hot cross bun servers, and all the other people who helped make Holy Week and Easter a sacred and beautiful experience. We are a blessed community to have so many people active and engaged in our parish life.

## **Volunteer Opportunity!**

Are you a bit of a magpie, attracted to shiny things? Do you miss the clean, crisp smell of freshly ironed linen now that we have all these 'no-iron' shirts? Do you enjoy decorating for the seasons? If you answered 'yes' to even one of these questions, then we have a volunteer position for you!

The Chancel Guild is responsible for the reverent preparation of services for Sundays, funerals and weddings and for the care of the brass, silver, crystal and linen involved in the services and for the church sanctuary itself. We are also responsible for decorating the church for the various festival seasons.

We work in teams of five or six. Each team is 'on' for two weekends in a row every two months. You will need to be available for Saturday morning set-up and on Sunday morning you would cover the service at the time you usually attend. If you travel, not a problem. Working on a team means there's always someone to fill in for you or you can conscript a member from another team.

We are hard working, yet very social and would warmly welcome anyone who would like to join our dedicated Guild. Please contact Lisa Spence at [lisalspence@rogers.com](mailto:lisalspence@rogers.com).

## **Earth day**

April 22 is Earth Day. Many organizations and communities are planning activities to celebrate, educate and promote activities to protect the environment. If you don't already have something planned, check out The City of Mississauga's activities throughout the week of April 16 to 22 at [www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/earthdays](http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/earthdays).

One of the many listed activities to join is the One Million Trees Planting event on April 21.

Lately there has been growing North American awareness of the benefits for both the young and the old of shinrin-yoku or "Forest Bathing". It was developed in Japan during the 1980s and has been adopted as part of its national medical health program for prevention and healing. Simply stated, it is the medicine of being in the forest and reconnecting with nature in the simplest way possible. Go to the woods, breathe deeply, become immersed in the natural environment via tuning in to the smells, textures, tastes and sights of the forest, and be at peace as you stroll. Since shinrin-yoku's inception, researchers have spent millions of dollars testing its efficacy; the documented benefits to health include lowered blood pressure, blood glucose levels, and stress hormones (reducing feelings of anxiety) as well as boosted immune systems. In 2009, Japanese scientists published a study that found inhaling tree-released compounds — known as phytoncides — reduced concentrations of stress hormones in men and women and enhanced the activity of white-blood cells known as natural killer cells.

Yet another reason to save and replenish our forests and go hug a tree!

## **Spring Concert**

Please join us on Sunday, April 29 at 3:00 pm, for our annual Spring Concert at St. Peter's. It will feature music performed by the St. Peter's Handbell Choir, instrumental and vocal solos, and very special guests, Boys in B. Boys in B is an all male choir from Cawthra Park Secondary School that is student-run and currently directed by grade 12 students Aidan McConnell and Tyrese Walters. Those that attended last year's Spring Concert may remember the group of 10 young men that sang during that performance. They were all members of the choir of approximately 40 voices that will join us this year. The Boys in B bring a lot of energy and terrific musicianship to every performance, so they are definitely worth hearing.

For the Handbell Choir, the Spring Concert allows the group to perform pieces again that have been presented in Sunday morning services throughout the year as well as new material.

Tickets will not be sold for this concert, but there will be a free will offering. We hope to see you there!

## **Summer Camps at St. Peter's**

Looking for something fun and faith-filled for your children to do this summer? Sign them up for one or both of our camps.

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

For children ages 4-11, July 9 to 13, 9am–4pm. Cost: \$30/first child, \$20/siblings. Our program this year is based on Superheroes! This camp happens at St. Peter's. We welcome youth and adult volunteers.

*and*

## Interfaith Peace Camp

For children going into grades 2-6. July 23 to 26 (4 days). Cost: \$75/child. Cut off for registration is April 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the second year for this program which we run with Solel Synagogue and Masumeen Islamic Centre. It runs out of the Adult Learning Centre near Square One and each day we visit a different faith centre. On Thursday July 26<sup>th</sup> our parish will host a dinner for all of the participants and their families. If you are interested in helping with the camp program, or with the Thursday evening meal, please speak with Canon Reid.

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## Rites of Passage

### *Baptisms*

#### **April 8, 2018**

Evelyn Marilyn Blythe  
Addison Kate Harris  
Matei Peter Kanofski  
Isabella Marlina Utarid  
Adalynn Marie Welke

### *Deaths*

February 6, 2018 - Jacqueline Eleanor Mercer  
February 19, 2018 – Eva Joan Tredger  
February 20, 2018 – Patricia Celia Bailey  
March 6, 2018 – Bruce Campbell Barrington  
March 14, 2018 – Gilbert Yetman  
March 23, 2018 – Linda Sotnik  
April 1, 2018 – Eric Alfred Isaac

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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. George Dunkley,  
The Rev. Richard Dentinger, The Rev. Jim Ferry

**Deacon & Music Director:** The Rev. Clement Carelse

## Wardens

**Rector's Warden:** Claudette Hope-Edwards

**Deputy Rector's Warden:** Rod Lewis

**People's Warden:** Brian Edwards

**Deputy People's Warden:** Lucy Hart

### Contact Us

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