

The Church of St. John the Evangelist

Charlton Avenue at Locke St.

Hamilton, Ontario

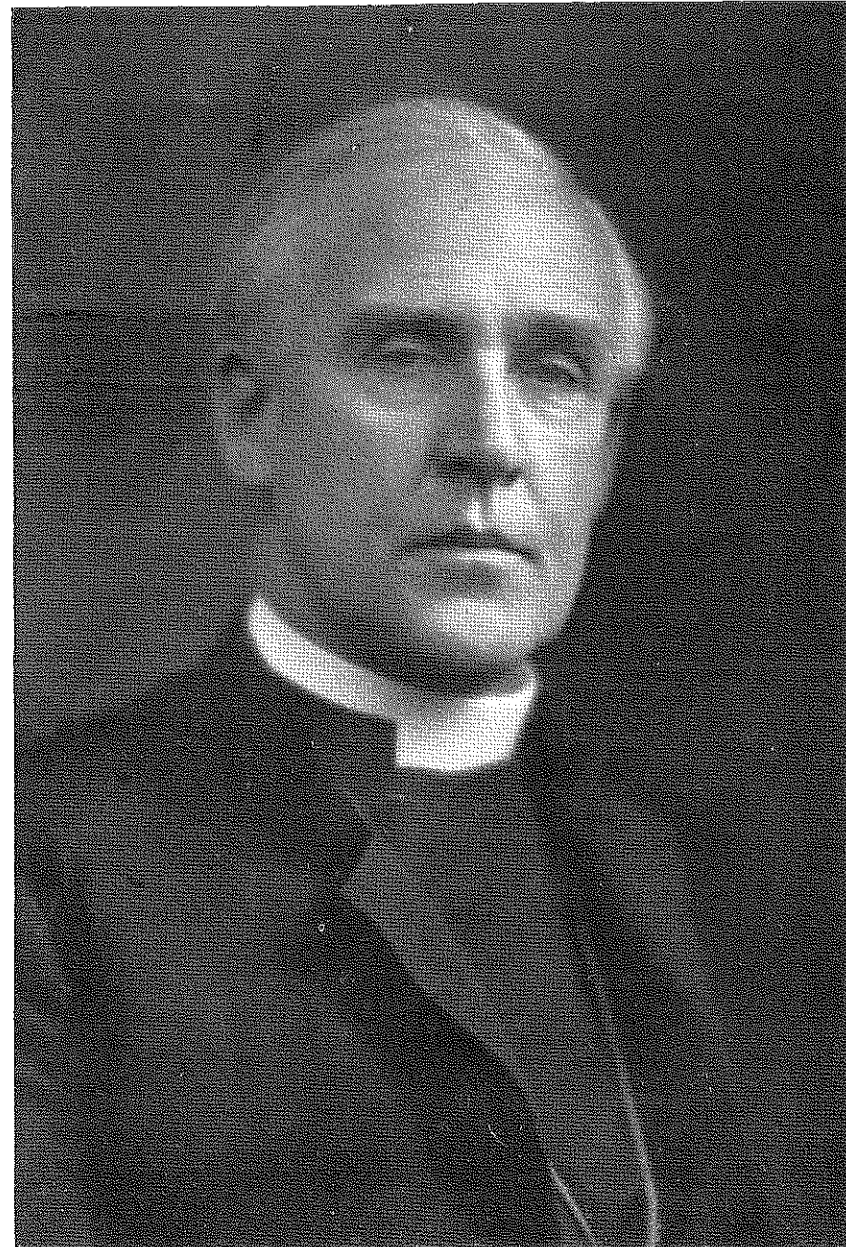
Founded A. D. 1890

57 Years of Parish History

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HIS GRACE, THE MOST REV. DERWYN T. OWEN, M.A., D.D., D.C.L.,
LATE ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO, AND PRIMATE OF ALL CANADA

My Dear People:

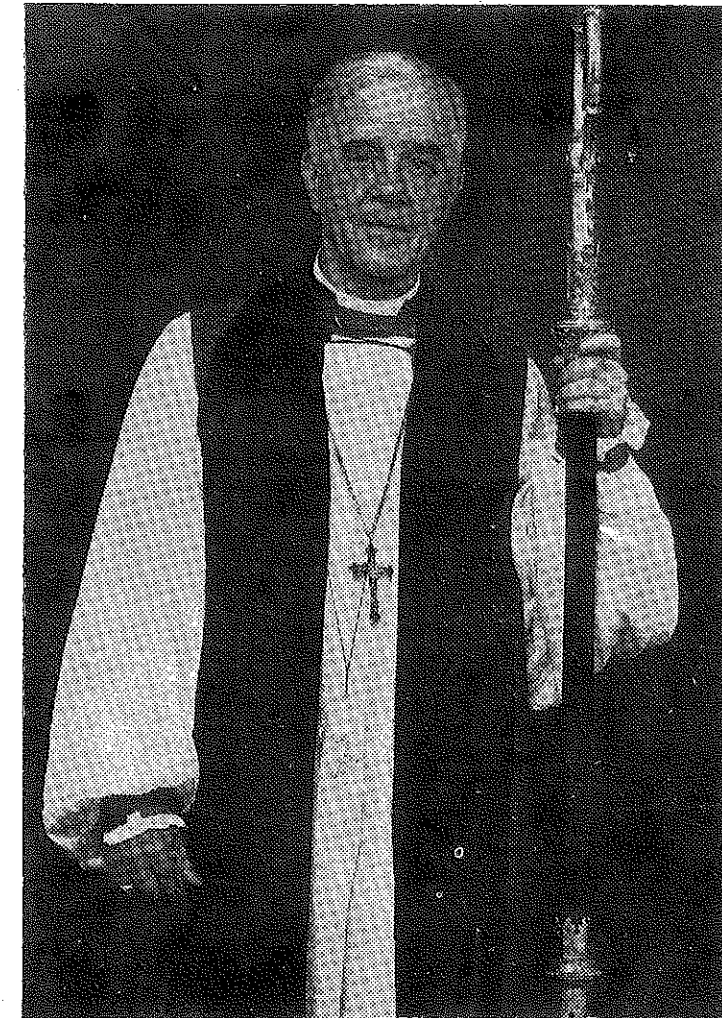
When it was first decided to issue "The Golden Jubilee Year Book" six years ago I wrote for it the following:

"I am interested to know that the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton, is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year (1940). I have known the Church and the congregation for a long time, and I rejoice with you in this event. I am happy that you have as your Rector the Rev. A. T. F. Holmes. He is a man after my own heart."

Now that the war years are over, and it has been found possible to go on with the original plan, I find that what I said then is still the simple truth, both about St. John's and the Rector. May this book and its story of the Church reach the homes of the people and be read by them.

Sincerely yours,
"DERWYN TORONTO"
Primate.

This letter was written just prior to the Primate's death. We are thankful to have this message as a personal memento of him. We join with all Canadian Anglicans in thanking God for his fine leadership and devout personal example.



HIS LORDSHIP, THE RIGHT REVEREND
L. W. B. BROUGHALL, M.A., D.D.
Bishop of Niagara

My Dear Friends:

I am grateful for the opportunity of sending you through your Golden Jubilee Year Book, my cordial congratulations and good wishes as you mark with thanksgiving the first fifty years of your parish life.

The progress of St. John's under your devoted Rector has been a joy and blessing to you all, and an inspiration to the Diocese.

I cannot but note the happy and devoted spirit which pervades the congregation and has resulted in material expansion and increasing spiritual influence among young and old.

May God continue His blessing and give you all grace to achieve greater things for His glory and the benefit of His Holy Church.

Your affectionate friend and Bishop,
"WILMOT NIAGARA."



"AND THE CHANCELS SHALL REMAIN AS THEY HAVE DONE IN TIMES PAST"

This Parish Church, erected by the generosity and self-sacrificing efforts of the founders and pioneers and dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, stands on ground set apart for the service of God for over 50 years.

Here God has been worshipped. Here our fathers have confessed the faith of Christ, the Crucified, the Risen, and the Ascended Lord.

As you visit this hallowed building

REMEMBER

that you stand on holy ground; read the story of the past; ponder well its lessons; and think not to leave this House of God without lifting up your heart in thanksgiving and prayer for those who were founders and builders of this Church; or those who minister and worship within its walls; for your homes, your friends and yourselves and for all the family of God.

"O GOD WE HAVE HEARD WITH OUR EARS AND OUR FATHERS HAVE TOLD US THE NOBLE WORKS THAT THOU DIDST IN THEIR DAYS AND IN THE OLD TIME BEFORE THEM."



THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CALENDAR OF SERVICES

SUNDAYS

8.30 a.m. — Holy Communion.
11.00 a.m. — (1st and 3rd) — Holy Eucharist.
(2nd and 4th) — Matins.
(5th) — Litany.

WEEK-DAYS

Holy days and Saints' Days:
7.00 a.m. — Holy Communion.
Thursdays:
10.00 a.m. — Holy Communion.

CHURCH OFFICERS - 1947

Rector — Rev. A. T. F. Holmes, B.D.
Rectory — 17 Beulah Avenue
Assistant — Rev. G. A. Robinson, B.A.
32 Fairleigh Crescent
Hon. Assistant — Rev. Morse Robinson, B.A.
c/o Toc H., 614 Huron St., Toronto, Ont.

Organist, Choirmaster and Vestry Clerk — E. H. Crickmore.
Church Secretary — Mrs. C. C. B. Pemberton.
Rector's Warden — R. Pattinson.
People's Warden — J. P. Russell.
Church Treasurer — J. S. Mitchell.
Envelope Secretary — H. H. Trigge.
Convenor of Sidesmen — W. B. Sheppard.
Assistant Convenor — G. E. Stanton.
Building Box Treasurer — P. J. Pike.
Building Box Secretaries — Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Stanton.
Sexton — R. W. Sones.

DELEGATES TO SYNOD

J. B. Wilkinson
F. B. Eddy
J. S. Mitchell
Alternate — B. C. Tebbs

MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COMMITTEE

T. H. Coombes
T. Tindale
T. Heaver
E. Holden
N. R. Lightheart

ANNIVERSARY BOOK COMMITTEE

Editor — F. B. Eddy
Publishing — P. J. Pike
Advertising — Ruth Morris



REVEREND A. T. F. HOLMES, B.D.
Fifth Rector, 1938—

Rector's Foreword

The Editor has requested me to write the foreword to this parish book which deals with the history of the past, but chiefly records the activities of the present period. None of us who were associated with the production of the book are satisfied with the information which has been gathered re the past, especially that referring to the early days. For weeks an effort has been made to contact people who might help with the history and the result of this work appears in the present book, but there are still many great gaps. It is our hope that as a result of this book people who have knowledge of interesting events in the history of the parish will write to the Rector passing on to him their information. As a result it will be possible to compile a fairly accurate and thorough history and place it in the Synod Office for future use. It is a shame to lose the story of the early days. It should be preserved by those who have the knowledge for those who come after. If you can help in the completion of this history will you please send in the information as soon as possible. Then, in 1950, when the Parish Diamond Jubilee is celebrated, it may be possible to publish a small booklet giving the revised and complete history.

In connection with the Roll of Honour and Roll of Service we have set forth the names as we have them in the records. If there are any errors or omissions friends and relatives are requested to communicate at once with the Rector, because an exact Roll is being compiled to be used when the permanent Memorial is placed in the Chapel. We are also anxious to compile a list of the men and women in the services from other parts of Canada and the world who worshipped with us while they were training in Hamilton. Please send in these names at your earliest convenience.

Mr. Foster B. Eddy has worked valiantly trying to gather the parish history, and our thanks are due to him for this splendid effort. We would welcome the opportunity to complete the task to which we have set our hands. This book represents the first effort to record for all time the history of the first fifty years with special reference to the present. Many efforts have been made to produce it, but each effort has been met with apparent insurmountable difficulties. However, it at last goes forth but it would never have been

printed if it had not been for the persistence of Mr. Eddy. We acknowledge its weaknesses but trust that it may be a useful memento of the life of this parish.

"The Parish Church"!—How much the Country owes to its Parish Churches it will never be possible to assess. They have played, and will continue to play, a far greater part in building the character of the people of the nation than most of us realize. Religion is the greatest force in the world in moulding the character of any people. It sets the moral standard, and a religion which is to play a real and dynamic part in the lives of the people will vary in proportion to the strength of the parish churches. The parish church is the centre where people gather to worship together. A religion which remains individual and personal may sometimes be helpful to individuals but it is the kind of religion which sounds the death-knell of all religion because it is selfish at the core and therefore doomed to die. Religion only reaches its true height as it is expressed in company with others—giving strength to them and gathering strength from them. Religion to live must express itself toward God and man. It must be missionary-minded. The parish church is the place where people meet to worship together and to work out their religious lives in the family circle. There they gather inspiration and help to apply religion to their own lives. There they plan to pass it on to others. There they plan to work out the practical implications of the Gospel and in the name of Christ to serve others who need their help.

Modern Christians must strive to keep their parish churches alive and in tune with their age. There is too great a tendency to do the things the way they have always been done and at times Anglican parish churches languish and lose their influence in the community because they are out of touch with modern times. It is always the duty of church officials to take the temperature of their parish life—not with spiritual thermometers but with spiritual thermostats; thermometers merely register the present state—thermostats assess it and then start in motion some machinery to correct it, if it is not satisfactory. How much is our parish church of St. John the Evangelist affecting the life of our community? Is it strengthening the religious faith of our own people and continu-

ally reaching out to help others develop a philosophy and goal for their lives, and is it giving them power to meet all of life's problems with gallant and high-hearted happiness? Are we, as Christians, accepting corporately our share of service in the community? A parish church should be a power-house for good living.

If the parish churches of the country are to fulfil their function, a steady supply of the best young men and women must be continually coming forward to offer themselves for the full-time work of the church. A test of the spiritual strength of a parish is the number of young people it gives to the work of the church. There is no life so full of opportunity for unselfish service to God and man and to Canada as that of the ministry. Strong parish churches mean strong Canadians and strong Canadians mean a strong Canada.

The most fruitful field in which to sow and cultivate the seed with the object of producing strong Canadians is that provided by our children and young people. Here the Parish Church should make its greatest effort. If the Church's work with children generally were more thoroughly done there would be no need to spend so many anxious hours planning schemes of evangelism for adults. Not only does the parish church have contact with her own children but also with many other kiddies from the community who are attracted to her groups and school.

Camp Artaban is an effort on behalf of our parish church to meet this challenge and results from its years of service can now be seen. Many of our boys and girls have been won to a greater love for Christ and his Church because of the camp. Several have felt the call to enter the sacred Ministry. The camp is indeed justifying the money and work put into it. However, our work at home during the winter season is not on a par

with that of the summer. Some teachers and leaders are required for the various classes and groups. Much better accommodation is needed for the Church's Sunday School and mid-week programmes. There should be spare rooms set aside for the use of our boys and girls on every night of the week. In a modern City parish there are many children roaming the streets at night with nothing to do. They are not bad children, but idle, and because they possess all the vitality of youth they are likely to get into mischief unless some constructive way is provided for the filling in of their free time. For some children it is not enough to provide a club or Scout troop one night a week. Eventually, if this parish is to fulfil its function in this community, club rooms for boys and girls ought to be provided under capable leadership which will be open every night in the week. This means sooner or later that a modern parish hall should be built designed to meet the requirements of the new age. At present this is not possible so in the meanwhile a careful study must be made of our facilities and they must be re-adapted to meet the needs. There is a plan under way to make possible a small club room for boys open every night of the week, but the most important thing at the present time is to have an adequate supply of good leaders. Let the Parish of St. John the Evangelist win for itself an enviable place among the City Churches because of the care and training it gives to its children and young people.

It has been a joy to be your Rector these nine years. Your loyal and generous support has been much appreciated. Your kindly sympathy has been a great help. I do believe that under God some progress has been made and that we have all enjoyed the happy fellowship together.

Your friend and Rector,
A. T. F. HOLMES.

EDITOR'S NOTE

On behalf of the Rector and the Committee who worked with me upon the compilation of this Book, I desire to thank our many friends who contributed articles for the script, advertising revenue and anonymous financial support.

May our Anniversary Prayer with which we end this Chronicle be implemented by true service to the community through the medium of our Parish Church and Camp for Boys and Girls, of which this narrative relates.

FOSTER B. EDDY.



Norman Wolstenholme, A. G. Holmes, W. Russell, G. Heaver, S. Hogarth, J. E. Crickmore, D. Wakeford, H. Jarrett, J. Greenly, D. Bardoe, A. Walsh, T. Leaist, P. Townson, Mrs. L. Brown, Mrs. D. Ewen, F. Smithem, M. Turnbull, J. Dunbar, R. Sones, J. Gibbons, N. Smith, J. Greenly, P. Warwick, Mrs. C. Pemberton, A. Greenly, Mrs. E. Fletcher, Mrs. F. Locke, D. Hannaford, M. White, E. Sheppard, H. Powell, Fred Maskell, M. Urquhart, R. Burrows, D. Jarrett, G. Munro, Don Firth, Ron Small, Doug. Firth, G. Allan, Stewart Taylor, Rev. G. A. Robinson, The Rector, E. H. Crickmore, D. Hutton, Ron Wickens, E. Noble.

The Choir

From the records it has been ascertained that the first organist of the Church was a Miss Burns, and that the following have served at different times as organist or choirmasters: Messrs. Wilson, C. Grossman, H. Morley, Draper, Dixon, W. Brown, Hodgins, B. Webster, and on October 1st, 1908, the present choirmaster was appointed, with Miss E. Bull as organist. At that time Mr. Crickmore was also made a licensed lay-reader by the Bishop.

In the Spring of 1929 Mr. E. H. Crickmore resigned to take another appointment and was succeeded by Mr. Eric Lewis and later followed by Mr. William Findlay. Under Mr. Findlay women were admitted to the choir, sitting first behind the

organ and later taking part in the procession, with surplices and cassocks.

Mr. Crickmore returned to his old post on Sunday, December 1st, 1935.

The choir has always tried to maintain a high standard of worship centred around the Holy Eucharist, the great central service of the Church. Throughout the years the members of the choir have given very faithful service, and as a result of their leadership the services have always been helpful. The greater part of the expense in connection with the choir has been borne by the members themselves. There are no paid soloists. The present membership is about 60.



Miss E. Spittles, Mrs. N. Leek, Eileen Heaver, Helen Gibbons, Nancy Greenly, Alma Woods, Barbara Morgan, Anne Kilgour, Kathleen Gorman, Margaret Burrows.
Eileen Orson, June Rohr, Margaret Weeks, Margaret Townson, Sylvia Walker, Joan Shaw, Shirley Newbigging, Nancy Balison, Marilyn Perkins.
Miss P. Woods, Patricia Drew, Joan Blanche, Sylvia Smith, Jane Pattinson, Miss M. Wilson.
Dorothy Davidson, Janice Love, Marlyn Boulton, E. H. Crickmore, The Rector, Rev. G. A. Robinson, Beverly Gibbons, Kathryn Pleasance, Gloria Ailles.

The Girls' Choir

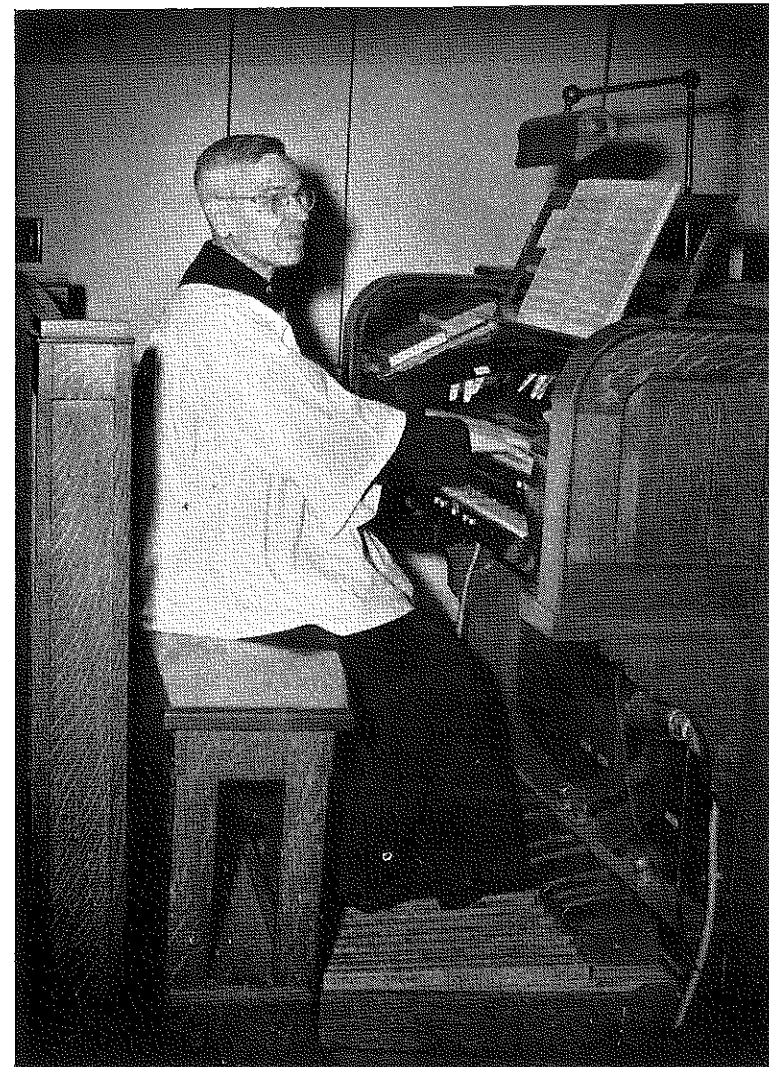
The Girls' Choir was founded by "Peter" (Miss Eva Helm, now Mrs. Norman Leek) in 1938. There were 28 members and the vestments were made by the mothers of the girls. In 1942 Miss E. Spittles was appointed choirmistress to succeed Peter. Miss Pat Woods, the present choirmistress, succeeded Miss Spittles in 1945. The choir sits in the Baptistry owing to the crowded condition of the Church at the regular services. The choir is present at the Sunday morning service and on

very special occasions in the evening. There are 29 members and 6 probationers. Mrs. G. Orson and Mrs. E. Smith are the choir-mothers.

Practices are held every Wednesday night in the crypt of the Church from 7 to 8 o'clock.

Since its inauguration the Girls' Choir has been continually supplying new members for the Senior Choir.

Together with the boys they are responsible for the service on Christmas morning.



E. H. CRICKMORE
Organist and Choirmaster

The Music of The English Church

By the Rev. G. A. Robinson, B.A.

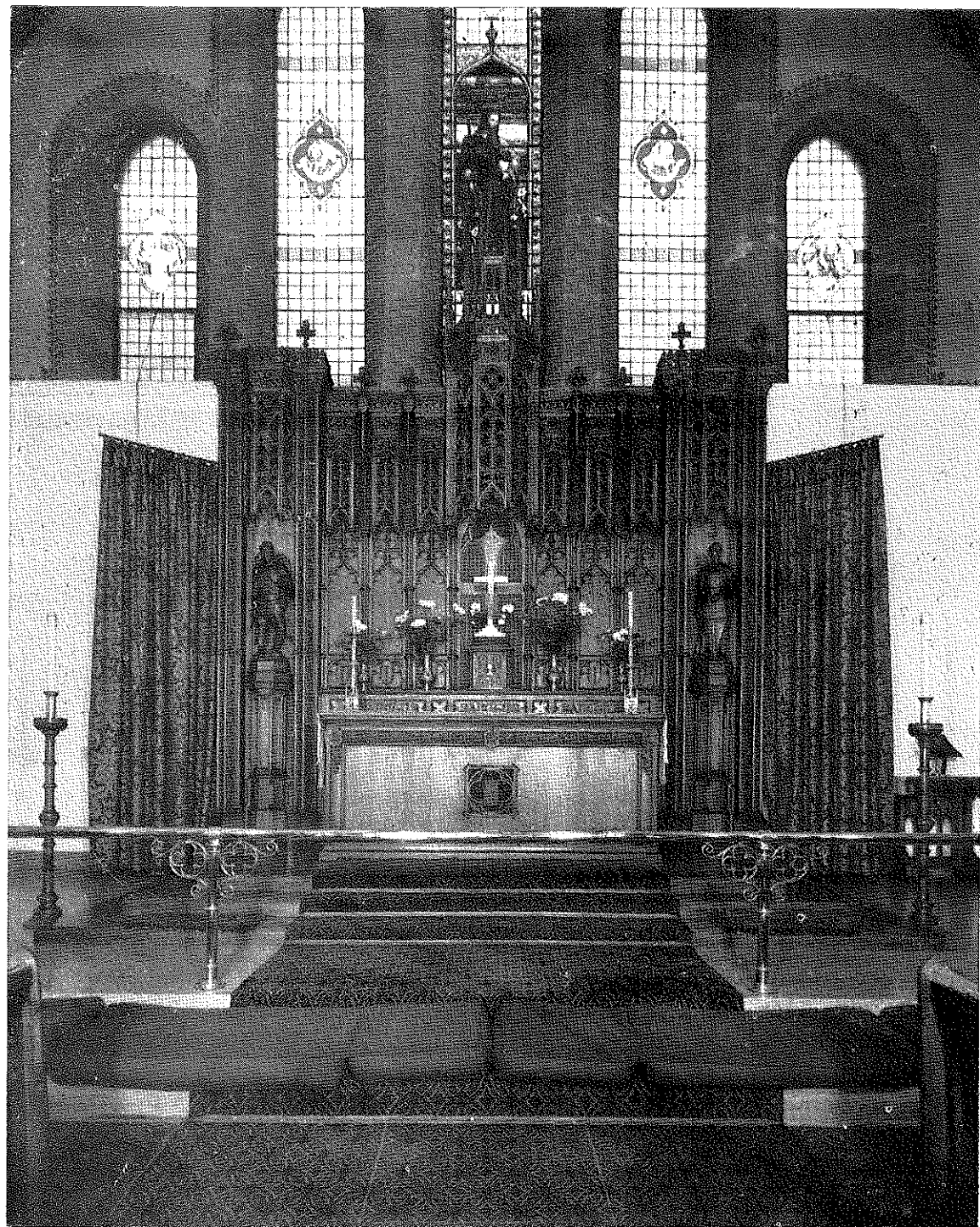
Music serves but one purpose in the Church: to better enable the Christian community to worship God. That seems almost too obvious, and yet it is a statement which must be constantly reiterated. When that principle is forgotten, the music of the Church falls on evil days; it becomes

either florid, or very mediocre, simply an exhibition of the composer's brilliance, or very often of his dullness. Liturgical music of the best type is essentially simple and direct; in fact its beauty and character arise from this simplicity and directness.

The Anglican Church has a noble tradition of music in its worship, though at present it is emerging rather painfully from a period of the most dull and prosaic stuff, largely owing to the attempt of ill-instructed but Church-loving composers to supply music for worship after a period of puritanism when music was derided and neglected. But for many centuries, especially from the XIIIth to the XVIIth, English liturgical music stood second to none. In common with the rest of the Western Church it used the old plainsong and plainchant, better known as Gregorian music. When the custom of singing in harmony came into being, it was based upon the old plainsong themes. A good example of plainsong is to be found in the hymn "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (H.B. 79) which we use at Christmas and Candlemas; this belongs to the IVth or Vth century.

While the famous Italian, Palestrina, and the equally famous Spaniard, Vittoria, were producing works of great and simple beauty in the Latin countries, the Englishman, William Byrd, was writing music for the Church of England, music which has not yet been surpassed for its purity and loveliness. Many other composers followed Byrd in England: Tallis, Merbecke, Batten to name a few.

From the beginning of the XVIIIth century to the middle of the XIXth, there was a great lull in the composition of ecclesiastical works, and then once again the great need for music was felt by Church people. To-day, the Anglican Church throughout the world is producing works for her liturgy by composers who have a real regard for the purpose of music in worship. In England, Vaughan Williams has written many fine works, the best known of which is his tune to the hymn "For All the Saints," and Martin Shaw has spent much of his life reviving the use of folk melodies both in hymns and in settings to the Eucharist. In the United States and Canada, we have many excellent musicians, chief of whom is Dr. Healey Willan, of Toronto, who is considered to be one of the greatest authorities in his field to-day. He is still writing large quantities of music for Church use, especially for the Eucharist.



The Sanctuary

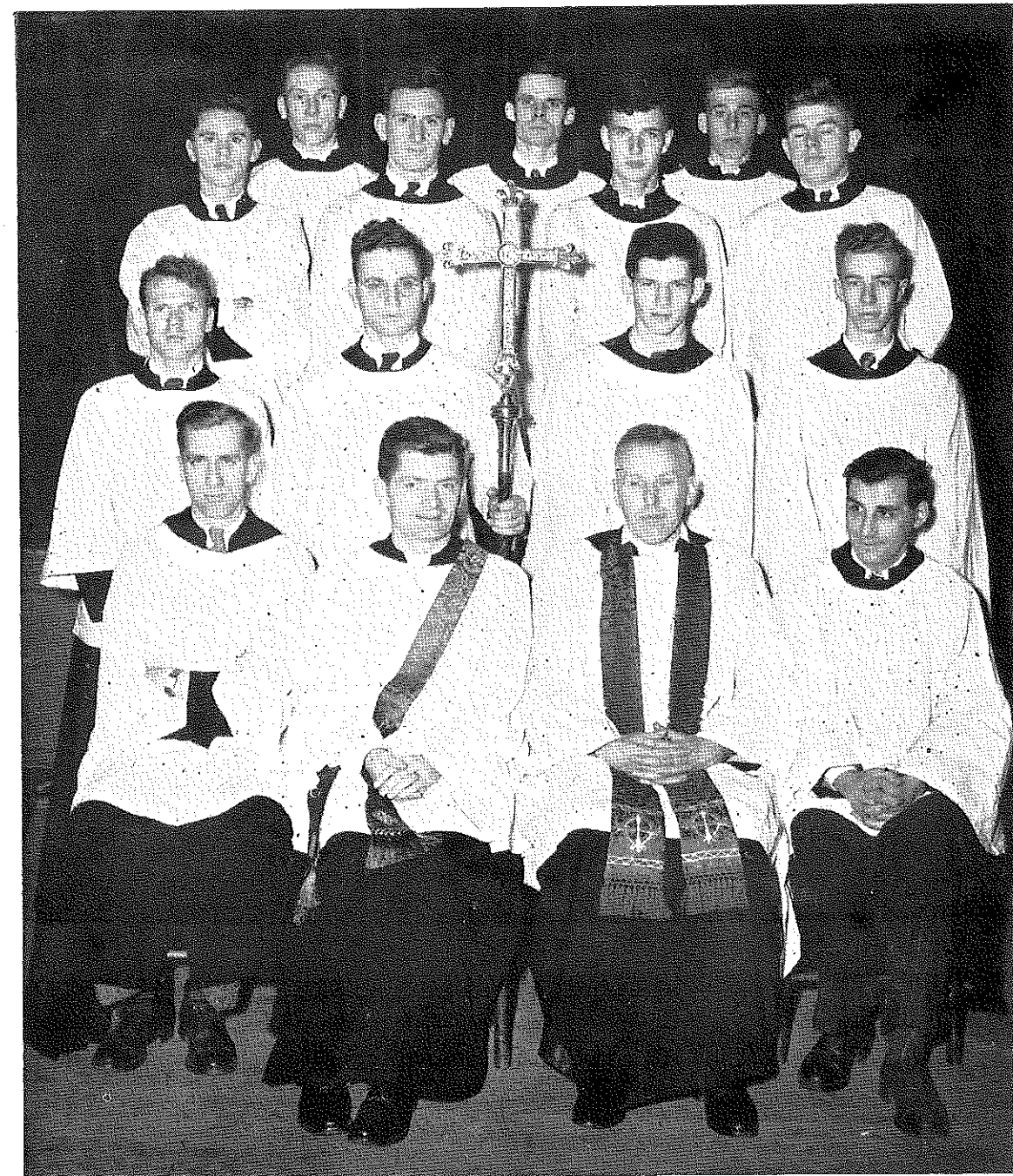
Poem Inspired by the Beauty of the High Altar.

High above the gleaming cross,
Cherub of the reredos,
Face of joy and happy mirth
Beaming on the sons of earth,
Cherub of the Gloria.
(In excelsis gloria.)

Once I saw—a sweet surprise—
God's good humour in thine eyes
Something wakens in my heart,

Such bewitching joy thou art,
Cherub of the Gloria.
(In excelsis gloria.)

'Ere the blessing I proclaim
O'er the faithful in His name,
"Benedicat te." I wist
Thou hadst made thy Eucharist,
Cherub of the Gloria.
(In excelsis gloria.)
—Rev. E. Arnold Brooks.



Back row (left to right)—W. Sheppard, E. Heaver, G. Heaver, E. Collyer, W. Russell, A. G. Holmes, G. Maloney.
Second row—N. Wolstenholme, F. Maskell, J. Greenly, G. Labie.
Front row—J. E. Crickmore, Rev. G. A. Robinson, Rev. A. T. F. Holmes, J. Allan.

The Servers' Guild

The servers have always been an integral part of the life and worship of the parish since its founding in 1890. Theirs is a quiet job but an important one: to serve the priest at God's Altar at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The server at the Altar represents the whole congregation: for every member of the congregation actually assists at this, God's own service.

Naturally, such a job requires a high standard of devotion to the Church; for the server must lead the way, must be an example to the whole parish.

A group, such as this, with its centre at the Altar, experiences a real sense of fellowship, a

fellowship which any organization or parish can enjoy if it makes the Altar the centre of its corporateness.

The guild has its corporate communion on the first Sunday of each month. Afterwards the members breakfast and hold a meeting in the Parish Hall. There are at present about sixteen members ranging in age from fourteen to thirty, there being no age limit in a servers' guild. It is affiliated with the Ontario Servers' Guild which has some four hundred members. Mrs. Les. Brown and Mrs. Ed Collyer look after the monthly breakfasts.



Mrs. T. Heaver, Mrs. A. Maskell, Mrs. A. White, Mrs. R. Sones, Mrs. E. Farnan,
Mrs. C. Pemberton, Mrs. L. Brown, Mrs. J. Williamson, Miss K. Gittings, Miss A. Will, Mrs. H. Wickens, Mrs. A. Kompass, Miss G. Main,
Mrs. A. M. Sheppard, Miss E. Christmas, Mrs. A. T. F. Holmes, Miss E. Odium, Mrs. A. E. Scott.

The Sanctuary Guild

The Altar Guild came into existence during the Rev. E. H. Bowden Taylor's rectorship. Prior to this the work was done by Miss Bull and Miss E. Rieger, with the help of one or two other members of the congregation. Later the name was changed to the Sanctuary Guild.

The duties of the Guild are to keep the Sanctuary clean and all the Church brass polished; to see that flowers are provided for the Altar; to keep Altar linen clean and in good repair; to provide palms and make palm crosses for Palm Sunday; to decorate the Church for festivals; and to provide new Altar linen when necessary. In the early days of the Guild it was responsible for preparing the Communion vessels for services and providing candles and wafers for the Communion.

In 1938 the Servers' Guild took over the preparing of the vessels and the Church Treasurer undertook to provide the candles and wafers.

The Guild has 18 members and meets quarterly. The flowers from the Altar are taken to the sick and "shut-in" of the Parish.

The Sanctuary Guild provided the green curtains in the vestry now used for weddings, paid for the repairing and re-covering of the kneeler cushion at the Communion rail and the cushions in the Sanctuary; gave a new Altar Prayer Book to the Church, and two new surplices to the Rector. In 1939 the new violet riddle curtains were made up from material given to the Church by Mr. F. J. T. Broadbent, and in 1945, a full set of Altar linen was given to Camp Artaban.



"We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock"

Little Helpers

St. John the Evangelist Branch of Little Helpers was organized in 1937. The Little Helpers' organization is a joint effort of the Church School and the W.A. and is the first organization in the Parish in which the young Christians are enrolled. It is for children under 7 years of age. It is the task of the Secretary to visit the homes of the mothers and try to arouse interest in missions. The little members are asked to say daily a missionary prayer.

The annual meeting is usually held in November,

when the contents of the children's boxes are handed in. At the first party the collection was \$5.21 and at the last party in 1945 it had increased to \$44.50. The current membership is about 150.

Mrs. A. M. Sheppard, a member of the Parish, is doing splendid work as Diocesan Secretary for Little Helpers.

For many years Mrs. C. V. Hodges was an able Secretary. The present Secretary is Mrs. Kenneth J. C. Ridley, and her assistant, Mrs. Russel V. Brown, is in charge of mailing the birthday cards.



MISS HAZEL MILES ("TOBY")

MRS. N. LEEK ("PETER")

MISS JOYCE BROOK

Our Nursery School

"Little Jesus, wast Thou shy
Once, and just so small as I?
And what did it feel like to be
Out of Heaven, and just like me?"

—Francis Thompson.

On Sunday morning, 26th of October, 1946, in the Blue Room of the Parish Hall, our Nursery School had its beginning. Eleven tiny tots ranging in age from three months to five years were present: Judith Scott, Sylvia Allan, Valerie Bardoe, John Leek, Maureen Bardoe, Kenneth Begg, Peter Harton, Jill Begg, Maria Feist, Gail Maxted, Ann Sones. The leaders in charge were the Misses Hazel Miles, Joyce Brook, Marjorie McGregor and Mrs. Norman Leek.

Since its inaugural meeting the Nursery School has been open each Sunday morning for children of pre-school age so that their parents may attend the eleven a.m. service of worship. The purpose

of the Nursery School is not only to take care of and amuse the children, but also, under God's guidance, to give such training and instruction that will help these little folk develop into happy and useful members of the Christian Family.

Under the guidance of trained leaders, the children have a happy time doing construction work, listening to and dramatizing stories, singing songs, and playing with the many attractive and carefully chosen toys the Nursery School offers. The toys and equipment used have been made possible through a very kind and generous donation from the Mothers' Union and through much appreciated gifts from groups and individual members of the congregation.



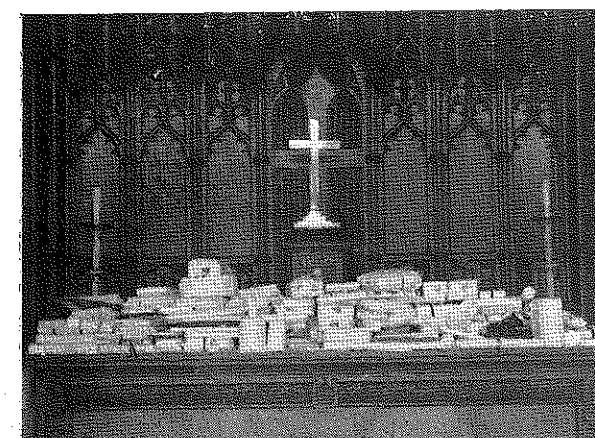
"TOBY"

"PETER"

MISS MARJORIE MCGREGOR

The Nursery School is still in the pioneering stage. Much has yet to be done before it will be operating as the leaders wish it to be. The number of children attending grows steadily, however, and the staff is ever being increased. Our Nursery

School is becoming more and more established as part of the life of our church. May we always remember the words of our Master, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God."



WHITE GIFT SUNDAY