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Of Bishops, Birth and Becoming A Christmas Message

THE MOST REVEREND JOHN PRIVETT
Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon



Dear Friends in Christ,

By the time you read this your Electoral Synod will have met, prayed and voted and you should know the name of your Bishop-elect. Plans will be underway for the ordination of your new Bishop, which will take place after Christmas and in true Advent spirit, you now wait for your Bishop to take office.

When I became the Bishop-elect for the Diocese of Kootenay, Bishop Victoria Matthews remarked, “Now you are slowly turning purple.” It was an amusing comment, but it held the deep truth that in the days and weeks to come, I would slowly become accustomed to my new role and adjust to a ministry which is, in fact, a whole new order. I brought all that I learned as a priest to this new ministry as a Bishop, but I also quickly discovered that there was much more to learn about Episcopal ministry. The day after I was ordained a Bishop in the Church of God, I was introduced to the congregation gathered for worship in our Cathedral. The Dean, Allen Reed, invited the children to come forward and then asked them, “How old do you think a Bishop is?” After looking warily at me, the guesses came quickly: 100! 50! 75! 20! (I liked the last one). And then Dean Reed said, “I would like to introduce you to a Bishop who is one day old!” We all laughed deeply, but again there was an important truth in what he said. I had now been ordained a Bishop and I was also still becoming one. Not a day goes by where I do not learn something new about what God and God’s beloved people have to teach me about being a Bishop.

There is something astonishingly surprising and wonderful about the incarnation — about the birth of Jesus. Here in the tiny form of a human infant, God comes among us. Although angels herald the birth, it takes us to the end of the gospels to reveal again and again who Jesus is. From birth to resurrection, we learn through gospel word and action more and more about the Word made flesh. I have not reached 100 years as one child thought, but I am still learning what this means in my life and in the life of the world. As we draw close to Jesus through liturgical celebration, through the reading of scripture and sharing the sacraments; as we discover the living presence of Jesus in prayer, in the community of faith, in our service to the poor, and in the encounters we have day by day, we continue to grow in our understanding of the birth of God in Jesus. We discover in many different ways that Jesus finds a home, is given birth, or to use one of the Gospel of John’s frequent words “dwells,” in us. The Christian life is a becoming through grace — a coming to see God in all things and being more and more the place where God is born in human lives.

The birth of Jesus is a celebration of the discovery that God loves the world so much that God came amongst us in the person of Jesus “to live and die as one of us,

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Interfaith Ottawa Honours 'Thoughtful and Passionate' Anglican Priest

ART BABYCH

Editor of Crosstalk the monthly publication of the Diocese of Ottawa

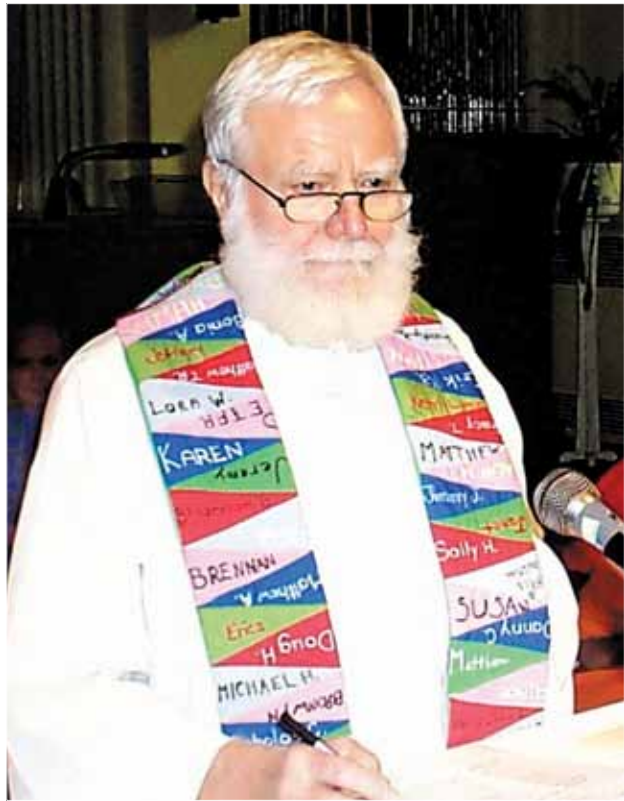
Originally published in the September 2013 issue of Crosstalk • SUBMISSION Pauline Barrett

The Rev. Canon Bern Barrett, described as “a thoughtful and passionate worker” in promoting dialogue among the religions, was posthumously honoured by Interfaith Ottawa at its Annual General Meeting June 23rd.

The organization presented an award to his wife, Pauline, “in thanks for the work that Bern did, while he was living in Ottawa, to further, and indeed help found interfaith work here,” said the Rev. Canon John Wilker-Blakley, Regional Dean of Ottawa East, a friend and colleague of Bern.

Bern Barrett served as the first Chairperson of Capital Region Interfaith Council (CRIC), a nonprofit organization he formed in 1997, along with Madhu Sahasrabudhe (Hindu), and Abdul Rashid (Muslim). Interfaith Ottawa, a body that was formed in 2003 and works with the municipal government in Ottawa, has as its co-chairs, the head of the CRIC and the Mayor of Ottawa.

In his introduction to the life and work of Bern Barrett, Canon Wilker-Blakely noted that Bern was an Anglican Priest for nearly 60 years before he died unexpectedly in October 2011. “From the beginning of his ministry, Bern always worked ecumenically, and later on, interfaith as well, insisting that there were many paths to finding God,” he said. “Then, in the mid 90s as a member of the then *World Conference on Religion and Peace* it was felt that there was a need for a local interfaith organization.”



The Reverend Canon Bern (Harry Bernard) Barrett
b. August 8th, 1929 – d. October 26th, 2011



The Rev. Canon Bern Barrett was ordained a priest at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver in 1953. Born in Penticton, BC and raised in the Lower Mainland he continued at various times in his life to be very active in ministry in the Diocese of New Westminster. To access Canon Barrett's obituary on the diocesan website please visit <http://bit.ly/1a7R3fe>.

PHOTO Courtesy of Crosstalk

That was when Bern and his Hindu and Muslim counterparts formed the CRIC. “CRIC was to be anchored in faith and spirituality, and to discuss the various needs of the community,” said Canon Wilker-Blakley. “In creating this organization they laid a groundwork which has brought

together major religious traditions in this city to discuss many issues and build understanding.”

Bern later retired to Vancouver where he continued his interfaith interest and concern, by working with the Multi-Faith Action Society, he added. ✠

Anglican Diocese of New Westminster

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver

September 26, 2013

**Meet Your Relatives
Grassroots Ecumenism**

An initiative by a Committee of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

You are warmly invited to attend a series of gatherings to build friendship between members of our extended family of Roman Catholic and Anglican Christians. The get-togethers promise a relaxed and joyful environment to nurture respect, open dialogue and evolving friendships.

Three gatherings are scheduled for three locations in the Lower Mainland between January and May, 2014. Each session will stand alone, providing participants the option of attending one, two or all three events. Different themes will be explored on each occasion. The first gathering will be part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

Date: January 26, 2014
Time: 2 – 4 p.m.
Location: St. Helen Roman Catholic Church, 3860 Triumph Street, Burnaby


Why you may wish to attend:

- To inspire and be inspired to grow together in faith, love and service as valued members of the Body of Christ.
- To listen to the wisdom of our various voices.
- To honour the gifts of service we bring to our communities.
- To become aware of opportunities for sharing in existing projects and exploring possible new co-operative initiatives for the common good of our communities.


Each afternoon's program will include:

- Short liturgy offered by the host congregation
- Theme presentation by representatives of both traditions
- Refreshments
- Dialogue to build relationship, friendship, and awareness of how we may assist each other to go forward together to provide loving service to our neighbours.


For planning purposes, an indication of your intention to attend the first session would be appreciated. You may do this by contacting Anne Larochelle at marlan2@telus.net or 604-944-2742.



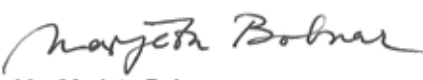
The Very Reverend Peter Elliott
Dean and Administrator
Anglican Diocese of New Westminster



J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver



The Reverend Grant Rodgers
Chair, Ecumenical and Multi-Faith Unit
Anglican Diocese of New Westminster



Ms. Marjeta Bobnar
Coordinator, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver

Growing communities of faith in Jesus Christ to serve God's mission in the world.



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A community of 640,000 members organized into four ecclesiastical provinces, including British Columbia and the Yukon.

The Diocese of New Westminster

The Anglican Church in the Lower Mainland and on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia, 70 parishes and one ecumenical congregation.



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Thank you!

The Canadian Friends of Cathedral Relief Service

SHEILA JOHNSTON

St. Mary's, Kerrisdale

When you least expect it, God leads you to a place, a geographical place, where He wants you to be, even though His reason isn't made clear until later. I didn't know it in September 2010, but when I arrived at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral in Kolkata, India, I was exactly where I was meant to be. We had never been to Kolkata, so my husband Simon and I wanted to spend the last day of our short visit in that swirling, churning city of over 15 million occupants, visiting the Anglican Cathedral. St. Paul's was consecrated in 1847.

It was the architecture that drew me, but it was something completely different that drew me back in September 2013. While at the Cathedral, during the first visit, I learned that a registered, non-governmental organization called Cathedral Relief Service (CRS) operated as the social outreach arm of St. Paul's Cathedral under the Diocese of Kolkata (Church of North India). Back in Canada I *googled* (for Topic readers unfamiliar with internet jargon, Google is a search process that allows you to find information on the world wide web and the name of that "search engine" has become a verb) CRS and learned details about the work they have been doing since 1971. In a nutshell, CRS delivers education, empowerment programs, and health services to residents of six urban slum areas and five impoverished rural villages. I further learned that there was an entity called the UK Friends of the CRS. I *googled* them, too.

By the end of 2010, I had entered into an email correspondence with Rig David, Executive Director of CRS in Kolkata, as well as an email correspondence with Adrian Whalley, Honourary Secretary and Trustee of the UK Friends. Both gentlemen were very forthcoming with information. Both encouraged my idea to found the *Canadian Friends of CRS*. By 2011, I was committed to raising a few hundred Canadian dollars a year to send to CRS, to supplement the tens of thousands of British pounds that Adrian and his Derbyshire-based organization sends. I believe that I was called to discover the work undertaken by CRS, and not just called—I was supposed to actually do something. With David Swan, Keith Bunnell, Sara Badyal and Karen Chen serving with me as Board Members, I created the *Canadian Friends of CRS* in January 2013. We have since forwarded over \$2,500 (or 148,611 Indian Rupees) to CRS. The Canadian Friends of CRS wants to thank all those at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale who have donated funds, and thank the Men's Guild at St. Mark's, Ocean Park for their recent generous donation.

On September 8th, 2013, Simon and I flew to Kolkata



Kolkata in northeast India is a long way to go for a cheque handover. The author, Sheila Johnston (right), Founding Director, Canadian Friends of CRS, delivering a donation from generous parishioners at St. Mary's Kerrisdale to Mr. Rig David, Executive Director, CRS, in the Board Room of the CRS offices, located on the grounds of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Kolkata (September 11th, 2013).

in order to see first-hand the work that CRS does. Rig had designed a busy schedule. "Busy" was an understatement! We were to visit all six urban slum neighbourhoods AND view two or three separate projects in each AND meet the staff AND meet the Board of Directors AND get some sleep. On Day One we were at the school in the Topsia area of Kolkata. 57 children were in the schoolroom—all seated on the floor, no desks or chairs in sight. Their teacher was beaming. The students were excited. It was "Visitors Day." We were treated to songs, given homemade cards of welcome, and enjoyed a dance performance, choreographed and performed by two 8-year-old boys. A highlight on Day



CRS's Empowerment Programs instill a sense of confidence in underprivileged women, and help them to learn skills that will financially sustain them and their families. Sheila Johnston, Founding Director, Canadian Friends of CRS, poses with two students in the beautician course, conducted in a one-room schoolhouse in the Pally Mangal slum neighbourhood, Kolkata (September 12th, 2013).

Two was visiting women who had gathered in a cramped space to learn tailoring skills. They were eager to show me each piece of apparel they had produced. The most moving moment of Day Three was when I met the young adults enrolled in CRS's Training Centre for Differently-Abled Persons. This special needs department focuses on helping young people become socially and financially independent. They sang for me. They danced. One young woman proudly displayed her yoga positions. I was emotionally overwhelmed. I don't speak Bengali, so I couldn't say anything to these young people or to their gentle, beautiful mothers who sat among them. All I could do was give each one of them a hug, my way of saying, thank you.

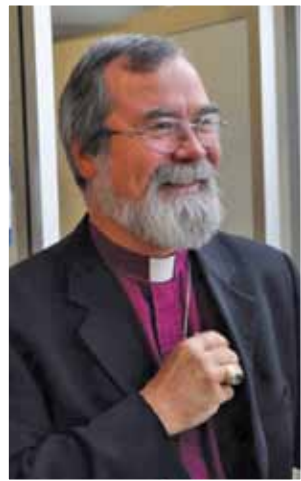
In India, every child has the right to an education. In India, not every child has access to education. CRS believes that every child should have the opportunity to go to school. CRS believes that poverty is only a temporary obstacle and that an empowered and confident woman can overcome this hurdle, thereby making life easier for her and her family. CRS believes that even though the underprivileged lack access to basic healthcare services, it can help by providing regular health checkups at CRS school and slum projects.

The Canadian Friends of CRS wants to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors. We continue to fundraise. We pledge to turn CAD (Loonies) into INR (Rupees) and send them to CRS's headquarters on the grounds of St. Paul's Cathedral (a.k.a. the "City's Cathedral"). In this way, we will help bring about change in the lives of children who want to be streamed into Government schools, and women who want to be able to support themselves and their families.

For more information, please visit our website at www.canadianfriends.me. If you wish to contact me, you can do so at sheilajohnston@shaw.ca.

Of Bishops, Birth and Becoming • A Christmas Message

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



The Most Rev. John Privett.

to reconcile us to God." It is a celebration of the Divine life that still seeks a home in us, shaping us as the Body of Christ where we become a visible sign of Jesus' life in the world.

One of the things a Bishop is called to do is to guard and strengthen the faith of the Church and remind us that we are the precious Body of Christ. The Church is called to uphold their Bishop in prayer and remind the Bishop that in all things she/he is to hold before us the life of Jesus. The pastoral staff given to a Bishop at ordination is a sign of pastoral authority, but more importantly it is a sign that the Bishop is to represent and to remember always that the one who was born in a stable in Bethlehem

surrounded by kings, shepherds, sheep and cattle is the Good Shepherd who guides, cares for and leads us all.

As we give thanks to God for the birth of Jesus this year, I invite your prayers especially for your Bishop-elect who is by God's grace becoming what God will have them be. ✠

Advent and Christmas blessings,



PONTIUS PUDDLE by Joel Kauffmann



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

compiled by Anglican Archivist Melanie Delva

- 45 years • 1968 David Somerville elected coadjutor Bishop.
- 40 years • 1973 *Topic* increases from 9 to 10 issues annually.
- 25 years • 1988 Computer communications are studied as a possible mode of communicating in the diocese.
- 20 years • 1993 *Topic* focuses on school violence as an emerging issue in the diocese.

Journey of Christmas at St. Mark's, Ocean Park Returns for 2013

At this time of year when many people are putting up Christmas lights in their neighbourhood, the folks at St. Mark's, Ocean Park are setting up a unique display in the woods portraying the Christmas story in a multi-media presentation. Since its inception in 1999, the *Journey Of Christmas* has been updated many times and now includes a welcoming façade, music, a sophisticated soundtrack, a fully decorated hall and nightly live entertainment.

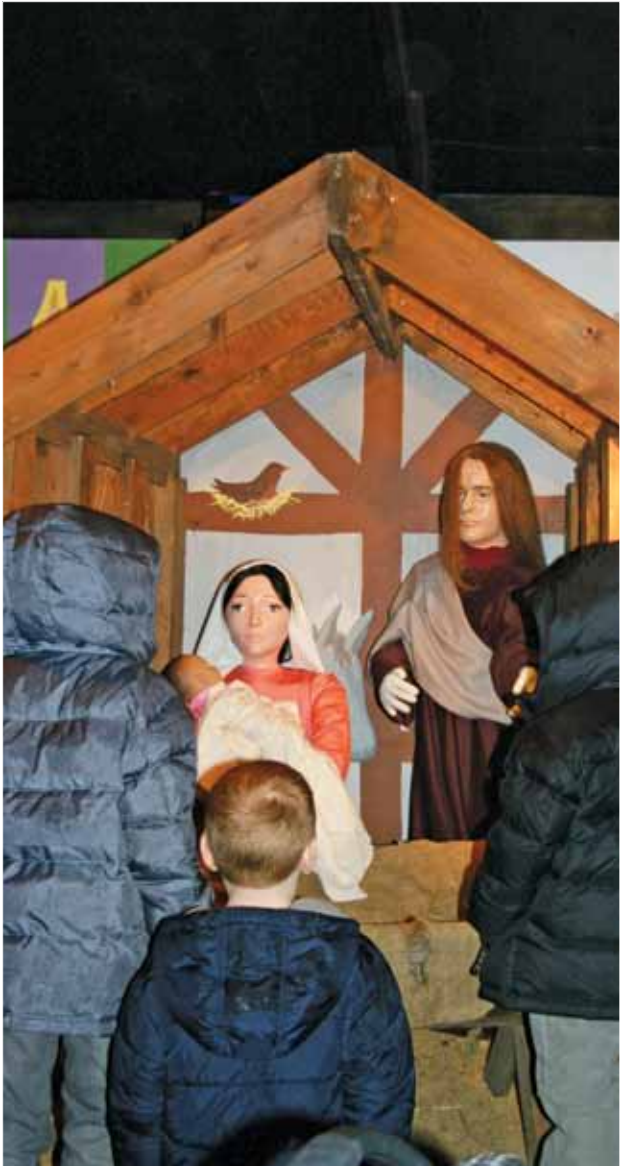
Visitors to *Journey of Christmas* make annual pilgrimages from as far as Coquitlam, Chilliwack and Vancouver to see the Baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds, the three kings and more, all portrayed with life-size mannequins in nine theatres. Tour guides are preparing now to welcome you at St. Mark's to lead you on a 22-minute outdoor "journey" and then into the parish hall for hot chocolate, cookies and entertainment.

LOCATION
St. Mark's Anglican Church,
12953 – 20 Avenue in beautiful South Surrey

DATES & TIMES
December 15th – 23rd, 26th & 27th • 6 pm – 9 pm
December 24th • 3:30 pm – 9 pm
Closed Christmas Day

- The entertainment booked by press time includes:
- Sunday, December 15th • June Gauntley & Holly Bear Tanksley
 - Monday, December 16th • The internationally known White Rock Children's Choir
 - Thursday, December 19th • The St. Mark's Choir with a guest appearance by the new St. Mark's Children's Choir
 - Saturday, December 21st • Gilbert & Sullivan Society Singers

If you have never been before, please make the St. Mark's *Journey of Christmas* part of your holiday plans. Even if you have visited previously, please come again because you know what a gift this outdoor presentation is to the Christian community and beyond. Donations will be accepted to help maintain and improve the popular outdoor display. ✚



LEFT Jeff Poulsen working on the welcoming façade. RIGHT Visitors to Journey of Christmas listen to the story at the Holy Family Theatre. PHOTOS Barb Walks

Taizé 2013

EMILY MARKWART, KAILEE LINGHAM AND PAULA PORTER LEGGETT
St. Andrew's, Langley

Taizé is a monastic community in France, three and a half hours south of Paris. More than a hundred brothers from more than 30 countries live and worship together. Brother Roger, whose dream it was to create a community to worship God and welcome people to share the love of God, formed the community. Throughout the years, young people from all over the world have traveled to Taizé to experience the brother's way of life.

In the summer of 2013, St. Andrew's in Langley sent four of their youth on a pilgrimage to Taizé: Emily, Kailee, Diana, Maddy and their chaperones Paula and Cathy. They left Vancouver Airport on July 19th, 2013, and arrived in Taizé on July 20th after traveling on a plane, two buses and a train. The St. Andrew's group stayed in Taizé the rest of the week until July 28th. They comprised 6 of the 4,000 pilgrims there that week! In their 15 to 16-year-old

age group there were 800 youth from all over the world. A German brother, Brother Timothy, introduced the topic of the day. He was very insightful while keeping a fun and easy going atmosphere with "dad" jokes. After the introduction, they would split into groups of about 10 people each, all from different countries. In their groups they were given a story from the bible relating to the theme

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LEFT The prayer chapel at "the Source" — a green place for meditation. RIGHT Maddie, Kailee, Diana and Emily. PHOTOS Cathy Barnes



A Very Special Couple

Farewell to Alice and Elmer Clarke

VAL HAMPTON
St. Michael's, Surrey

On Sunday, September 29th, the members of St. Michael's, Surrey said a fond but sad farewell to a very special couple — Alice and Elmer Clarke. A luncheon donated by the Anglican Church Women (ACW) of the parish was held in their honour. Presentations of gifts of thanks were made, and several people shared special memories of the couple's many years of dedicated and faithful service to St. Michael's, the diocese and to the greater Surrey community.

The Rev. Douglas Stewart married Alice and Elmer at St. Michael's during the Sunday morning worship service on June 23rd, 1991. It was a memorable occasion, both for them and for the whole congregation.

Alice played a very prominent role in all aspects of Church life. She held the office of Warden and Synod Delegate, and also served in various positions on the Church Council. She was the ACW Treasurer for many years and also served as Treasurer and Area Rep on the Diocesan ACW Board. Last year, she was invested into the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster (ODNW). Her many

talents were highly regarded as a dedicated member of the Altar Guild, and both she and Elmer were valued members of the Church Choir.

Elmer is a handyman extraordinaire. If anything needed fixing, Elmer could always be relied upon to fix it—from replacing light bulbs to repairing the outdoor fountain. He is also an excellent cook—a skill he learned while in the Navy—and was always ready to prepare something special for the monthly potluck dinners at St. Michael's. He and Alice also served the community for many years by cooking for the disadvantaged in Surrey through the Nightshift Program. When the program first started, they cooked every Wednesday for over 100 people. Usually they made some type of soup or stew, and their recipes varied from week to week. It was said that there was a special reason for participants in the program to line up on Wednesdays and that was because the food was so good!

In the last few years, due to health problems and their ages, they have had to slow down somewhat, but still con-

tinued to contribute in every way possible.

The St. Michael's, Surrey faith community wished them both God's many blessings as they left the special celebration to catch the ferry to Victoria and their new home. ✠

Elmer and Alice cut the Farewell Cake. PHOTO Darlene Austin



LEFT The Clarke's pose with a gift from the parish, a framed photo of the Church with the Rev. Louie Engnan on the left and Warden Jeddy James on the right.

RIGHT The last Sunday singing in the St. Michael's, Surrey Choir. PHOTOS Darlene Austin



Taizé 2013

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

of the week: *Trusting God*. The Langley pilgrims found their groups very accepting and open-minded. Within the group, the girls learned songs and words in other languages.

With 4,000 people present from all over the world, Paula, Cathy, Emily, Kailee, Maddy and Diana were exposed to many different cultures. They met youth from Italy, Serbia, Germany, Sweden, United States and Britain. The St. Andrew's contingent made very good friends with people from New Jersey and Britain. Throughout the week, Kailee collected 10 different translations of the word *squirrel*! During the services, the Taizé songs were sung in all different languages. By the end of the week, the girls were confidently singing in German, Russian, Italian and

French. Emily described the musical experience as being surrounded by a "blanket of song."

"Being surrounded by 4,000 voices in a big Church was magical!" Emily exclaimed.

During the services, a bible passage was read at both morning and evening prayer in English and French, and then the main message of the passage was translated into, and shared in, every language present. Midday prayer was mainly singing and every service contained 10 minutes of silence. Every morning, there was Eucharist for all those who wished to receive. Friday was treated as Good Friday and Saturday was a celebration of the Resurrection with candles during the reading of the Resurrection at evening

prayer. The food was very good and sustaining. Breakfast consisted of bread and chocolate with cocoa. Lunch and dinner were very good and filling. Snacks could be bought nearby for reasonable prices!

When the week came to a close, the girls did not want to leave at all!

The things the St. Andrew's, Langley pilgrims learned and experienced at Taizé will stay with them for the rest of their lives, and they hope to stay in contact with the friends that they made there for a long time to come.

If you are thinking about going to Taizé, do it! The girl's advice is to go with an open mind and heart and be prepared to sing in different languages! ✠

A meal at Taizé: Maddie, Emilie, Diana, Joel (from the UK) and Diana. PHOTO Cathy Barnes



Folks milling around one corner of the Church. PHOTO Cathy Barnes



Beginnings are Delicate Places

Do Not Be Afraid... for God is With You

RANDY MURRAY

Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

The Induction of the Rev. Expedito Farinas as Rector of Bishop Hills' Memorial Church of St. Mary the Virgin, South Hill (St. Mary's, South Hill) on October 15th, 2013, wasn't just the beginning of a new, shared ministry but the outward manifestation of a faith community that loves God, loves each other and loves to be in ministry together.

On September 11th, 2012, St. Mary's People's Warden John Wright led a contingent of parishioners to the Diocesan Council meeting held at St. Augustine's. One of the items on the agenda for Council that evening was a Motion of Closure for St. Mary's, South Hill. John and other members of the parish, including current Rector's Warden Evelyn McMurtrie, were exercising their right to bring forward their views to Diocesan Council at *either of the two meetings (according to Canon 13) where Diocesan Council considers closure.*

John began by saying that a year earlier, following the summer of 2011, the parish was way down, there was no energy and an increasing awareness that their faith community was coming to the end of its ministry. All of a sudden at the October 1st, 2011 Vestry Meeting, the community engaged each other in a visioning process and John was shocked but delighted by the amount of energy that filled the room. They enthusiastically formed breakout groups and began to talk about what they could do.

Church attendance previously had hovered at around 20 on a Sunday morning, but in the fall of 2011 it grew, and as of the September 2012 visit to Diocesan Council had more than doubled in size, with the added joy of children attending Sunday School.

The St. Mary's community was ready to move forward, participate fully in the diocesan Ministry Assessment Process (MAP) and seriously commit to personal evangelism in the South Hill area of Southeast Vancouver by inviting people in. They had already started this mission by implementing a direct distribution campaign of information brochures to homes. It was evident that there was an opportunity to engage the community, particularly the Filipino community who live in the vicinity.

On October 11th, 2012, at St. Margaret's, Cedar Cottage in East Vancouver, exactly one month after the St. Mary's contingent's visit to Diocesan Council, then-Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham presided over a Service of Reception of Holy Orders, welcoming the Rev. Expedito Farinas as priest in the Anglican Church of Canada following receipt of letters of transfer by the Bishop's Office from the Philippine Independent Church, the Church into which Expedito had been ordained.

The wait for letters of transfer had been a long one and over the years, Expedito had served in ministry to the Parish of St. Michael's Multicultural Anglican Church, Broadway, a congregation with a core of Filipino-Canadian Anglicans.

Over the next 10 months, Bishop Michael and diocesan leadership worked very hard with the Parish of St. Mary's to come up with a ministry plan. That plan included continued engagement of the Filipino-Canadian community in South Vancouver and the appointment of a Filipino-Canadian incumbent, the Rev. Expedito Farinas. In August 2013, the Executive Archdeacon, the Ven. Douglas Fenton announced that Bishop Michael had appointed Expedito as Incumbent of Bishop Hills Memorial Church of St. Mary the Virgin (St. Mary's, South Hill) effective September 1st, 2013. In conjunction with the Parish leadership, Fr. Expedito would be charged with developing a Filipino community while strengthening the existing congregation for its ministry in South Hill. In the appointment announcement, the Rev. Keith Gilbert was thanked for his ministry as Sunday Supply Priest during the months preceding the appointment.

October 15th, 2013, marked the induction of Expedito as Incumbent—the happy day was finally here. The Church was near capacity and there was a very good turnout of clergy, particularly from the Burrard Archdeaconry and the East Vancouver/Burrard Deanery.

The Very Rev. Peter Elliott, Dean and Administrator of the Diocese of New Westminster, was present to welcome the congregation, describe the process by which the new priest was chosen, and administer the Covenant in Ministry between Expedito, the Parish of St. Mary's, South Hill and the greater Church. The Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of New Westminster, the Ven. Douglas Fenton, presented the license and read the content of the license to the congregation. The Archdeacon of Burrard, the Ven.



The Dean and Administrator of the Diocese of New Westminster, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott welcomes the congregation.



Rector's Warden Evelyn McMurtrie offers the first reading.



The Ven. Dr. Ellen Clark-King.



The Children of the Sunday School have just finished presenting Fr. Expedito with a Bible during the presentation of the Symbols of Ministry.



Shania Shanker singing, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus.*

Ellen Clark-King was the preacher and the Regional Dean of East Vancouver/Burrard and Rector of St. Margaret's, Cedar Cottage, the Rev. Heidi Brear, presided at the Eucharist. There was a contingent of folks from St. Michael's Multicultural Church, Broadway and a good-sized group including singers and musicians representing St. Margaret's.

Archdeacon Ellen's sermon was a particular highlight of the evening. She began with the sentence, "Beginnings are delicate places, sites of great hope but also often of anxiety and concern." Her message that evening of how we can interpret and live out Jesus' commandment from the Gospel reading John 15: 9–16, to love so "that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" was an inspiration. Towards the end of her homily, she offered Expedito and the St. Mary's, South Hill community these words:

"Sometimes we get so caught up with our duty that we forget our Christian lives should also be full of joy. I know this is a parish, which knows how to celebrate together—for example, sharing wonderful Thanksgiving meals as well as Church picnics, this year with other parishes. This joy can be as contagious as the love we show the world—drawing people to us because they see us celebrating the life we have been given"

Archdeacon Ellen continued her address with a prayer by her favourite prayer writer, the Australian cartoonist Michael Leunig:

There are only two feelings. Love and fear.
There are only two languages. Love and fear.
There are only two activities. Love and fear.
There are only two motives, two procedures,
two frameworks, two results. Love and fear.
Love and fear.

In closing she said:

"My prayer for you St. Mary's and Expedito, is that you may find yourselves on the love side of the equation, obeying Christ's command to love, and together building something new and grace-filled in this place."

Following the sermon, the liturgy continued with: The Covenant in Ministry; the presentation to Expedito by members of the Parish of the Symbols of Ministry of the Whole People of God; the presentation of Expedito by the Dean to the Parish as the leader of their shared ministry; the official welcome of Expedito by the Archdeacon and the Regional Dean complete with the now traditional bouquets of flowers for the new incumbent and for the Wardens; the Intercession; the Peace (announced by a very happy Father Expedito); and the Eucharist. The liturgy was punctuated with a number of hymns all sung enthusiastically by the congregation, led by members of St. Mary's and St. Margaret's.

Camp Artaban Gala

BRIAN WALKS

St. Mark's, Ocean Park and Member-at-Large, Diocesan Communications Committee



LEFT The lucky winner and tablemates: Katherine Lang entered the contest for free Gala tickets and won! Katherine is seen here enjoying dinner, sitting to the left of Nancy and Tali Ferris. MIDDLE Mama Dina and her fabulous cake. RIGHT St. Agnes parishioner and longtime Artaban supporter, Sylvia Enga signs the \$20 bill, which was sold at auction for \$70. PHOTOS Barbara Walks

Camp Artaban campers and alumni gathered at the Italian Cultural Centre the evening of Friday, October 4th, to celebrate Camp Artaban's 90th birthday. The fundraising gala was sold out with 120 enthusiastic Artabaners renewing their friendships after a summer without camping on the historic Gambier Island site.

Barbara Constantine was the MC for the evening. She

began by introducing the Very Rev. Peter Elliott, and then more introductions followed with: current board members, past board members, campers, past and present camp volunteers and finally those who'd wished they had attended the camp but haven't had a chance to go. Barbara also thanked Ann Blue and the people from St. Catherine's, Coquitlam who organized the Camp Artaban Day on July

20th. Jane Mortifee led the singing of *Take Me Back to Camp Artaban*. Next, the participants were treated to a slide show reviewing the history of Camp Artaban from 1923 to today. Each slide highlighted a particular theme of camp, from arrival at the dock through the fun and enjoyment of: crafts, waterfront pursuits, fellowship, recreation activities, games, and closing with departure; mixing photos from the different eras in each themed slide.

Throughout the history of Camp Artaban, the camp has been a special place to get away from the pressures of life. For thousands of campers, it has been a place to discover the love of Jesus Christ.

Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator, Phil Colvin mentioned that he was in his 20s when he first visited Camp Artaban. Phil had worked at a variety of camps in North America prior to his first visit to Camp Artaban. Phil found this work challenging as Church camps and sunny warm summers are rare in his native England. He also mentioned that welcoming is key to a successful camp experience and he stressed the importance of "ice-breakers" like games or encouraging each group to decorate their own cabins as ways of building community. The 90 year history of camp, showing love and compassion to everyone has been the strength of Camp Artaban. Phil concluded that communities from Camp Artaban have grown into strong communities in the Church.

Peter Dueck shared some stories about his children's experiences at Camp Artaban. He referred us to the story of *Artaban*—*The Other Wiseman* by Henry Van Dyke and its enduring message of helping others and giving what you have to help those in need.

Christine Bergen said that camp is "indescribable." She started attending Camp Artaban in 1991 at the age of 6 and has returned every summer since. She also mentioned that Camp Artaban is a place where young people can experience God.

Mama Dina made a birthday cake, which was a scenic depiction of camp. The candles were on the tables, which we held up when everyone sang *Happy Birthday*.

Silver and blue balloons were sold to decorate the tables. When the balloons were popped later in the evening, some contained prizes and others contained Bible verses.

Sandi LaCharite, the present Camp Artaban board chair, thanked everyone for coming and those who planned the gala. She said, "Look deep within yourselves. Think about where it is and when you want to go. Five generations have attended Camp Artaban. The board is now working on a business plan and improving data and donor bases. This *beautiful jewel* is not just a physically beautiful place, but one that God has blessed."

After Barbara thanked Sandi for organizing the gala, there was an auction with Kevin Leyton-Brown as the auctioneer. The auction raised \$2200 on 3 major items with additional bidding on over 20 silent auction items. One of the auction items was a \$20 bill, which was autographed by some Artaban "celebrities" and ultimately sold for \$70.

For current information about Camp Artaban please visit the Camp Artaban website at www.campartaban.com or visit the Camp Artaban Facebook page at www.facebook.com/campartaban.

Beginnings are Delicate Places

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Other highlights of the evening included a lovely rendition of *What a Friend we Have in Jesus* beautifully offered by young singer, Shania Shanker. During the Eucharist, the *Lord's Prayer* was sung by the community in Tagalog, one of the principal languages of the Philippines.

Prior to the singing of the closing hymn and the Dismissal, People's Warden John Wright stood on the chancel steps and addressed the congregation saying that a great deal had changed in the life of St. Mary's, South Hill over the past 18 months. He made reference to the line in the hymn sung by Shania, "What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer," reminding everyone in the room that there had been and continues to be a great deal of praying taking place at St. Mary's, South Hill. And that their prayers were answered. He also said, "The person who is not here tonight is the person I'd really to thank and that is Bishop Michael. He worked hard to make this happen." He also passed on his and the parish's special thanks to Archdeacon Ellen who led the congregation in the MAP and was a great source of encouragement.

After John had concluded his remarks, the Rev. Fr. Expedito Farinas looked out to the congregation and said, "Words can't explain the happiness I feel!"

Beginnings are indeed "delicate places" so please keep Expedito and Felly Farinas and the Parish of St. Mary's, South Hill in your prayers as they move forward in their ministry together. ✠



The Dean leads the community in welcome for the new Incumbent.



People's Warden John Wright singing the closing hymn, *All are Welcome*.



The Peace of the Lord be always with you!

The Christ Church Cathedral, Kenneth Jones Tracker Pipe Organ Gets an Upgrade

RANDY MURRAY
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

As the sands of time settle in the combined memory of those involved in the ambitious 11 year, \$11.5 million exterior and interior renewal and rejuvenation of Christ Church Cathedral (1995–2006), it is possible that many will forget that the building of a new organ for the Church was a major reason for the project.

Rupert Lang, the Organist and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral (CCC) since 1986 had a vision for music ministry at CCC that would involve the design, purchase and installation of a tracker action organ specifically constructed and voiced to speak in the space. Committees and task forces were struck, organbuilders, engineers and architects consulted, with the results being a unanimous agreement that the only place to put a tracker action organ would be on a newly constructed gallery (seismic integrity was a must) over the transition space between the nave and the narthex, where a utilitarian balcony then existed.

As they say, the rest is history, the exterior of the Cathedral was beautifully rejuvenated and landscaped and the interior of the Church underwent a magnificent heritage renovation that won numerous awards and accolades not only locally, but also nationally and internationally.

The installation of the custom-built Kenneth Jones (KJ) Organ began in April 2004, and went reasonably well. In the intervening years, the instrument has provided excel-

lent service, however, there has been a continuing issue of a lack of humidity, causing the organic components of the organ some problems. To the ears of Rupert Lang and the Very Rev. Peter Elliott, the rector of CCC, there were tonal elements of the low end of the organ missing. The word “rumble” was heard more than once in their discussions about improving the performance potential of the instrument.

The Cathedral’s budget did not include a line item for organ upgrades. After a period of consultation and discernment with staff and parish leadership, a quiet capital campaign was conducted in order to source the \$70,000 CAD needed to complete the proposed work. Parishioners, musicians and Friends of the Cathedral generously supported the campaign to complete the proposed work.

There were continuing communications between Cathedral personnel and the team at Kenneth Jones, resulting in the arrival on October 20th, of organbuilder/site manager/wiring expert Simon Plowman and on October 22nd, organbuilder and current CEO of Kenneth Jones, Derek Byrne. Simon had been the site supervisor of the installation in 2004–05, and spent 7 months at CCC during which time he got to know the community. I asked Simon to tell *Topic* readers a little bit about what he has been doing in the past 8 years. He now takes over the story of the upgrade.

SIMON PLOWMAN

Workshop Manager and Organbuilder, Kenneth Jones Organs, Kilcoole, Ireland

My original role in 2004, was to oversee the installation of the organ from start to finish, heading a team of 5 organbuilders and a voicer. I was responsible for the design of the under-floor and peripheral winding systems, the suspended mechanical action runs from the organ to the console, and the wiring of the organ.

Once an organ has been built, it requires a period of approximately 6 months, in order for action felts and soundboard pallets to ‘bed’ in. I returned in 2005, with Kenneth (the founder of the firm, now retired) to carry out a ‘settling-down’ visit, which involved thoroughly checking over the tuning of the instrument and actions, making minor adjustments where necessary, in preparation for the opening recital.

There were many highlights for me between 2005, and the present day. After completing Monaghan Cathedral for KJ in 2005, I returned to the UK to work for Clevedon Organs Ltd. Significant work during this period included: the rebuilding of the organ in St. James, West Malvern (an instrument that I had tuned as an apprentice); the historic restoration of an 1805 Flight & Robson Organ in Penpont, Mid-Wales; and the building of my house in Thailand!

In 2006, Kenneth Jones officially retired and the company was taken over by Derek Byrne (an English Organbuilder who spent many years in South Africa running his own group of organbuilding, pipemaking and furniture-making companies). The company was re-located soon after, to larger, better-equipped premises in Kilcoole, Ireland.

My return to Kenneth Jones in 2009, heralded a welcome return to my roots in voicing—being responsible for: Enniscrone Parish Church (County Sligo, Ireland), St. Peters Little Bray (County Wicklow, Ireland) and a two manual practice/house organ (which the company has for sale). Recent highlights include the stunning 2010 rebuild of Carlow Cathedral organ and in 2012, I personally completed the first stage restoration of the only pipe organ in Thailand, in Christ Church Bangkok (a hugely significant job for me, since I previously carried out remedial work on this instrument 16 years ago, and now divide my time living in Thailand and Ireland with my wife and daughter).

The KJ organ at Christ Church Cathedral is currently undergoing tonal improvements on the pedal organ. The original Casavant 16’ Trombone, having never quite gelled with the rest of the instrument, is to be replaced with brand new pipes and extended down 12 notes, to provide an additional 32’ Contra Trombone stop. Tonally, these changes will provide a much more cohesive result with existing pipework, providing solid foundation to the instrument, giving better bass definition and adding gravitas to full organ.

My visit to CCC, Vancouver, was to implement the first phase of these changes, which is the reconfiguration

of the console and electrics, to accommodate the new 32’ drawstop. In addition to this, I checked the entire organ; fine tuning throughout and ensuring that all actions are adjusted for optimum performance and reliability.

The conclusive second phase will see the installation of the new 16’ Trombone pipes, voicing of the 32’ to match, and the installation of a new humidifier (to protect the innards of the organ from arid conditions). Completion of this phase will take place early next year.

One could propose many fanciful ideas for future improvements to the organ, however I do consider it to be quite a well-rounded instrument already. My only suggestions would possibly be: the addition of a wooden 8’ Stopped Diapason on the Great, or a 4’ Fifteenth and 2 rank mixture on the pedal.

My favourite notion would be the building of a modest 2 manual choir organ with pedal, disposed on 2 sides of the Chancel, in the small galleries. This would be playable by a remote, movable console, which (with the addition of electrical assistance) would also be able to play the main organ, or vice-versa.

In regards to maintenance of the organ, on my arrival here, I was happy to find the organ behaving and sounding well. As with any organ, the more it is played, the better it will behave. I see no reason why the present method of touch-up tuning should not continue, however, I do feel that this should be augmented with a visit every 2 years, from a Kenneth Jones representative, to keep the organ in top condition. ✦



The original installation site supervisor Simon Plowman checking the swell trackers.



Simon and KJ Organ's CEO Derek Byrne at the console.



The rollerboard for the Great Organ (showing action coming in from the console in ‘keyscale’ at the bottom, being converted to the wider soundboard scale at the top).



Wind system under the Great Soundboard, feeding the front pipe chests and chamade trumpet. Also visible are the electrical contact rails, which are directly coupled to the great tracker action, allowing the electro-pneumatic front pipe chests to be played from the mechanical action.



Wind system for the electro-pneumatic front pipe chests and showing mitred wooden wind trunking above, feeding one of the chamade (fanfare) trumpet chests.



A good view of the manual trackers that run through the gallery floor above the nave entrance.



The KJ console during the upgrade.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

• St. Paul's Community Day • Year Two •

SUBMISSION Ross Bliss
St. Paul's, Vancouver

Our first Community Day last year was a pleasant surprise in many ways. We certainly expected it to be a worthwhile venture, but as many things do, it turned out to be a positive experience in ways we hadn't necessarily anticipated. Some of the things we thought might work (like our brief exit survey) had very little uptake and other things we thought of at the last minute (like bundles of fresh herbs to give away at our 'Healing' table) were a runaway hit.

With one successful year under our belts, we thought we knew what we were doing this year. Thinking we were fortunate last year to still have sunny weather as late as October, we thought it would be prudent to move it ahead this year to September, and September 28th was the best available day. After setting up that morning, St. Paul's new rector, the Rev. Jessica Schaap led us in a prayer, and we were off and running... very shortly, for cover! It was the closest we'd seen to a monsoon in a long time. At one point it was not even possible to see through the rain beyond the fringe of the gazebo we'd set up in front of the Church.

Far from being a disaster, these conditions combined to make a profound impression on the people we encountered that day. Granted, given the weather there were definitely fewer people passing by than last year, but most of those who did stop for a chat were quite taken by the fact that we were actually out on such a cold, blustery and soggy day offering hospitality and building community. You could see how charmed they were by this cheery bunch (even if they thought we might be barmy), making comments like "Wow, you guys really mean it!" and "You're obviously serious about this neighbour thing!"

And another important thing that happened was, we realized how much we



PHOTO Jeff Hipson

do mean it. Something about gathering together and persevering under those conditions revealed in a fresh way how much we enjoy being community and inviting others to share in it.

Needless to say, hot chocolate was the favourite at our hospitality table, which was well stocked and cheerfully run by the amazing Dorothy Barnes. We had to set up the rest of the tables indoors, which ended up creating a very cozy atmosphere. We thank the Gordon Neighbourhood House Small Grant program again for their support of \$700 for musicians, food and promotion, with which we were able to hire Clare Morgan, Kira VanDeusen and Bryn Stephenson to play in the Church and labyrinth, adding a wonderful ambience.

It was an added joy to have Drina and Patty, two very lovely people we met at last year's Community Day who subsequently joined our Church family working alongside us this year. The Good News is real and living, and sometimes best expressed in simple hospitality and a welcoming interest in our neighbours. And as we've discovered, seeds sown will bloom brightly, even in the rain. ✠

• Tri-Parish Retreat in Surrey •

SUBMISSION Natasha Kaweski
St. Michael's, Surrey

As a component of MAP (Ministry Assessment Process), three Surrey parishes: St. Michael's, The Anglican Church of the Epiphany and St. Helen's gathered for the first Tri-Parish retreat. The event was held at St. Michael's on September 28th from 10 am to 2 pm.

Leading up to this event, there were a couple of meetings that took place attended by various members of the three parishes. These meetings were held in order to plan for the Tri-Parish retreat. The retreat was a great opportunity for working together as Churches with a vision of sharing resources and re-connecting to each other. The theme of the retreat was *Quiet out of Chaos*.

The day consisted of: Guided Meditations, Quiet Times, Group Mediations, Hymn Signing and Praying. Thanks to Father Louie from St. Michael's and Arch-

deacon Stephen Rowe from Epiphany for leading the retreat and special thanks to Andy Whitmore from St. Michael's for providing the enjoyable music. Another huge thanks to Jeddy James, Warden of St. Michael's for providing an assortment of Indian delicacies to complement the lunch.

During the retreat, each participant had the option of using different quiet rooms provided by St. Michael's. There was also an opportunity for participants to share their reflections with the larger group. Throughout the entire retreat there was an atmosphere of openness and cooperation. All those in attendance left the retreat feeling recharged and uplifted.

Thanks again to everyone who participated, and thanks to those who offered their services to help out with the retreat. ✠



Lunchtime in the Parish Hall of St. Michael's, Surrey. PHOTO Louie Engnan



LEFT Carol Williams and Natasha Kaweski singing along with Andy Whitmore. RIGHT Andy Whitmore of St. Michael's leads the music in worship. PHOTOS Louie Engnan



Tammy Preast and Finnegan.



The Rev. Fr. Michael Fuller blesses Honeybear.

• The Blessing of the Animals at St. John's, Shaughnessy •

A Joyful Celebration Of and For Our Furry Friends

The service began with the Greeting from the Rev. Fr. Michael Forshaw, Honorary Assistant Priest at St. John's, Shaughnessy (SJS). "This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

It was Fr. Forshaw's idea to plan a *Blessing of the Animals* liturgy on or about the Feast of St. Francis, October 4th, as there was no record of this kind of worship being celebrated at SJS, at least not in recent memory.

By 1:45 pm, on Saturday, October 5th, 2013, a beautiful early fall morning had developed into an even nicer fall afternoon as the nave of the church on Nanton Street began to fill with a collection of dogs and their owners.

One of the stars of the show was Honeybear, a rescue dog, a female Shih Tzu of uncertain age (the vet thinks she may be around 7) who has an extremely disturbing history. Honeybear's human companion said that Honeybear had been kept imprisoned in a puppy mill in a confined space from the time that she was first able

to bear pups. The veterinarian caring for Honeybear said that she had birthed many litters but was now unable to give birth to live puppies. It is likely that because of this, the puppy mill owners discarded her, which they did literally by putting her in a dumpster. She was rescued and brought to the SPCA for adoption as part of the rescue dog program.

Dalai, a 12-year-old female Lhasa Apso has a history of intolerance toward other dogs but she had no problems with Honeybear or any of the other dogs that day. It must have been the spirit of St. Francis.

Other guests included two Bichon Frise, Pixie and her pal, 15-year-old Finnigan. Pixie and Finnigan are the personal friends of Tammy Preast who owns *Love on a Leash—Dog Care Services*. Pixie and Finnigan brought Tammy along to the service.

Money raised at the service was forwarded to the *Paws for Hope Animal Foundation* (Roxy's Fund) and dog food donated at the service was given to our animal friends in the Downtown Eastside. ✠

AROUND THE DIOCESE

• Bury the Dead • Stories of Death and Dying, Resistance and Discipleship •

EDITOR Laurel Dykstra

A new anthology *Bury the Dead*, edited by the Rev. Laurel Dykstra of our diocese is now available for purchase from Wipf and Stock (<http://bit.ly/16TIm7Y>).

The book is a collection of first person narratives that in different ways answer the question, “how do we resist the pervasive culture around us that both denies and promotes death?” Each answer is unique and powerful.

The volume is part pastoral theology, part movement history from several generations and contributors from various North American justice movements (civil rights, anti-war, Catholic Worker, Occupy) talk about cancer, death row, hospice, suicide, jazz funerals and resistance.

This is a project that Laurel is really proud of and she hopes that *Topic* readers will be able to share in getting the word out. The book is a fundraiser for the Mentorship Program at Word and World for young Christian activists and includes writings

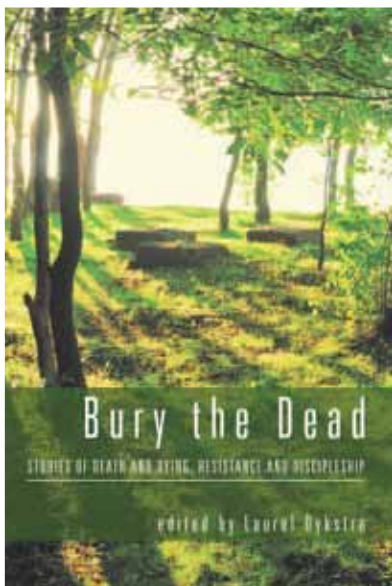
by members of that program (<http://bit.ly/1633H93>).

There are several ways to get this remarkable book and make sure that others do too.

- Order copies of the book from Wipf and Stock (using the link supplied).
- Order a copy from the contributor who lives nearest you.
- Let Laurel know if you would like to have a contributor to the book come and speak in a classroom or Church. Please email her at loraldyk@hotmail.com.

The contributors are: Lydia Wylie Kellermann, Bill Wylie Kellermann, Joyce Holaday, Tom Karlin, Jeff Dietrich, Elaine Enns, Ched Myers, Kieran Prather, Mary Bradford, Murphy Davis, Andrea Ferich, Jordan Flaherty, Elizabeth Nicolas, Eda Ruhiye Uca, Nelson Johnson, Pablo Ruiz, Frida Berrigan and Laurel Dykstra. ✦

Laurel Dykstra. PHOTO Sandra Vander Schaaf



• The Gala on 12th •



Each of the tables was decorated with iconic images of autumn.

On the evening of October 5th at St. Agnes', North Vancouver, located on East 12th Avenue at Grand Boulevard, there was a very special celebration.

Seventy-six guests, and nineteen others: cooks, servers, helpers and band members filled the St. Agnes' parish hall to capacity. The make-up of the guest list was half St. Agnes parishioners and the other half, friends and family, a goodly number from the area surrounding the church.

There were many highlights of this successful event, however the stars of the show were the beautiful harvest-themed decorations designed and implemented by principal event organizer, Mo Chechini and her team who turned a church hall into an elegant ballroom—banquet hall, a fitting venue for the superb three-course gourmet meal prepared by Bette Geddes of Sharing Abundance Catering.

Other highlights included: the Chancellor of the Diocese of New Westminster and St. Agnes' parishioner, George Cadman as auctioneer; Original Blend jazz band, 9

members including St. Agnes' incumbent, the Rev. Stephen Muir on drums; four large tables of silent auction items featuring a broad range of donated gifts and services, among which were: four hours of gardening, custom made pottery, and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (VSO) tickets; live auction items which included a child's size toy Mercedes Benz and a night on the town package featuring tickets to a BC Lions game, a night at the Bayshore Inn Hotel and free limo service.

The Gala on 12th met its fundraising target of \$5000. Fourteen different community groups involving hundreds of community residents use St. Agnes'. St. Agnes' also hosts community meals with Sharing Abundance, St. Agnes' deacon, the Rev. Lizz Lindsay's food ministry. The gala raised funds to support the Church's continuing mission and ministry in the community, helping to ensure that the parish and church building's presence continues for the benefit of the North Vancouver neighbourhood for years to come. ✦



Original Blend jazz band get their photo taken.



LEFT A child's-sized Mercedes SUV was one of the live auction items. RIGHT Beautiful harvest-themed decorations.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP & EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of New Westminster's
adjunct website
is up and running with listings by region
of worship and events around the diocese
this Advent • Christmas • Epiphany season.

Doing our best to make festival worship information
available to our neighbours
is a great way to let everyone know that
ALL ARE WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO...
www.holidayservices.ca

AROUND THE DIOCESE

• Clergy Retreat 2013 •

The annual Clergy Retreat for the Diocese of New Westminster took place again at the University of BC's Loon Lake Research and Education Centre near Maple Ridge, October 21st to 23rd.

The scheduled facilitator for the retreat, Bishop Tom Shaw, Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) had to cancel at the last minute due to failing health. On very short notice, the Very Rev. Peter Elliott contacted Bishop Jim Cruickshank, retired Bishop of the former Diocese of Cariboo, and asked if he would be the retreat facilitator for the

2013 event. Bishop Jim agreed.

According to retreat participant, the Rev. Gail Newell, priest-in-charge of Christ Church, Hope, "The retreat was wonderfully refreshing. Jim had invited us into a Sabbath of Solitude with God and gave us wonderful reflections on the first three chapters of the letter to the Ephesians to ponder as we spent our days in outward silence and inward prayer. Loon Lake gave us reflections to feast our eyes and souls with the beauty of God's creation." ✠



The Very Rev. Peter Elliott and the Rt. Rev. Jim Cruickshank PHOTO Emilie Smith



The Clergy of the Diocese of New Westminster present at the retreat October 23rd, 2013, (kindly taken by one of the retreat centre's staff).

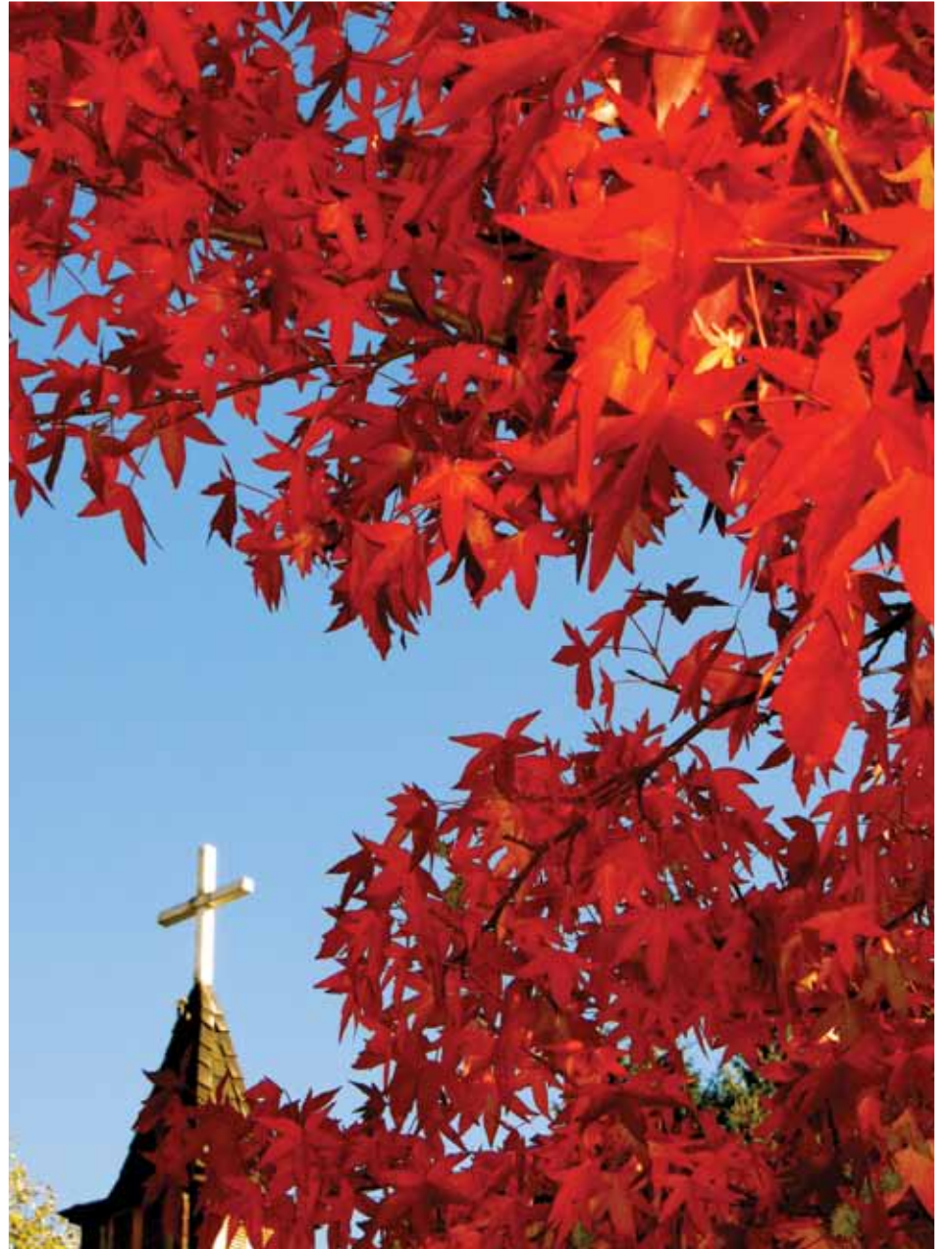


A View of the lake from the shore near the Loon Lake Centre.

• Fall •

Many thanks to Jane Dittrich for sharing this beautiful photo of the St. Clement's, Lynn Valley cross and spire seen through

a colourful framework of autumn leaves against a cloudless late October sky. ✠
PHOTO Jane Dittrich



• New Grandparents in the Diocese of New Westminster •

Sunday, October 27th, 2013, (The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost) at 1:21am PDT in North Vancouver, the Rev. Christine Rowe, Rector of St. Catherine's, Capilano and the Ven. Stephen Rowe, Archdeacon of Fraser and Incumbent of the Anglican Church of the Epiphany, Surrey, became grandparents for the first time.

Josephine Mary (named Josephine for

her maternal great-grandmother, Jo and Mary for her mother, paternal grandmother, and maternal great-grandmother [Stephen's mum]) came into the world in North Vancouver, weighing 7 lbs, 3 oz and delighting her parents, Hannah Rowe and Tom Hill.

Congratulations to the Rowe and Hill families; please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers. ✠



Christine and Stephen Rowe with Josephine. PHOTO Tom Hill

Jesus Never Said 'Stay Put Where You Are'

The proposed merger of St. Margaret's of Scotland and St. John the Apostle, Port Moody

RANDY MURRAY
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

DAVID NASH
Bishop's Warden, St. Margaret's of Scotland

The Life Cycle of ministry is an interesting phenomenon and one that in the post-postmodern, post-religious era that we live in gets discussed more and more by *churchy folks*. The reality is that the world is changing and the little corner of the world occupied by the Diocese of New Westminster is hugely affected by changes in demographics, culture, economics and more. The continuing conversation about the Life Cycle of ministry is not navel-gazing or stagnation; it is an important part of the work we do as people of faith as we strive to be faithful and carry out God's mission in the world.

There is a tendency in parishes and in other Christian organizations whose current ministries are coming to a close to dwell on the reasons "why?" From this, regret and despair can rear their ugly heads. The Latin legal phrase *res ipsa loquitur* comes to mind, *the thing speaks for itself*: no one is at fault so let's get going for we all have work to do.

The Parish of St. Margaret's of Scotland has ministered to the surrounding northeast Burnaby neighbourhood for almost 85 years and the ministry Life Cycle of this once vibrant parish in a residential area has come to an end. At a Special Vestry Meeting on Sunday, October 20th, 2013, of 36 people present: 34 voted in favour; 1 abstained; and 1 did not vote (as they left the meeting prior to the vote) of exploring a merger with St. John the Apostle, Port Moody. At around the same time, the meeting was taking place at St. Margaret's of Scotland, a similar meeting was in progress at St. John's, Port Moody with 50 members present. At that meeting, 100% voted in favour of entering the merger process.

Following the October 20th meetings, a St. John's member told St. Margaret's Bishop's Warden David Nash that the overwhelming attitude at St. John's was that a rejection of the proposal to merge would not be very *Christian*, and certainly not in keeping with the renewed mission of our diocese to go out to our neighbourhoods welcoming all; with the goal of living into our diocesan Vision Statement, *Growing communities of faith in Jesus Christ to serve God's mission in the world*.

A merger of two parishes can be a very complicated and time-consuming process but David Nash, Teri Hazelton (People's Warden) and the St. Margaret's leadership team are not wasting a lot of time. They have work to do and they are going to get on with it. So, the work begins on what a merger between the two parishes will look like. As of this writing in late October 2013, the next steps are to: negotiate details of the merger, write a report for which another Special Vestry will be called, and vote on a resolution to finalize the merger between St. Margaret's and St. John's. This will likely occur early in 2014.

Both the Treasurer Geof Langford and the Envelope Secretary Diane Jackson, together with the Wardens, feel that the parish 'books' should be kept open at least to the end of the calendar year, pending discussion. That being the case, 'Sunday offerings' will still be collected at St. John's and transferred to St. Margaret's at least to the end of December 2013. St. Margaret's will pay their share by using money already budgeted to fund Sunday Supply clergy and give it to St. John's. Clergy appointment/pastoral care will be reviewed in light of the decision as current clergy appointments at St. Margaret's came to a conclusion October 31st, 2013. A 'final service' at St. Margaret's will need to be arranged in the New Year if the final vote to merge is affirmative.

A well-attended Open House of past and present members—Wine and Cheese party took place at St. Margaret's on Saturday, October 26th to celebrate the history and ministry of St. Margaret's and Sunday, October 27th was the last 'regularly scheduled' worship service at St. Margaret's of Scotland. After October 27th, parishioners were encouraged to attend St. John's, Port Moody. Other potential destinations include nearby Anglican parishes, St. Timothy's, Burnaby (whose Rector, the Rev. Stephanie Shepard is acting priest-in-charge of St. Margaret's until the final decision is made) and St. Stephen the Martyr in Burquitlam.

Prior to the commencement of the liturgy on October 27th, David Nash came to the lectern to speak to the large congregation. He spoke about the immediate future of the parish, informing those present, as of that moment, according to the Synod Office, the Rev. Stephanie Shepard would continue to be priest-in-charge and that she sends Blessings to all during this time of transition. The issue of pastoral



LEFT In the Chancel at St. Margaret's of Scotland, with the iconic Dove of Peace behind him, the Rev. Fr. Michael Chin welcomes the congregation to worship.



RIGHT TOP Bishop's Warden David Nash. RIGHT MIDDLE St. Margaret's chorister's, Alice Tan and Grace Liew, share their memories of blessings.

RIGHT BOTTOM Jan Spilman, whose husband the Rev. Derek Spilman was Rector in the late '70s to early '90s.



LEFT The Rev. Fr. Chin with Mrs. Eileen McKinney, who has attended St. Margaret's of Scotland for 65 years. RIGHT Lighting the candle, Mr. Norm Song (ODNW).



care was raised and David suggested that the congregation consider establishing relationships with the clergy of the Church where they will attend, whether it is St. John's, St. Timothy's or elsewhere. He asked that those who have keys to the parish return them. Then he reminded everyone of what was already on their minds and in their hearts—that this would be the last day that the St. Margaret's of Scotland faith community would meet in the building as a family. He suggested to the congregation that they "spend some time here, take pictures and enjoy the space."

Presiding and preaching at the Celebration of the Eucharist was St. Margaret's of Scotland's Honorary Assistant, the Rev. Fr. Michael Chin assisted by: the Rev. Lilian Elliott, Deacon; Director of Music, Sharon Paterson; Sacristan and Bishop's Warden, David Nash. To begin the sermon portion of the liturgy, Fr. Chin referred to that morning's psalm: Psalm 126. Although full of words of joy, this psalm was written during a very difficult time in the history of the Israelites. But this psalm can be interpreted as a message of hope, as it calls us to look backward at happier times and to be grateful for the many blessings received. He then asked everyone present to feel free to approach the lectern and offer a reflection or a memory of blessing. He encouraged people to participate by saying "nothing is too small to share." For the next 40 minutes, the majority of parishioners and former members and friends present

spoke about the blessings they received by being part of St. Margaret's of Scotland:

- The recent Baptism of a Granddaughter at Easter 2013.
- Finding information in the diocesan archives that many decades ago a teenager came to St. Margaret's to participate in his first placement doing outreach ministry and that teenager was in fact the future Primate, the Most Rev. Ted Scott.
- St. Margaret's is where one learned about hospitality, the Holy Spirit and how it is possible to accept that there is a greater power and be able to receive help.
- The Rev. Lilian Elliott said that seldom are there visible signs of what God is doing, but her journey in faith to ordination with the constant support and encouragement of the St. Margaret's community was indeed a visible sign. And as with her recent retirement in 2012, she knows that "she isn't finished yet." She concluded her reflection with these words, "thank you all for loving me."
- One parishioner made reference to the image of the Dove on the Chancel wall and the feeling of peace she experiences when she is in the sanctuary.
- Many folks commented that at St. Margaret's they learned to



**Wishes a
Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year to All!**

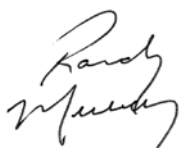
2013 Was a Great Year for Topic!

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Growing communities of faith in Jesus Christ to serve God's mission in the world.

Thank-you for reading Topic and...
Many Blessings in 2014!



Randy Murray
Topic Editor



Jennifer Ewing
Topic Designer



Diocese of New Westminster
ANGELICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

St. Monica's, Horseshoe Bay Completes 62 Years of Ministry

At a special meeting of the St. Monica's congregation on Tuesday, October 15th, 2013, the members of the Anglican Parish Church situated for the last 62 years on Wellington Avenue in Horseshoe Bay voted that they make a request to the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster to allow the Parish to close.

The first service was held January 14th, 1951. For the last three decades, St. Monica's has been in a precarious financial position but the faith community persevered and continued its ministry and mission to and in the neighbourhood.

Over the life of the parish, St. Monica's has been home to dozens of community groups including: Daycare Centres, Recovery Groups, The Nifty Thrifty Shop, Scouts, Guides, Yoga, other Christian congregations and always offered a warm welcome to all. Three generations of Horseshoe Bay residents have been baptized, married and had their funeral services held at St. Monica's.

St. Monica's priest-in-charge, the Rev. Janice Lowell and the community of faith with whom she shares her ministry, is grateful for the support that the parish received from the other Anglican Churches in West Vancouver, particularly St. Francis-in-the-Wood, Caulfeild where Janice also serves as Assistant Priest. Over the past several years the sustaining ministry of St. Monica's has been a missional goal of St. Francis'.

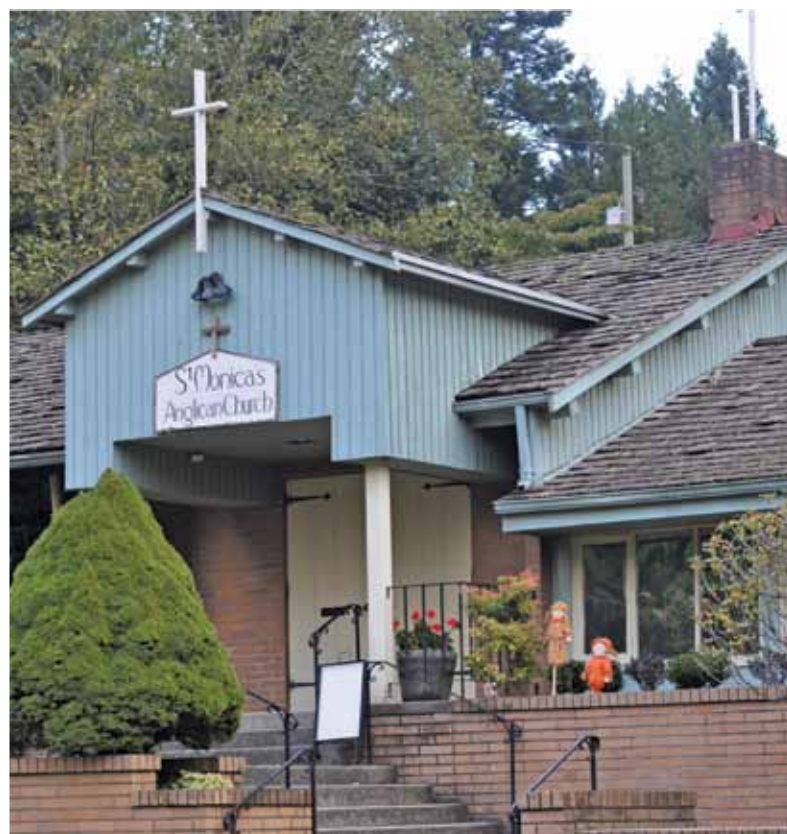
It is very sad when a faith community comes to the end of its ministry but often out of this, new beginnings and new ministry may emerge.

St. Monica's Parish went ahead with the annual Community Harvest Thanksgiving Supper on October 19th, which was a bittersweet experience for many. This was a wonderful opportunity to be together and share memories of happier times but also

some sadness that a chapter in the lives of many and in the life of the community of Horseshoe Bay was coming to a close.

The final regularly scheduled worship at St. Monica's took place on the Reign of Christ on Sunday, November 24th, 2013. The Rev. Dr. Donald Grayston was the preacher and the Rev. Janice Lowell presided at the Eucharist.

The Diocese of New Westminster and its governing body Diocesan Council will enter into a time of discernment and reflection before announcing next steps regarding the property and assets of the Parish. ✠



Jesus Never Said 'Stay Put Where You Are'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

share and be part of a family. For many, St. Margaret's is their second family.

- Jan Spilman, the widow of former St. Margaret's rector, the Rev. Derek Spilman, spoke about the wonderful experiences she had working with the youth of the parish and how some of those young people now well into adulthood have stayed in touch. She told the congregation that in a recent conversation with one of the former youth members she was reminded that whenever sirens were heard passing near the Church, Rev. Spilman would stop the liturgy, and they would pray for those who were involved in events where emergency vehicles were needed. The woman told Jan that to this day, she still prays when she hears a siren. Jan ended her reflections saying, "The love in this place will continue to shine, whether we are in this building or not."
- David Nash spoke about how he had come to the parish with his father, the Rev. Arthur Nash when he was installed as rector in 1993. They were told it was a "kissy-huggy" parish (if you've been there during the passing of the Peace, you'll understand). David used the metaphor of the parish as a ship with "tired engines and crew" but still able to move forward, ferrying its passengers toward its final destination; albeit at the present time through a tunnel of dense fog but the proposed merger is the light at the end of the tunnel.

After the reflections, Rev. Chin said, "Jesus never said stay put where you are and keep doing what you are doing no matter what. Jesus said 'drop what you are doing and follow me.' We are sad today, but laughter and joy will return, for God is always with us wherever we are."

Following the sermon, everyone was asked to light a candle from the Paschal candle and return to their seats with the candles lit as a symbol of gratitude for many blessings received.

When the Eucharist had concluded, there was a presentation of gifts to Music Director, Sharon Paterson, the Rev. Elliott and the Rev. Chin. Before the singing of *Grace*, and adjournment to the hall for a sumptuous buffet, the Rev. Chin had one more request—he acknowledged again that leaving their spiritual home of St. Margaret's of Scotland is

hard but he urged everyone to "Go to Church."

The people of St. Margaret's of Scotland (and St. John's) are hearing God's call and they are answering it by moving forward with joy and in anticipation of new ministry and

new opportunities. Please keep the parishes of St. Margaret's of Scotland and St. John the Apostle in your prayers as they contemplate their future as a renewed community of faith. ✠



TOP LEFT Returning to their places with candles lit we see Eileen and Clarence McKinney, longtime parishioners of St. Margaret's of Scotland.

TOP RIGHT The Prayer over the Gifts with the Rev. Lilian Elliott, the Rev. Fr. Michael Chin and David Nash. BOTTOM The choir and clergy sing a Blessing.

St. Mark's Celebration of a New Ministry

BRIAN WALKS

St. Mark's, Ocean Park and Member-at-Large, Diocesan Communications Committee

One hundred parishioners and guests gathered in the sanctuary on the evening of October 10th, 2013, to witness the Celebration of New Ministry of the Rev. Denise Doerksen as Assistant Priest at St. Mark's, Ocean Park. The Ven. Stephen Rowe, Archdeacon of Fraser celebrated the Eucharist and administered the Covenant in Ministry. In a double role, the Rev. Craig Tanksley as rector and Regional Dean welcomed Denise to the communities of St. Mark's and to the deanery. Craig also mentioned that the search had taken 2 years to find a fulltime Assistant Priest. The newlyweds, Annabelle Ip and guest organist Michael Dirk from St. John's, Shaughnessy, provided the music for the evening.

The Rev. Paul Woehrle was the preacher for the liturgy and during the sermon provided a history of Paulinus, the first Bishop of York. October 10th is the day that we celebrate his ministry. Paulinus arrived in England with the monks in 601 AD. The Rev. Woehrle mentioned that Paulinus like Denise answered a call to serve Jesus Christ through ordained ministry. Paul then moved to the theme of "Light" as mentioned in the reading from Matthew 5: 14-16.

Paul spoke about showing our Light in the communities of White Rock and South Surrey. The Light is not reserved for those in the centre, but for those who exist upon the margins whom Denise might encounter in coffee shops

or at the beach. New people will be attracted to the Light.

Paul skillfully used the metaphor of bright lights and camera flashes and how they attract attention, which encourages us in our shared ministry to bring the Light to our communities. He repeated the famous quote from the Gospel reading, Matthew 5: 16:

"Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven."

Refreshments were served in the hall afterwards as was a celebratory cake.

As a gift from the Church, Denise was given an artistic wooden marker to reserve her parking space. ✚



LEFT Denise says for the first time as the "official" Assistant Priest of St. Mark's, "The peace of our Lord be always with you." RIGHT The sermon preached by the Rev. Paul Woehrle of St. David's, Delta was historical, topical and spiritual.



LEFT Denise and Archdeacon of Fraser, the Ven. Stephen Rowe during the Prayer over the Gifts. RIGHT Denise responds to the Welcome Gift presented to her by the Wardens and the Parish, a custom made parking sign.

The Venerable John Bailey Retires as Rector of Holy Trinity Cathedral

GERRY STARSGAARD
Holy Trinity Cathedral

CHRISTINE MAGREGA
Deacon, Holy Trinity Cathedral

RANDY MURRAY
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

After 15 years at Holy Trinity Cathedral (HTC) in New Westminster, the Ven. John Bailey presided over his last Holy Eucharist service as Rector on Sunday, October 27th, 2013. Well over 100 parishioners, friends, relatives and well-wishers from the local community and from John's previous parishes came to participate in the 10 am Celebration of the Eucharist and to wish him a happy and healthy retirement. For the occasion, the Church was decorated with colourful displays of autumn leaves, and sunlight streamed through the beautiful stained glass windows above the Altar. In his sermon, John wove stories from his various parishes since his ordination in 1977. He reminded the congregation of the challenges of an urban parish, including ministering to the needs of the homeless and the addicted. He said, "The Church is a constantly evolving institution that stays vital when it listens to the world it exists to serve." He concluded by saying that all God is asking each of us is to be the best we can be as we look after one other. "Be the best you can be and enjoy the journey," were his closing remarks. After Communion, the choir directed by George

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



LEFT Big smiles as the Bailey family enjoys the applause that followed the announcement of Maureen and Richard's engagement prior to dinner being served, October 25th. RIGHT The Master of Ceremonies Mr. Garry James.

The Venerable John Bailey Retires

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Ryan appropriately sang an anthem entitled, *God be with You Till We Meet Again*.

Setting the stage for John's retirement Eucharist on Sunday morning was a joy-filled retirement potluck supper held in the HTC Parish Hall on Friday evening, October 25th.

John with his wife Brenda, daughter Maureen, Maureen's boyfriend Richard, John's Aunt Marion and the Rev. Carole Neilson and her husband Don occupied the head table at the standing room only event.

Garry James proved to be an affable and accomplished Master of Ceremonies as he very wisely opened his remarks with some good news: John and Brenda's daughter Maureen's and her boyfriend Richard's announcement of their engagement. The positive energy of this happy information dwarfed any sadness experienced due to John's imminent retirement.

Before coffee and dessert were served, the HTC Choir under the leadership of their Director and Organist, George Ryan, ODNW, performed an enthusiastic set of five pieces beginning with the Broadway favourite, *Mame* and concluding with John's favourite piece, George Ryan's original composition *Out of Nothing*. George is a prolific composer. Seventeen original musical theatre scores make up a percentage of George's work and *Out of Nothing* is a song from *Legends of Aotearoa*, one of his musicals.

As the capacity crowd enjoyed a variety of desserts and coffee and tea, Garry read out some "telegrams" submitted by members of the community for John. These two were included for Brenda, John's wife:

"You now have twice the husband but half the income."

"A retired husband is your fulltime job."

And for John:

"Committee meetings in retirement are called 'naps'."

"It's great to be out of the rat race but you will have to do with less cheese."

In tribute to John's ministry and the profound affect that John and his family have had on the HTC community, Garry passed a wireless microphone around the room and

"One of the prevailing themes in the comments offered was John's role as pastor, his patience, understanding, quiet support and his willingness to answer every question about life and faith."

90% of those present, including some self-confessed *shy folks* shared their memories of John's ministry. The respect, admiration and gratitude expressed by the dozens of people present was truly remarkable. There was very compelling testimony from a woman attending the dinner with her husband of 10 years (for clarification she referred to him as her *new husband* as neither of them are "teenagers"). She shared with the group that they were not members of HTC when they were married at the New Westminster Cathedral with John as the officiant but after the wedding she decided that not only would she keep her new husband, they also decided that they would keep John as well, and they became members of the HTC community of faith. She closed with these simple words, "We love you and we wish you well."

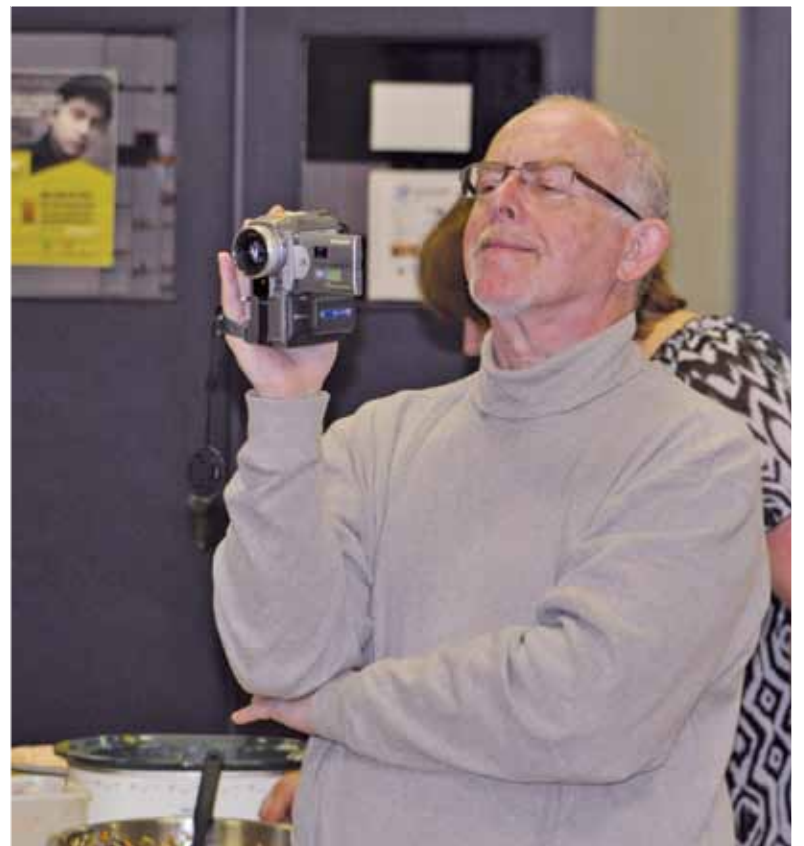
There were a number of mentions of the building development project which *Topic* readers will hear much more about in the months and years to come and the gratitude for John's leadership in this ambitious undertaking.

One of the prevailing themes in the comments offered was John's role as pastor, his patience, understanding, quiet support and his willingness to answer every question about life and faith. And often his responses contained answers that would help open the questioner's heart to the Divine.

In retirement, John will continue his association with Holy Trinity as chair of a committee working towards preservation and seismic upgrading of the historic Cathedral building. This project is to be enabled by a revenue-generating market housing/church amenities building proposed for the present church hall site. ✦



Members of the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir.



HTC Verger Richard MacAlpine in the role of videographer.



LEFT Co-author of this piece and Deacon at HTC, the Rev. Christine Magrega shares some memories of her time with John and how he encouraged her growth in faith and service, which subsequently led to her ordination.



RIGHT Maureen, Brenda, John and Aunt Marion listen to the many kind tributes to John.

Beware of Focusing on Things that Have Been

The Centennial Eucharist at St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby, September 29th, 2013

RANDY MURRAY
Diocesan Communications Officer and Topic Editor

"We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden." • Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The 100-year-old Parish of St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby, is a community of faith that is looking enthusiastically forward to the next century. They demonstrated their sincere desire to move forward in their mission and ministry to those who worship in the building and to those who live in the surrounding Burquitlam neighbourhood by producing a first class program of events to commemorate the parish's centenary throughout 2013.

The year of centennial celebration began with the warm welcoming of their new deacon, the Rev. Ka Hyun MacKenzie Shin and their shared ministry goal of engaging and encouraging the Korean community in the area to participate in the life of St. Stephen's. This was followed by the sold out *Downton Abbey-themed Tea*, held June 1st, reported in the summer issue of *Topic* on page 22 and the September 14th, Concert/Art Sale and Reception covered in the November issue on page 17.

However, the culmination of the year of celebrations was the Celebration of the Eucharist on the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, September 29th with guest preacher, the Most Rev. Douglas Hambidge, retired Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon and retired Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster.

Prior to the beginning of worship, the Rev. Gary Hamblin, priest-in-charge of the parish welcomed the capacity congregation by asking that those with a significant history regarding the Parish of St. Stephen the Martyr raise their hands. A good number of hands were raised. He then spoke briefly about the Feast Day of St. Michael and All Angels, asking the congregation if they could identify the other Angels. There were those in the congregation quick to call out *Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel* and then of course there was the wag who called out *Lucifer* which caused some mumbling and chuckling which threatened to escalate into an impromptu theological discussion save for the speedy intervention of the Rev. Hamblin.

After the opening hymn and the Gloria led by the choir and Director of Music, Colin Pridy, the Rev. MacKenzie Shin collected the children of the parish at the chancel entrance where the congregation was presented with a large handmade birthday card designed and constructed by the children. This was followed by the Blessing of the Font and a spirited *asperging* of the congregation by the children (some were guided and assisted by their guardians) and clergy. The children then headed off to their Church School program and following their departure various worship elements were Blessed concluding with the new (almost completed) Parish Banner.

*"Will our
loyalties and commitment to God
be one of our commitments
or will our commitment to God
be our priority?"*

Archbishop Douglas Hambidge

Early in his sermon, Archbishop Douglas Hambidge cautioned the congregation against using the achievement of 100 years as a justification to live in the past. He said, "We can't spend all our time looking back. The danger is, when you're looking back you don't see where you are going. You bump into things. Beware of focusing on things that have been." During the course of his homily he posed some very provocative questions to the congregation. He followed the questions with some possible answers for the congregation to consider. He asked, "Will our loyalties and commitment to God be *one* of our commitments or will our commitment to God be our priority? The commitment to God must be *the* priority. God needs to be at the centre. This new century for St. Stephen's is not a beginning it is a continuation. There is a thread across our Church that we are diminishing, and that's just the way it is, we have accepted that, we are on our way out. Beware of the danger of accepting that mindset."



LEFT The Rev. Gary Hamblin welcomes the congregation before worship and asks those in attendance who have a prior association with St. Stephen, Burnaby to raise their hands. RIGHT A wee lad holds up the 100th Birthday Card made by the children of the parish.



LEFT Asperges by the children of the Parish. MIDDLE The new Parish Banner. RIGHT Preacher, Archbishop Douglas Hambidge.



Rejoicing at the Peace.



The cake.

Archbishop Douglas' sermon was a message of hope and a call to action for the people of St. Stephen's, Burnaby. It would indeed be a very "sad thing" following a centennial celebration that in the next weeks and months everyone just "waited around for the next milestone." The new mission "begins at lunchtime today! You can be recipients of ministry or you can choose to participate in ministry. At every annual meeting there are people sniping from the sidelines about the inactivity of parish leaders. Churches grow when everyone has a sense that they are part of a community of faith not just an organization that holds its meetings on Sunday mornings. If you admit your baptism then you admit to being a servant of God and you never stop being a servant of God." Archbishop Douglas emphasized that as servants of God we are not just called to be successful but to be faithful to always do "what we can" for we have been entrusted with God's *goods*, with God's business. He urged the congregation "to reach out, to make hurting, broken lives better" as opposed to just trying to survive as a parish Church.

Following the Eucharist and prior to the dismissal, Warden Valerie Krause thanked all those visiting the parish to share in the celebration of this special milestone. Val also announced that "today" September 29th, 2013, was the 60th anniversary of Archbishop Douglas Hambidge's ordination to the diaconate. An announcement that was greeted with sustained applause. She also informed all the

visitors that in recognition of the centennial of St. Stephen's a blue spruce tree was planted on the property.

Before lining up for lunch it was time for Elaine Renforth to take over the microphone. With a sheaf of correspondence in hand, Elaine drew the attention of the congregation to the many messages received by the parish in recognition of the centennial from: the Mayor of Burnaby, the Premier of the Province, the Prime Minister of Canada, former and current MP's and MLA's, the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of New Westminster, and a message from the Office of Queen Elizabeth sending her best wishes and congratulations to the Parish of St. Stephen the Martyr, Burnaby signed by her Chief Clerk. Elaine then invited the congregation to view the messages, which would be on display following worship.

The group of parishioners planning the centennial activities had scheduled an outdoor Al Fresco lunch but alas the weather in late September 2013, did not cooperate and the luncheon was moved indoors. The threat of rain did not dampen anyone's spirits as a large percentage of the congregation stayed for lunch and cake and some very interesting conversations no doubt inspired by Archbishop Douglas' words heard earlier, "The Church is not the people in the pews watching the action of the ordained and lay leaders. No matter what you are in the Church; priest, deacon, Bishop, you can't be more than a servant of God." ✠



The Clergy at the Celebration of New Ministry, left to right: the Rev. Nathan Fong, ELCiC at Grace Lutheran in Burnaby; the Rev. Clarence Li, ACoC at St. Hilda's, Sechelt; the Rev. Bruce Morris, Deacon at St. Hilda's, Sechelt; the Rev. Brenda Nestegaard Paul, ELCiC at Grace Lutheran, Victoria; the Ven. Lynne McNaughton, Archdeacon of Capilano-Kingcome; the newly installed priest-in-charge of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, the Rev. Ian Nestegaard Paul; Bishop Greg Mohr of the BC Synod of the ELCiC; the Rev. Richard Hergescheimer, ELCiC retired; and the Rev. Angus Stuart, Dean of Capilano-Kingcome Deanery. PHOTO Heather Jeal

A Celebration of New Ministry • The Reverend Ian Nestegaard Paul St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew, Gibson's Landing on October 24th, 2013

MICHEL LAMY

Former Parish Administrator of Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver and St. Hilda's, Sechelt

It was all smiles at St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew on this beautiful fall day of the installation of the Rev. Ian Nestegaard Paul.

For the congregation, it had been over 2 years since the Rev. Peter van der Leelie had left as rector. He had been followed by the Rev. Jason Pollick, as the interim priest-in-charge, and visiting clergy until the appointment of the Rev. Ian Nestegaard Paul by Bishop Michael Ingham, one of Bishop Michael's last functions before retiring in August.

As for Ian, who grew up in a Roman Catholic family and was an altar boy, the call to Ministry came later in life. He, and his wife, the Rev. Brenda Nestegaard Paul, attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1993 and graduated in 1999.

Ian and Brenda's first appointment was to the Lutheran and Anglican parishes of Lugal, Saskatchewan. After a few years, Ian and Brenda moved to Victoria to serve in the Diocese of BC. In March 2012, Ian began serving as Pastor of Living Faith Lutheran Church in Davis Bay, Sechelt. And a year later, he applied for the position of Rector at St. Bart's.

It has already been 12 years since The Anglican Church of Canada (ACoC) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCiC) have been in full communion. And Ian and Brenda personify this full communion. Ian will continue to serve both, Living Faith Lutheran Church and St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew. The sum of which, he may have realized, is more than a full time proposition, er... position. Although he already knows that he is given all the support he needs from the Wardens, Vera Askew and Janet Genders, both congregations and, of course, his wife Brenda.

So it was with great anticipation that the congregation, and a number of clergy from the Archdeaconry of Capilano-Kingcome and the Lutheran Church, gathered on October 24th. The Ven. Dr. Lynne McNaughton, Archdeacon, officiated and the Rev. Dr. Greg Mohr, ELCiC Bishop of BC, preached.

After Brenda read the Holy Gospel according to John, Bishop Mohr's sermon centered on the classic theological lines:

"As my Father has loved me, so I have loved you."

"If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love."

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

As Bishop Mohr pointed out, "Over and over again in this entire section of the Gospel of John we hear this call, this command, to love. This is a hard concept, and a hard practice for us. Love one another... so that your joy may be complete." Bishop Mohr concluded, "You also have a summary of things that you, Pastor Ian, have promised in your ordination vows: to serve as Christ served; to love as Christ loved; to walk with these people, in this place and in this time, together... together, for the love of the world. Amen."

What does it mean to walk with these people, the community, which is linked to the ministry of the whole Church? It means, for the people of the parish, to continue with renewed vigor the work that has linked St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew to the community through such outreach programmes as the Food Bank, the Helping Hand Dinner, the School Lunch and Exercise Programmes, and fundraising events such as the sale of the famous St. Bart's Mincemeat Pies. People come from as far as the lower mainland to purchase those pies. None of this "Outreach" would be possible without the help of the community and the involvement of local businesses like the grocery stores, the Rotary Club, the Kayak Club and others. And let's not forget the throngs of Volunteers (with a big V) who support the work of the Parish. They do exemplify the message "Love One Another." St. Bart's connecting with the community.

As the installation of Ian drew to a close, all headed to the parish hall for refreshments in a celebratory mood. A new chapter has begun in the life of St. Aidan and St. Bartholomew.

The ink is not quite dry on his schedule, but Ian plans to be available mornings on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Living Faith and Wednesdays and Fridays at St. Bart's. Sunday services will be held at 9:30 am at St. Bart's and 11 am at Living Faith. Please direct your well wishes, inquiries and support to stbarts@dccnet.com. ☩



The Covenant in Ministry — The Ven. Lynne McNaughton and the Rev. Ian Nestegaard Paul. PHOTO Heather Jeal



Preacher, the Rev. Dr. Greg Mohr, Bishop of the BC Synod of the ELCiC. PHOTO Jack and Sheila Carlson



Hope for God's Family

Make it Your Legacy

*A bequest in your will to the
Diocese of New Westminster or
your parish church is an ultimate
act of stewardship and a tangible
expression of hope for the family of
God. Consider titling the value of
your estate, or creating an
endowment as your legacy gift.*

For assistance, please call:
Glen Mitchell
 Director, Stewardship & Gift Planning
 (604) 684-6306, Ext. 218
gmitchell@vancouver.anglican.ca

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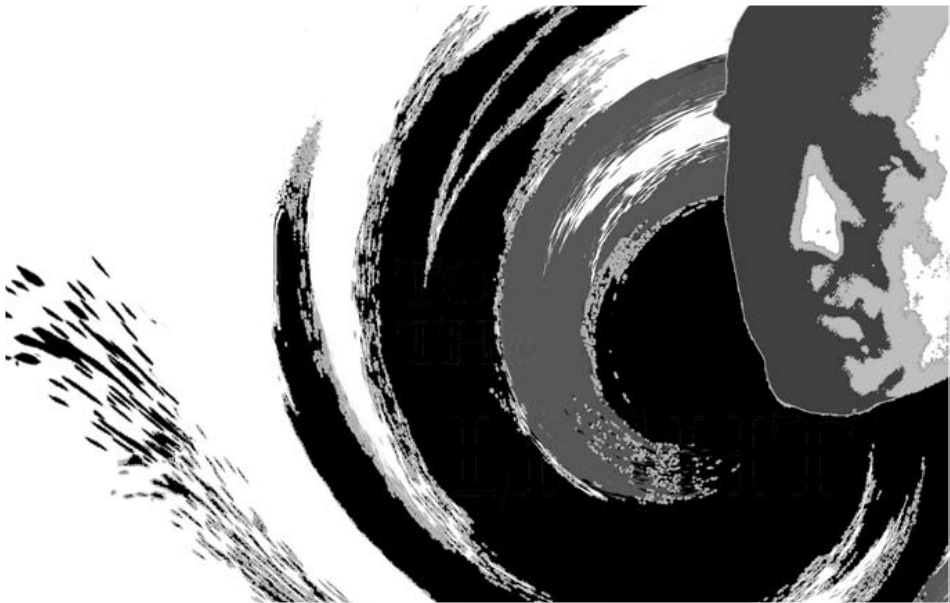
DONALD GRAYSTON
Retired Priest of the Diocese of New Westminster

An interesting word: what does it mean? And now it's the name of a program: what's that about?

Consonantia: it's the Latin word for "harmony." Literally it means, "sounding together." Thomas Merton uses it to refer to the essential inner unity of the universe—a unity that, alas, is not always easily observable. Here's what he says about it, at the end of an article which describes a typical day in the hermitage in which he lived for the last 3 years of his life (1965–68).

"I sit in the cool back room, where words cease to resound, where all meanings are absorbed in the *consonantia* of heat, fragrant pine, quiet wind, bird song and one central tonic note that is unheard and unuttered. ...In the silence of the afternoon all is present and all is inscrutable in one central tonic note to which every other sounds ascends or [from which it] descends, to which every other meaning aspires, in order to find its true fulfillment. To ask when the note will sound is to lose the afternoon: it has already sounded, and all things now hum with the resonance of its sounding."
• Day of a Stranger, 1965

In one sense, *consonantia* is that "one central tonic note" which hums away inaudibly



and eternally at the core of the universe. In another sense it is an integrative dynamic capable of bringing unity to such disparate realities as heat, pine, wind and song, or in other words, unity among all the elements of the entire universe. It can also be applied to the Trinity, the three persons of which are eternally in infinite *consonantia* with each other; or to the Logos, a term used for Christ in St. John's gospel (1: 1–14), the power through which all things come into being and are held together in the universe. It's a rich concept, which we may

connect with the *Tao* of the Chinese tradition, the *Om* of the Indian tradition, or *satori* (enlightenment) in the Zen tradition. And now it's the name of a program, co-sponsored by the Thomas Merton Society of Canada (TMSC) and St. Andrew's United Church in North Vancouver, and held at St. Andrew's (10th and St. George). It's a series of gatherings, more or less monthly (not in December, nor in June to August), intended to give those who come an introduction to the riches of Christian spiritual practice and perhaps a different perspective on their

connection to the Divine. Our launching event was October 18th and 19th. On the Friday evening, the Reverend Dr. Angus Stuart, Rector of St. Francis-in-the-Wood, West Vancouver, offered a magnificent riff on poetry and jazz as parables of the soul. Two workshops were offered Saturday morning: introduction to the labyrinth, animated by Susan Du Moulin; and introduction to *lectio divina*, facilitated by myself. Both workshops were repeated in the afternoon. The day ended with an ecumenical contemplative Eucharist.

And why are we doing this? Because, speaking personally, I believe that one of the most important routes towards the spiritual renewal of our increasingly fragile Christian institution is the route of spiritual practice. Specifically, we need to find ways of embodying our spirituality, to practice, in fact, an embodied spirituality. Think of the millions of young folk who practice yoga and Buddhist meditation. Both of those are practices which engage the body, and with it, the soul. So our little program will be, we hope, an integrative and embodied contribution to spiritual growth for younger and older, and for the better health of the Christian community.

Full information on this and future gatherings can be found on the TMSC website at www.merton.ca. Please join us! ✦

OPINION

Book Review

KURT ARMSTRONG
Reviews Editor for GEEZ Magazine and the author of Why Love Will Always Be A Poor Investment: Marriage and the Consumer Culture.

Assuming you don't include the jiggling, wiggling, hopping and clapping my kids and I do in the living room as authentic dancing, last spring I went dancing for the first time in 15 years. I seemed to be the only one in the room not having a good time. I am as out-of-place on a dance floor as I am in a room full of people speaking a language I don't understand.

Sandra Vander Schaaf knows how to dance the tango, but she says that her first *milonga* (tango event) "had all the ingredients of a blind date. I had no idea what to expect." The first night out, when she vowed she would only watch, Vander Schaaf finds herself out on the floor "walking, until the

walking felt like dancing, and the dancing felt like falling in love." Between the chapters on dance lessons, she includes vignettes from various Church experiences over the years—baptism, the Eucharist, Ash Wednesday—and stories from Church and family life that instilled deep shame. She also recounts her bouts with crippling depression.

In a subtle and understated way, Vander Schaaf's spiritual reflections provide an undercurrent, which flows beneath the more straightforward narrative of learning to dance. Her description of tango is almost sacramental, the outer expression of an inward grace. Lessons teach her how to breathe, how to move and how to follow a leading partner, but dance also gives her own body as a gift. "I pulled as much of the wholeness I experienced when I danced into the life I lived beyond the dance floor. I had crossed the threshold from *having* a body to *being* a body and nothing... was going to take that away from me." Her disciplined pursuit of dance becomes a genu-

inely spiritual exercise of presence, practice, repetition, obedience and surrender. But it becomes a passion, too. After an exhilarating Hallowe'en *milonga* she recounts, "I had tasted something I had longed for without knowing its name. It was exquisite, beautiful, intoxicating and very definitely not safe."

Vander Schaaf isn't an activist or a radical, and she doesn't try to problematize the strict gender roles reinforced in the tango. She recounts difficult wardrobe choices (hot pink or little black dress?), fancy hairstyles and an arduous shoe-shopping excursion that turns into an epiphany. But tango becomes empowering for her, and the rules and etiquette of the *milonga* give her the chance to be feminine without being afraid. "I learned what it was like to be a woman and feel safe at the same time," she says. "It felt like a miracle."

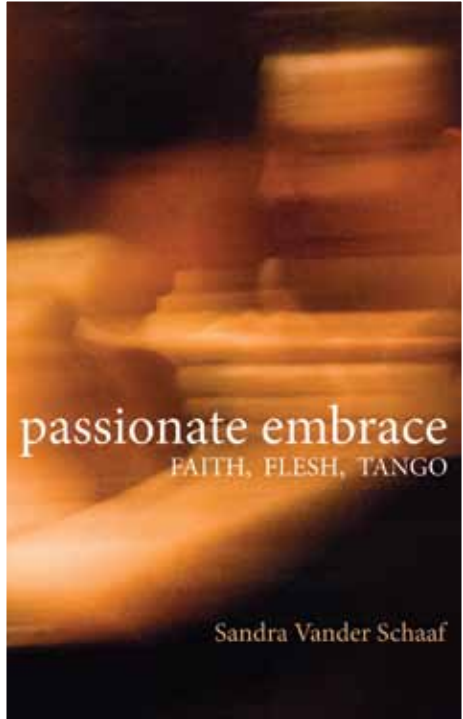
The book ends abruptly, just a few pages after she discovers she has cancer, but having already exorcised some pernicious personal demons, Vander Schaaf seems unflapped by the diagnosis. "Tango had

given me a sense of my own resilience, a sense of the grace that surrounded and infused me, and an axis I could trust to keep me focused and strong."

Dazzling and sensuous, *Passionate Embrace* boldly challenges our obsessions and fixations about what makes a body beautiful. Vander Schaaf's dance lessons form a long pilgrimage, each step a disciplined practice of breath and motion, her words as graceful as the movements she describes. In the tango Vander Schaaf discovers the miraculous gift of *being* a body, and she, in turn, shares her gifts of eloquence, honesty, wisdom and beauty. ✦

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This review was first published in GEEZ Magazine, winter 2013 (forthcoming). For more information see geezmagazine.org.

Sandra Vander Schaaf is a parishioner at St. Paul's, Vancouver and has recently worked as a contract photographer for diocesan communications. • Editor
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Passionate Embrace: Faith, Flesh, Tango

Written by Sandra Vander Schaaf
Published by Clements Publishing, 2013
PHOTO © Sandra Vander Schaaf. Used with permission.

LEFT Gail Evans-Hatch and Barbara Tyler, of St. Paul's, join Angela Accettura who is greeted by the author, Sandra Vander Schaaf at the Passionate Embrace Book Launch, October 5th, 2013.
RIGHT Sandra Vander Schaaf. PHOTOS © Tatiana Balashova. Used with permission.



OPINION

The Forgotten Few Minutes Before Church

MICHAEL FULLER

Incumbent, St. John's, Shaughnessy

Before we even think about this question let's take an honest look at the starting time of the service. Is the current time the most appropriate? Yes, it's good to get it over in time for lunch, but is that part of the clarity of deep purpose? Is that what we really ought to be thinking? Would later be better for those with children, for the elderly who take a little longer to do things in the morning?

OK, so it's Sunday morning. What happens in those few minutes after your visitors take their seat in their pew and before the service begins?

I speak of visitors because, let's be honest, they're the ones who come early. Regulars meander in any time up to after the service starts because they know what to expect. It's easy to forget about those few minutes, yet they matter when lost people find themselves in a seat at your house.

Vibe

You know what I'm talking about. It's the never seen, but always felt energy. It's the 'comfort' you want everyone to feel.

After all, you're about to ask people to engage for the next hour or more and you need a solid starting point. *Vibe* communicates a lot about your Church. *Vibe* is found in the environment.

Our approach to this time needs to fit our values. Once we have defined our wor-

ship environment, let us look at some things to think about that will help us become more intentional about the *vibe* that is being experienced in this time.

Listen

What do you want people to hear? Maybe it's music fitting our worship style, silence for a reverent room or the buzz from people sharing their life stories with each other.

What potential distractions can be heard? Are people standing around and gossiping about last night's television, are microphones clicking, is the choir standing in a huddle or is the organist getting ready.

See

Where are people looking? Are they looking down at their carefully laid out bulletin or handouts, or out at their physical surroundings.

What could negatively impact someone's visual experience? Are people ambling around the sanctuary clutching random items, is there a lack of personal space in the seats, is there a banner that is frayed or about to fall off, is there a failed light bulb or dead flowers?

Feel

At times emotive and frustratingly subjective, so throw some adjectives out there! Joyful. Welcoming. Peaceful. Engaging. What are we doing to express these things?

What could be felt in our space that takes away from this? Fear of the unknown, anxiety over what's expected or deep-seated guilt? Hangover?

Improve the Vibe

Listen, see and feel the *vibe* that visitors experience in those forgotten few minutes before our Church service starts. Once you're paying attention to that experience, you can start to improve it. Could we improve visual images? Would a candlestand be helpful so people could light their own candles and say a prayer? Is the music conducive to a prayerful environment? Do the pews need runners to make them more comfortable? Do we need to do anything to improve the lighting?

It would be good if every Church member arrived ten minutes before the service and just tried to think about the experience of being a visitor to our Church. Sit in the pew and really look around. Ask yourself, what makes me glad to be here? What distracts me? Are there things that help me to adopt a worshipful frame of mind? What prevents that happening?

Exercise

1. When you walk into your Church lobby, look at it, as you never have before. Look at the lighting, the walls and what is hanging on the walls.

Look at the furniture and ask if that were something you would see in a home of a young family (presuming that family had some money to buy furniture they like).

Then, ask yourself if the kind of lobby that you have is representative of the age bracket of the people you want to attend. What says welcome?

Be intentional about your lobby—it is one of the first impressions people will have about you. Make it a good one, a positive one that will make you look good. Spend some money; recruit some young women or men to be the interior decorators for that area; and then, in about 10 years, do it all again with yet new fixtures.

Every time we update our look, we directly affect the age of people that come (and come back) to our Church.

2. Think about the time before service. Does it feel as if we are about to encounter the living God or something else? What gives you a numinous feeling? What makes you think you might be at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre? What is helping you prepare? What is distracting you? ✦

*"Listen, see and feel
the vibe
that visitors experience
in those forgotten
few minutes before
our Church service starts."*



The Rev. Fr. Michael Fuller.

The Biblical Dichotomy Between the World and God

BETTY VOGEL

St. James, Vancouver

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride of riches—comes not from the Father but from the world." • 1 John 2: 15

"The love of the world." What does this mean? I love the world. God has created it and it is very beautiful. Can't I rejoice in God's creation? What is wrong with "the desire of the flesh?" God made us sexual creatures as he did the rest of creation. Is this not a gift of God too? What is wrong with "the desire of the eyes?" Can't we rejoice in the world's beauty? Through our senses and mind God has given us much to enjoy. What about civilization? Was it not created by human beings who loved life and captured its glory in great art, music and literature?

When I was in my twenties I wanted to be a saint above everything else. I thought I had to devote every second to the worship of God—to "pray without ceasing" as St. Paul said. But after practicing this for about four months, something within

me collapsed. I became so conscious of my inner life that I could no longer live spontaneously. I felt so conscious of every feeling in my face that I could not function, and had to give up my dream of sanctity. When I found out that I couldn't become a saint, I became very cynical and disillusioned. I gave up all inner spiritual practice although I still went to Church every Sunday. I was so disappointed that my great dream could not be realized.

Now that I am nearing the end of my life I realize that I must be as God made me. I love great culture and like to spend time enjoying it and admiring the great people who created it. But I also love God who has always been a great comfort and help to me. I could never be without God in this very dazzling but also cruel world, and I shall love him forever. ✦



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For more information please contact
Glen Mitchell: 604.684.6306 X218
gmitchell@vancouver.anglican.ca



The 2013 Group Shot of BCYAYM participants and helpers. PHOTO Kim Blair



The beginning of the 2013 Annual General Meeting of BCYAYM. PHOTO Phil Colvin

100 Years Past and Future • BCYAYM Fall Conference in Abbotsford

PHIL COLVIN
Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator

As has been tradition for 83 years, this past Thanksgiving weekend saw young people from across the province gathering together to meet, worship, play and engage in service at the British Columbia and Yukon Anglican Youth Movement (BCYAYM) Fall Conference at St. Matthew’s Church in Abbotsford. This year’s gathering was extra special for many of those gathered. The ministry of BCYAYM, and before that the Anglican Young People’s Association (AYPA), has been a part of the life of our Ecclesiastical Province long before the annual conferences began. The first local branch of the AYPA was founded in 1913; and so this year’s Fall Conference marks 100 years of the organization, and one of the longest running continuing ministries with young people across the Anglican Church of Canada.

There were chances to look back over that ministry during the weekend October 11th to 13th, 2013. The Centennial Gala was held on Saturday evening, and current young delegates gathered alongside alumni, many who had traveled from across the continent to share in the celebrations. Archbishop John Privett was one of the guest speakers. He spoke about the key role the AYPA played in the development of his own ministry. There was also entertainment from former youth delegate, Jevon Anonby and the Rev. Roger Cooper, formerly priest of our diocese now ministering in the Diocese of Kootenay.

The weekend, however, was not just focused on the past. Caitlin Beck, Youth and Families Minister at St. Philip’s, Dunbar, attended with members of her parish and was

struck by a special tradition which has been developing as BCYAYM delegates gather alongside the host parish for Sunday worship. “This year, baby Cameron, whose parents met at a Fall Conference years ago, was baptized during the service at St. Matthew’s, Abbotsford. This follows on last year’s baptism of Avaya, the daughter of Jon and Melissa Borgens. Jon is currently the adult lay representative to BCYAYM Council and both he and Melissa have been involved with the organization for many years. These baptisms have added a wonderful opportunity for celebration to our Sunday morning worship.”

The Rev. Laura-Marie Piotrowicz from the Diocese of Brandon, Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) board member and theme-speaker for this year’s conference, also challenged participants to look forward, and to identify ways in which they could live out God’s call to care for creation. BCYAYM delegates had the chance to put that challenge into action during the weekend. Another tradition in recent years has been for delegates to go out into the local community and undertake compassionate service projects during the conference. Many delegates assisted parishioners undertaking projects at St. Matthews, while others traveled to nearby parks to engage in a litter pickup session in partnership with the City of Abbotsford.


The Fall Conference also included the Annual General Meeting of BCYAYM who this year introduced a new constitution and by-laws designed to equip the Movement for the ministry it now undertakes. A ministry which has grown

in recent years as they have partnered with Sorrento Centre and our own Diocesan Youth Movement to offer winter and spring retreats. Young delegates discussed the changes with enthusiasm and great insight, asking questions and offering their thoughts and amendments to the documents.

The final act of the Conference was to announce next year’s gathering. The 84th gathering will take place at the parish of Christ Church in Cranbrook. This small parish in the southeast corner of the province has been bringing a large contingent of young people to Conference for several years, often requiring bus journeys of ten hours or more. BCYAYM is taking a step of faith to bring Conference to Cranbrook next year, and making a great statement of intent that the ministry being celebrated in 2013, is continuing to thrive, grow and reach out to a whole new generation of young people across the province. ✠

Young Peoples’ Associations have been active and vibrant throughout the history of the Anglican Church in BC and Yukon. The Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon came into existence in 1914. Although Anglican Young Peoples’ Associations were active and vibrant throughout the history of the Anglican Church, the Provincial branch of the AYPA did not officially form until 1932. • Editor

Delegates preparing to go and pick up litter with safety vests and equipment supplied on loan by the City of Abbotsford. PHOTO Phil Colvin



Diocesan Youth Movement

YOUTH CONNECTIONS

News & Events for Youth in the Diocese of New Westminster

youth groups
For Parish Youth Groups go to <http://tinyurl.com/DNW-Youth>

contact
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