

# THE LYCHGATE

## April 2, 2017

Parish Newsletter of  
The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields



### From the Desk of the Rev'd Canon Susan Bell

In these early Spring days, we are witnessing a yearly miracle as the dead Winter earth transforms once more to the new life of Spring. Both death and life have deep meaning. In fact, they are dependent upon one another for meaning. That is why, as people of faith who have gathered around the Jesus story, we take significant time to consider them both throughout Lent and Holy Week.

This is a fact that the early church understood well – that we must carefully dwell in the events of the crucifixion and death of Jesus before we arrive at the Resurrection - that we cannot jump too quickly to the triumph of life over death. Dwelling in these events helps us understand how these two things are really two halves of a single event. It also helps us to understand our own lives.

When we face death - perhaps the death of hopes and dreams, or relationships or the death of our dearest held plans or when we face the finality of the loss of someone dear to us, the thought of Resurrection may seem difficult, but in it lies the seeds of hope.

The story we tell reminds us that Resurrection did not come at once - we waited. For Christians, it's really important that there were three days between Jesus' death and his Resurrection. This waiting is important to our story.

What do we do when we have faced a death - small or large, real or symbolic? We mourn, we feel understandably and sometimes almost *inconsolably* sad, understandably without direction – for a time – for a season. But slowly – after time – our amazingly resilient human nature begins to send up new green shoots of growth. Slowly, and after appropriate time passes and we have changed – for each death – large or small – forms us and shapes us into new people who have integrated all the experience of that death – so slowly we begin to redirect our lives and to hope again.

That's why the Triduum is so important. Christians since the earliest days of the Church have memorialized or recreated the events of Jesus' last days during Holy Week. We pray the stations of the Cross, then on Maundy Thursday we commemorate the Last Supper; Good Friday is the service in which we remember Jesus' crucifixion; the Great Vigil on Holy Saturday is our prayerful waiting for the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This journey of faith helps us to understand both the purpose of the cross, and the gift of the Resurrection. These are our ways of connecting again in an experiential way to our stories; to climb into them and let them climb into us; to let the *hope* that these events have embedded in them settle in our being.

Internalizing or integrating these stories has an amazing effect. We know how the story ends: with death first – and then with life: with sin and then with profound forgiveness; with an end and then a new beginning. The Resurrection in *every* way symbolizes hope; hope of *new* life – abundant life *in Christ*. And hope is what gets us up in the morning – what propels us through our lives – what makes them worth living.

This is the creative springtime of God's Spirit at work.

*"Lord, we give you thanks because in his victory over the grave, a new age has dawned,  
the long reign of sin is ended, a broken world is being renewed and humanity is once again made whole."*

Thanks be to God.

Blessings,

Mtr. Susan+

## Church Directory



The Church of  
St. Martin-in-the-Fields

151 Glenlake Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M6P 1E8

[www.stmartininthe-fields.ca](http://www.stmartininthe-fields.ca)

Church: 416-767-7491  
Fax: 416-767-7065

### Incumbent:

The Rev'd Canon  
Philip Hobson OGS

### Associate:

The Rev'd Canon  
Susan Bell SCP

### Assistant:

The Rev'd Andrew  
MacDonald

### Area Chaplain:

The Rev'd Canon  
David Luxton

### Honorary Assistants:

Rev'd James Decker  
Rev'd Canon Harold Nahabedian  
Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan

### Organist & Music Director:

Jack Hattey

### Church Wardens:

Michael Attwood  
Cindy Paget

### Secretary:

Margaret Allen

### Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg

### Sunday School & Nursery

Grace Karram Stephenson

## Upcoming Events

- April 18:** Parish Council  
**April 23:** Martin's Table  
**April 24:** Management Board  
**April 29:** Art show and evening concert  
**May 7:** Rev'd Don Beyers attending and preaching at the Feast of Dedication  
**May 10:** Bell Ringers at St. James  
**June 24:** Fun Fair

## About *The Lychgate* Newsletter

*The Lychgate* is published four times a year. Parishioners are encouraged to submit news and articles to the newsletter editors:

Ian Greene and Eilonwy Morgan:  
[iangreene0766@rogers.com](mailto:iangreene0766@rogers.com)

## Holy Week & Easter Services

### Palm/Passion Sunday, April 9

8:30 a.m. Eucharist  
11:00 a.m. Procession & Sung Eucharist

### Monday of Holy Week, April 10

10:00 a.m. Eucharist  
7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### Tuesday of Holy Week, April 11

10:00 a.m. Eucharist  
7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### Wednesday of Holy Week, April 12

10:00 a.m. Eucharist  
7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### Maundy Thursday, April 13

8:00 p.m. Eucharist, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar  
9:30 p.m. The Watch

### Good Friday, April 14

10:00 a.m. Children's Service  
1:00 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday  
2:30 p.m. Sacramental Confession

### Easter Eve, April 15

8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil – Bishop Jenny Andison presiding  
(followed by the Resurrection Party)

### Easter Day, April 16

8:30 a.m. Eucharist  
11:00 a.m. Procession & Sung Eucharist

### Easter Monday, April 17

7:00 p.m. Eucharist

## Since December 11, 2016

Elizabeth Porter and Mark Pevec were married on February 25. Four funerals have been held: Henri Backes, Timothy Collin, Bruce Leonard, and Ursula Shelton. There have been no further baptisms or confirmations since the last newsletter on December 11.

## Thanks from Don Beyers

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Dear Fr. Philip and the Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields,

I am deeply grateful for the very generous gift of the Mass kit you gave to me upon my ordination to the priesthood. I was overwhelmed by the beautiful gift and deeply touched by your well-wishes and prayers. Know that I will always hold you in my heart and in my prayers, particularly when I celebrate Eucharist and share communion with the kit.

I will be forever grateful to all of you. You were instrumental in my discernment of, and response to, God's call to ordained ministry in his Church. From your gracious welcome when I first moved to Toronto to your heartfelt support as I prepared for ministry, I always felt your prayers and care for me. The rich prayer life and dynamic spirit of the parish inspired me to proclaim to others the Good News of God in Christ. The life and spirituality of St. Martin's formed and shaped me to be the priest that I am today.

In a few short weeks, on May 7<sup>th</sup>, I hope to once again share Eucharist with you and to share in the life of the parish. You will always be my home and I will forever speak fondly of you, the clergy and people of St. Martin-in-the-Fields parish.

Please continue to pray for me as I will for you. Pray that I may always be God's faithful servant. May God continue the good work he has begun in you and bring it into fulfillment in Christ Jesus.

Your Friend and  
Servant,  
Don Beyers,  
Assistant Curate  
Christ Church Stouffville

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**Fr Philip receiving traditional blessing from new priest at ordination of Don Beyers, Feb. 12.**

## Arts for PARC

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By Jacqueline Hayden

Outreach committee members are excited to announce St Martin's first ever Arts Fair, to be held at the church on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon to 6 pm, with the proceeds to go to PARC, the Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre. For any artists interested in participating, the table rental is \$50 and any sales profits are entirely your own. If interested, please e-mail Jacqueline at [jacqueline.hayden@sympatico.ca](mailto:jacqueline.hayden@sympatico.ca) or Almut at [brennedavies@hotmail.com](mailto:brennedavies@hotmail.com).

There will be an entry fee to the public of \$10, which will include finger food, and you will be able to purchase a glass of wine. In addition, Bob Thornley of our wonderful choir and a few musical friends will offer a musical variety performance starting at 6:30 p.m., inclusive in the \$10 entry fee. Interested in advance tickets? Please contact Almut at the above e-mail address, or Fr. Philip.

So celebrate the coming of Spring by supporting local artists and the fabulously empowering community work of PARC. See you there.

## Evening of Song Apr 29<sup>th</sup>, after Arts for PARC

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By Robert Thornley

After the Arts Fair, Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, we are having an evening of song with many of our favorites from the entertainment world.

Some of our choir members and congregation will be getting together after the Arts Fair closes for an evening of music from some well-known movies and musicals.

It is all for your entertainment and is included in your Arts Fair ticket. Just remember the whole day is a fund raiser for the PARC (Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre).

So, take advantage of the snacks provided in the Parish Hall, and then come join us in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. for a fun time.

## Changing Times in our Parish

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By Eilonwy Morgan

It has often been noted how much the face of the City of Toronto has changed in the seven decades following the Second World War. In the

same way, the attitudes of residents in the city have also changed, on many subjects. This was brought home to me when I reviewed the collection of parish newsletters and bulletins from St. Martin's kept by our late parishioner Bruce Fisher, covering six decades of attendance. One of the first changes I noticed was the evolving openness of the parish, and the Anglican Church in Canada, toward other denominations and religions, as shown in the weekly bulletins.

One of the earliest, and most startling, examples came from the pre-printed back cover of the January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1961 bulletin. It was entitled "An Unprecedented Call to Prayer and Action" and was signed by Howard Edmonton, at the time our Primate of All Canada:

*My dear friends:*

*I write to you personally, but also at the request of the Executive Council of our Church, on a most important matter.*

*The times in which we live are challenging each Christian with an urgency that I cannot overstate, to an all-out dedication to the cause of Jesus Christ.*

*All over the world a spiritual war is being fought for the soul of mankind. The battle is not only in distant lands, like China and the Congo, but also here in Canada, and indeed, in your own personal life.*

*Not two, but four or five armies are at work. The old religions of the East are awake and active as they have not been for centuries. The Moslem world is growing fast. Theirs is the religion of worldliness- for in a strange way it **is** a religion- which can take over the soul of a Christian without him realizing it. There is Communism, which is worldliness worked out into an explicit philosophy and programme. And there is the Christian Church.*

*At the present moment, the Christian Church **is not** winning this battle. Then what can we do?*

This deeply offensive and even fearful message concludes with a plea for Anglicans "from coast to coast" to pray each day, at noon, for the Kingdom of God to "come- in my life and in our home;

*in our parish and in the whole Church; in Canada and in all the world."* It certainly does not represent any attempt to comprehend other world religions, or even to reach out to other Christian denominations in Canada to establish common ground in beliefs and values.

A decade later, a meeting held at St. Martin's revealed a cautious opening of attitudes. This announcement came from the April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1974 bulletin:

*8 p.m. A public meeting will be held in the parish hall at which the Swami Venkatesananda, who has been speaking all over North America on Buddhi-Yoga, will address a gathering on the subject Living with Differences which is certainly a live one in West Toronto today. This gathering has been given diocesan approval and is of course open to everyone.*

It is striking, however, to note that parishioners were deemed to need reassurance that the Diocese had given approval for the session.

Three related announcements in the January 18, 1981 bulletin show further evolution of attitudes:

*January 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Please pray for:*

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>The Roman Catholic Church</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>The Orthodox Churches</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>The Lutheran Churches</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>The Reformed Churches</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>The Baptist and other Independent Churches</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>The Methodist Churches</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>The Pentecostal Churches</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>The World Council of Churches</i>

*January 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. there will be an ecumenical prayer service at St. Joan of Arc Church, corner of Bloor Street and Indian Grove. The preacher will be Canon Versey Wigmore.*

Another service to be held at the same time was also mentioned. This one was aimed for a more diverse gathering of Toronto residents:

*January 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. One in Spirit: A Celebration of our Humanity. An ecumenical service at Our Lady of Lourdes*

*Church, 520 Sherbourne Street, sponsored by religious leaders and the Race Relations Commissioner. [Note: The Commissioner, Dr. Bhausahab Ubale, later became a friend and colleague of Ian. He was a devout Hindu.]*

An announcement in the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1987 bulletin invited members of the parish to investigate and further understand other faiths in the city:

*On Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 8 p.m., we will begin a Comparative Religions Study. The series will continue on a weekly basis until St. Andrew's Day, Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. We will examine readings and visit a synagogue, a mosque, a Buddhist temple and an Orthodox church, where the religious leaders will speak to us.*

In our present day, we can see the ecumenical approach of the Faithworks ministries across the city and beyond, and, on a global basis, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. For example, the P.W.R.D.F. indicates on its website that in Africa and the Middle East, it operates programs in Burundi, Egypt, Kenya, Mozambique, Palestine, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Syria, and Tanzania.

A story in the April 2017 issue of Toronto Life describes the senior rabbi of Toronto's biggest Reform congregation, Holy Blossom, Yael Splansky, responding to the terrorist attack at Sainte-Foy, Quebec, in which six men were killed and 19 others were injured. She organized a gathering of hundreds of congregants to hold hands in a circle around the Imdadul Islamic Centre near Jane and Finch on the first Friday prayer after the attack. This was called a "ring of peace," expressing support and solidarity.

A more forceful demonstration of ecumenical outreach by individuals is visible before us in the number of private sponsorships across Canada of Syrian refugees. Our own parish is participating in such a sponsorship.

In this time of the Church year, with Lent and then Easter upon us, it is inspiring to see the changes in Toronto over these years, the opening of

minds and hearts more fully to embrace all of humanity.

### **Fun Fair 2017**

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By Fr. Andrew MacDonald and Kathie Wagg

The very successful Fun Fair held at St. Martin's in the spring of 2015, as part of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, will take place again in the spring of 2017 thanks to popular demand. The date is Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mark your calendars!

The Fun Fair is being organized by the Parish Missional Team (Father Andrew, Kathie Wagg, Glen Storey and James Muir). Once again, we will be asking the Scouts and Guides at St. Martin's for help, and we will be asking for volunteer help from the Parish. In addition, we would like donations of cupcakes that are peanut-product free. If you are available to help for an hour or more, and/or donate cupcakes, please contact either Father Andrew at: [amacdonald@haverгал.on.ca](mailto:amacdonald@haverгал.on.ca) (647-861-7578) or Kathie Wagg at [waggfamily@bell.net](mailto:waggfamily@bell.net) (416-439-2171).

### **Thanks from Romero House**

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By Jenn McIntyre

Romero House would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the congregation of St. Martin-in-the-Fields for 25 years of support. A special thank you for the recent support of winter clothing, Christmas hamper gifts for the sponsored Syrian family, the offering from the Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols service and use of the parish hall for our annual Christmas dinner. You are all such wonderful neighbours!

### **Change Ringers**

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By Jonathan Gentry

The St. James' Cathedral Guild of Change Ringers invites Members of St. Martin-in-the-Fields to visit and experience firsthand The Bells of Old York on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017.

These bells are hung in the steeple of The Cathedral Church of St. James at the corner of King and Church Streets and are very much part of

Toronto's rich musical environment. On Sunday mornings, they ring out at before the 11 a.m. service. Each bell is controlled with a very long rope, pulled by a single ringer.

The steeple in St. James housed the only set of 12 bells in North America until Trinity Church on Wall Street in New York installed a ring of 12 just over ten years ago. St. James' is, in fact, the only tower with working change-ringing bells in Ontario. Our nearest neighbours are in Rochester, N.Y. and Quebec City.

We know that the St. James' tower had been designed originally for change-ringing bells in 1874, but legend has it that the original bells were sunk in the St. Lawrence on their way to Toronto and have yet to be found. The current bells came from another Church of St. James, this one in Bermondsey, London, U.K. close to Tower Bridge, and most of them are older than our tower. They were installed in 1997 and are named after Anglican churches in the St. James Deanery. The smallest weighs 631 pounds, the largest 2,418 pounds. Fr. Philip Hobson was part of the team bringing them to Toronto.

There is a video online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDhVf9d9Fo> .

Please don't miss this wonderful opportunity. Space in the Ringing Chamber is limited so book your spot with our mutual member Jonathan Gentry (416) 766-8491 or [gentryleishman@gmail.com](mailto:gentryleishman@gmail.com).



Jonathan Gentry, the Change Ringer

### St. Martin's Table Dinner

By Dianne Doughty

The Newcomers Committee is pleased to announce long-time parishioners Eilonwy Morgan and Ian Greene will open their home to host the St. Martin's Table dinner on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is a wonderful opportunity for newcomers, clergy and parishioners to socialize in an informal setting. The next dinner will be held this autumn.

An Idea Group is being formed and will meet on May 14<sup>th</sup> to review how we welcome newcomers to our parish and serve the community. The Committee will then evaluate and suggest potential improvements to enhance our community profile.

Please contact Dianne Doughty with any Newcomers Committee related matters. I can be reached at [doughtydg@hotmail.com](mailto:doughtydg@hotmail.com).



**J.J. Stephenson displaying the cross made for him by Lynn McKnight.**