

# THE LYCHGATE

**April 3, 2022**

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



## From Father Philip

On Wednesday evenings through Lent, quite a number of parishioners have been gathering on Zoom to reflect on the Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross. Each evening we have been guided in our reflections by former St. Martin's parishioners who are now ordained and serving as priests in the Church. These sessions have often been profoundly moving as we have been drawn deeper into the mystery of Christ's amazing love for us and for all Creation. Christ's cry for forgiveness for those who were crucifying him, his concern for the repentant thief, his thirst for our salvation, and his embracing of the fullness of our pain and loss, all these are reflected in these simple but incredibly powerful words from the Cross.

As we move towards the glory of Easter Day, it is another set of words spoken by Jesus that haunts me, especially given the tragedy of the present times. In the Gospel of John, we hear that as the Risen Lord first appears to the gathered disciples in the upper room, he says to them, "Peace to you," before showing them the marks of the crucifixion on his hands and feet.

According to John's account, the first fruit of the Resurrection is the gift of peace. Jesus had promised this gift to his disciples earlier as he had prepared them for his coming death, but now it is actually being given. In case they miss the point, he repeats his words, and, in fact, when he appears to Thomas the following week, these are again the first words spoken by the Risen Lord.

In a world torn apart by war in Ukraine and in so many other places, in which so many suffer from violence and starvation and are forced to flee for their lives, the promise of peace has become something that we deeply long for. And peace in the biblical understanding is not just an absence of war, but something far more profound. It is the advent of a world in which human beings live in a right relationship with God, with one another and with all Creation, in which the wolf will lie down with the lamb, and humanity will live in glorious harmony as the children of God. Peace is therefore something active, not passive, that draws us deeper into the love of God, away from our fears and isolation, into the fullness of the community of God's love, the kingdom of God.

In John's account, Jesus breathes the Spirit into the assembled disciples and makes them apostles of the good news to carry on his mission in the world. Part of that mission is to share the gift of peace. Each of us in our baptism has been called to become a Christ-bearer, someone who bears Christ's gift of peace to the world. We recognize that reality each time we come together in the Eucharist as, having been forgiven our sins in the Confession and Absolution, we then exchange the Peace, the sign of our participation in the new kingdom of God. As bearers of Christ's peace, we are called not only to pray for peace amongst the nations but also to actively work for peace in every situation in our lives, in our Church life, in our family life, in our work life, in our community life, wherever we are, to bring the power of God's reconciling love into every situation.

While we can feel overwhelmed by the tragedies of our world, the message of Easter is that God is already at work in Christ, in the power of the Resurrection, sharing the gift of peace in ways both seen and unseen, marks of a new kingdom that is coming into being. As Easter people we have been called to share in God's amazing mission and work. We have been invited to take Jesus' words to heart, "Peace to you," and to live them out day by day in our lives.

May you know the peace and joy of the Risen Lord this Easter and may the peoples and nations of the earth open their hearts to receive that gift of peace also.

Blessings in the Risen Lord,

Fr. Philip

## Church Directory



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

151 Glenlake Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M6P 1E8

[www.stmartininthefields.ca](http://www.stmartininthefields.ca)

Church: 416-767-7491

### Incumbent:

The Rev'd Canon Philip  
Hobson OGS

### Honorary Assistants:

The Rev'd Canon  
David Luxton  
The Rev'd James  
Decker  
The Rev'd Canon  
Harold Nahabedian  
The Rev'd Canon  
Alyson Barnett-Cowan  
The Rt. Rev'd Victoria  
Matthews

### Organist & Music Director:

Jack Hattey

### Church Wardens:

Tim Stephenson  
Peter Chauvin

### Secretary:

Andrea Zinn

### Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg

### Sunday School & Nursery

Carol Shih

**About *The Lychgate* Newsletter:** *The Lychgate* is published four times a year. Parishioners and friends are encouraged at any time to submit news and articles to the co-editors, Ian Greene and David McKnight, at [iangreene0766@rogers.com](mailto:iangreene0766@rogers.com). For digital access to *The Lychgate*, including colour photos and links to web sites, go to <https://stmartininthefields.ca>.

**NOTE:** You can opt to go paperless and in future receive it mostly by email by emailing *The Lychgate* at [Lychgate1111@gmail.com](mailto:Lychgate1111@gmail.com).

## Holy Week and Easter

Services Live-Streamed are indicated  
with an asterisk [\*]

(Please use the link on the parish's web site)

- **Sunday, April 10**, Palm/Passion Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Eucharist; 11:00 a.m., Sung Eucharist\*
- **Monday of Holy Week, April 11**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Tuesday of Holy Week, April 12**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Wednesday of Holy Week, April 13**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Thursday, April 14**, Maundy Thursday, 8 p.m. Eucharist, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar\*
- **Friday, April 15**, Good Friday, 1 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday\*
- **Saturday, April 16**, Easter Eve, 8:30 p.m., Easter Vigil\*
- **Sunday, April 17**, Easter Day, 8:30 a.m., Eucharist, 11:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist\*
- **Monday, April 18**, Easter Monday, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist
- **Tuesday, April 19**, Easter Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

## Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday, April 6**, 8 p.m., Wednesday Evening Christian Education Series
- **Saturday, April 23**, 11 a.m., Special Vestry by Zoom
- **Sunday, April 24**, 4 p.m., Messy Church for children
- **Sunday, May 1**, 11 a.m., Nursery and Church School resume
- **Sunday, May 8**, 11 a.m., Feast of Dedication Visit of Bp. Andrew Asbil
- **Sunday, May 15**, 4 p.m., Messy Church for children
- **Saturday May 28 & Sunday May 29**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Doors Open Toronto at St. Martin's

## COVID Protocols Changing

By Tim Stephenson, Chair, Parish Council

As *The Lychgate* goes to press, the Diocese of Toronto has released new guidelines regarding the relaxing of pandemic restrictions. Committee chairs will be meeting soon to discuss how these guidelines will be applied to St. Martin's. We will be providing updates through the Sunday bulletins, the church web site, and emails to parishioners.

## NOTICE: Special Vestry For Office Renovation: Saturday, April 23 11 a.m.

By Peter Chauvin, Chair, Management Board

After several years of deliberation, Management Board would like to move ahead with the renovation of the church office. The project will include work to better use the space in the St. Cecilia Room. The office itself will be renovated to improve lighting and ventilation, to de-clutter, and to provide workspaces for our Office Administrator and others, as well as space for a meeting table for small committee groups to use.

This project was not included in the annual budget approved at Vestry in February because we were not able to estimate the cost of the project at that time. Management Board would now like to obtain Vestry approval to take money from the Memorial Fund. We will be asking for permission to take up to \$40,000 from the Memorial Fund for this special project.

The Special Vestry is scheduled to be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 by Zoom. All parishioners whose names appeared on the Vestry list published by the Parochial Tribunal before our annual meeting are invited to attend. Pursuant to Diocesan Canon 14, further details will be provided including the requisite notices to be given on the two Sundays prior to the Vestry.

## Carol Shih: Children and Youth Associate

By Ian Greene

Carol Shih is the new Children and Youth Associate at St. Martin's starting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Carol is a Master of Divinity student at Wycliffe College. This is her second Master's program. The first was a



Carol Shih, Children and Youth Associate

Master of Christian Studies completed in Hong Kong ten years ago. She is a postulant with the Diocese of Toronto.

Carol comes to St. Martin's with two decades of

volunteer experience working with children and youth, including five years working with families at her home church in Hong Kong. Outside of her volunteer work, she worked in marketing, church policy, administration, advocacy, theological education, and education. In 2019, on the advice of Bishop Patrick Yu (Area Bishop of York-Scarborough until 2017 and Carol's professor at theological college in Hong Kong), she began to research appropriate further education leading toward becoming a priest. Bishop Yu recommended Wycliffe College. Carol travelled to Toronto to visit Wycliffe and some churches in the Greater Toronto Area in 2019, and subsequently applied to enter the MDiv program. She was accepted and began her studies in January of 2021.

Carol believes in teamwork that includes children and youth, teachers, the clergy team, parents, and mentors in the parish. She is full of creative ideas and plans to build on the solid groundwork laid by Grace Karram Stephenson.

Our first post-COVID church school will be held on Sunday, May 1. Children from kindergarten to middle school should gather in the classroom area next to the church hall prior to 11 a.m. Nursery-aged children are also welcome and will have a separate space next to the church school.

To re-start church school after the two-year break necessitated by COVID, we need families, teachers, teacher-helpers, and mentors. For more information about volunteering or about the nursery and church school in general, please contact Ian Greene at 416-571-8742 or [iangreene0766@rogers.com](mailto:iangreene0766@rogers.com) and Ian will put you in touch with Carol. Carol is very much

looking forward to meeting you! I know you will very much enjoy meeting her, as I have.

## **Parish Profile: Elaine Lumley and Nadine Barmania**

By David McKnight

An interesting thing about St. Martin's is the number of adult siblings in the parish. (We think there are eight sets.) In this issue, we profile sisters Elaine Lumley and Nadine Barmania.

Elaine is the third and Nadine the fourth of four daughters born to the Reverend Robert and Margaret Lumley of the Anglican Diocese of Algoma. Both sisters were born in Port Arthur, now part of Thunder Bay, but grew up in the Lake of Bays parish (Dorset, Baysville, and Port Cunnington) and then Sudbury. One memory of Lake of Bays is that on Sundays in the summer their father travelled between services by boat — wearing his cassock! He was known to slow down when going by docks and invite people to follow him to church. The sisters were always active in the church, with varying amounts of “persuasion”; both were servers and Nadine played the organ.

Both parents were community minded. In Sudbury in the 1980s, their father started a TV show, “Sunday School of the Air”, for those too far from a church for regular attendance. Elaine was an actor and helped with the show. Other community projects were a food bank, Christmas baskets, and an ecumenical breakfast club. Life was active in Sudbury with lots of outdoor activities and sports with their father.

Nadine left Sudbury before Elaine; first to Trent University for philosophy and then to Toronto for law school at U. of T. She has been in Toronto ever since. She met her husband, Ismail Barmania, at Trent. They were in the same law class, married after graduation, and practise together. Nadine practises family law and Ismail does wills and estates; they try not to talk about work at home. They have two children, both now adults who live in Peterborough. Ayesha is a journalist and podcaster; Zack just graduated and is making a career as a writer and actor.

Elaine and her son Aidan stayed in Sudbury longer, but they moved to Toronto in 1989 so Elaine



**Elaine Lumley and Nadine Barmania**

could be more active in theatre. Acting jobs were not plentiful, but a switch to stage managing made it easier to make a living. After twenty years in theatre, she went back to school and trained as a Registered Massage Therapist, a career she loves.

In Toronto, Elaine and Aidan lived near Christ Church Deer Park (CCDP) and were very active there. They helped Canon Tim Elliott get a youth group going and in involving teenagers as servers and readers.

After Aidan sadly passed away, Elaine found she could not go back to CCDP. She was then living on Indian Road and, walking in the neighbourhood, she found St. Martin's. At first, she attended irregularly, not ready to be too involved. One pleasant surprise was seeing Canon David Luxton, whom she had known and admired at CCDP when he did an interim there. With their mother urging regular attendance, Elaine and Nadine began to attend together.

Elaine and Nadine started regular attendance at St. Martin's four or five years ago. They are becoming more active: Nadine knitted for the Christmas Market and both have joined the Sidespeople. Elaine's partner Sal comes for major festivals. You may also have seen a young boy with them. He is Elaine's godson, Ilam, who is now 8 years old; once he comes back after the restrictions, he may be accompanied by his 4-year-old brother, Beck.

St. Martin's has been a good fit for Nadine and Elaine. They enjoy the beauty of the church and garden. They like the welcoming people, the way services are conducted, the music, the reading, the preaching, and that the teaching of the clergy comes



from a place of kindness and love. (They appreciate Father Philip's gentleness; he never makes them feel bad if they have been away for a while.) St. Martin's fits with the traditions of their parents and grandparents, and they find the service grounds them each week. They can be present in the Word.

Two life-long Anglicans have found a place to practise their faith.

## Doors Open 2022

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By Kathie Wagg – Doors Open 2022 Convenor

At long last – an event for us to look forward to is coming! The City of Toronto is hosting Doors Open 2022 and St. Martin's will be participating. We will be opening our church building and garden to visitors to help celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of this sacred building of which we are all so proud.

Doors Open 2022 takes place on the weekend of May 28 and 29, so please mark your calendars. We will be welcoming visitors from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on both days, including during our 11:00AM Eucharist celebration.

We are planning to offer tours of both the building and the garden on request. We will have a time each day for a special children's program and Jack Hattey will provide an organ demonstration and improvisation on Saturday afternoon. We will also have a display of our beautiful liturgical vestments as well as a display of our history and interesting videos of the parish and the garden.

To do this, we will need volunteers to help in all these areas. Many have volunteered already but more are needed. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, to introduce our parish family to the greater community, and to renew friendships that may have been suspended throughout the COVID lockdowns. Also, with more volunteers, the amount of time for each individual commitment is reduced. Don't worry – volunteers will be provided with the tools and training you need to be an effective ambassador for St. Martin's. Please note also that all COVID restrictions in place at that time will be strictly followed to ensure the safety of our visitors and our participating parish members.



February 28, 2022 - what a winter we have had!

There will be more reminders and opportunities to volunteer over the next couple of months, i.e. emails and bulletin notices. But if you know you are available now, or would like additional information, please contact Kathie Wagg at [waggfamily@bell.net](mailto:waggfamily@bell.net) or 416-439-2171.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

## Missional Update

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By Kathie Wagg – for the Missional Team

*"It requires an outward focus, rather than inward. It calls us out of the building into the neighbourhood, and invites us to serve as Christ's hands and feet and heart and mind."*

Fr. Andrew MacDonald

After our forced shutdown for two years because of COVID, your Missional Team is rising from the ashes of our cancelled programs from 2020 to start thinking about what St. Martin's can do for our community now and in the future. The Team looks much different from two years ago, as we have lost some members but have also gained some new ones. And we are looking to expand further. We sincerely appreciate the work of Kathy Mansfield, David Fleming, and Mtr. Alison Hari Singh who have moved on for varying reasons. Current Team members are Glen Storey, BethAnne Bell, Lexi Brennan, Chris Dube, Sheila Jennison, and Kathie Wagg. We would enjoy having you join us.

Our first activity was getting our Blessing Box up and running again. We are happy to report that the

Box is being used regularly by members of the community. The Box contains non-perishable foods, various personal and household supplies, and a library for adults and children. We encourage you to think about the needs of people in our community when you do your weekly shopping. Put aside whatever products you can and bring them to the Box. You can put them directly into the Box as some of our community partners do, or you can put them in the bin at the back of the church designated for this purpose.

Second, we have started Pickleball again on Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. This is a popular activity for many in the neighbourhood, as well as for many of our parishioners. People from the parish provide a real welcome to those from the community – ‘Christ’s hands and feet and heart and mind’. We are already seeing new people both experienced and beginners come to join us. Convenors for Pickleball are Glen Storey, Jay Haddad, and Kathie Wagg.

The purpose of the Team is to plan. Team members develop ideas and facilitate their execution by our supportive parish family members. We now need to get busy and to plan further activities that will attract our community partners into our space and to help them to feel the love of God that radiates from our building and garden. We also need to identify activities that our community members say they need from us. That is a bit more challenging, but we are up for the challenge.

## **FaithWorks Campaign, 2022**

By Kathy Mansfield, FaithWorks Parish Coordinator

“Abundance and Grace call us to be generous and trusting” is the theme for this year’s FaithWorks campaign. (Quote from Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury). Even in this most turbulent time, these words remind us of how much we have to be grateful for and have to offer others. FaithWorks allows us to share our blessings with those who are most vulnerable and marginalized right here in our community and around the world. It offers support to Ministry Partners as they serve the needs of at-risk people who are Indigenous, homeless, hungry, women, children, youth, immigrants or refugees, or those

struggling with HIV/AIDS. Some examples of those Ministry partners are All Saints Community Centre, Philip Aziz Centre, and Toronto Urban Native Ministry. We will be highlighting the important work of these ministries by inviting local leaders to speak here at St. Martin’s and through articles in the Lychgate.

Our 2022 FaithWorks campaign has begun and we will be working hard to raise money especially after Easter to support these important ministries. The 2021 Diocesan Campaign raised \$1,450,000. This year a generous donor has offered a \$100,000 matching challenge grant for all new and increased donations. That means for every dollar raised over last year’s amount, Faith Works receives an extra dollar. Let’s make 2022 an even greater success to help those most in need!

If you have any questions about FaithWorks please feel free to reach out to me at

[Kathy.mansfield59@yahoo.ca](mailto:Kathy.mansfield59@yahoo.ca).

## **St. Martin’s Architectural Carvings and Oak Woodwork: In appreciation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building in 2022**

By Lynn McKnight



**Reredos top corner**



Anyone who has attended services at St. Martin's has surely admired the beautiful oak woodwork throughout the church. During this, the one hundredth anniversary of our church building at 151 Glenlake Avenue, it seems fitting to research and profile some of the details of the wonderful carvings and especially those found in the sanctuary. As the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary book written by Joy Fulford and Eilonwy Morgan revealed, records show that the wooden components of our church were made and installed by The Valley City Manufacturing Company of Dundas, Ontario, in time for the opening of the above ground church in May 1922.



**Reredos Grapes**

The exquisite oak carvings of the reredos, bishop's chair, sedilia (clergy seating), sanctuary walls, organ pipes case, choir stalls, prayer desks, pulpit, and font were done by master woodcarver David Miller of Valley City and his team.

The company had been founded in Hamilton in 1884 by two entrepreneurs, John D. Pennington and Edgar Baker, who recognized the potential of Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone

and began to manufacture wooden boxes into which Bell mounted the parts. In the same year, the partners opened a second product line of desks for students in the rapidly growing school system. Their desks incorporated some special design features which quickly became standard throughout most of Canada and the United States. The business grew sufficiently in the first decade that Pennington and Baker moved manufacturing to the new larger premises in Dundas in April of 1893.



**Bishop's chair**

Little information is available of the first decade in Dundas, though by the end of the decade the major product lines had changed to pews and furniture for churches. The company named originally for its founders, Pennington and Baker, was renamed to Valley City Seating Company some 12 years after it was formed. Later its name changed again to Valley City Manufacturing Company as its products evolved.

Additional hand-carved elements include our pews, credence table and litany desk, sometimes referred to as a prie-dieu (found at the statue of Mary at the back of the church normally, though not during recent restrictions). These were all made by Valley City some 30 or 40 years into its existence. The bar that closes the communion railing, the sanctuary radiator covers, and the registry desk were requisitioned in 1954.

David Miller began working for Valley City in 1919 when he arrived in Hamilton after a few years in Chicago and Detroit. He worked for Valley City for 24 years until his retirement at the age of 80 in 1943.

Born in Edinburgh in 1863, a proud son of Scotland and admirer of Robert Burns, Mr. Miller apprenticed there before his work took him to many cities of the



Sedilia corner

world. He worked primarily in wood though also used stone as a medium. Not only did he do exceptional work in many buildings in Hamilton, but also in other parts of Canada, the United States, and the British Isles. When King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited Hamilton

in 1939, they accepted a plaque bearing their likenesses that had been carved by Mr. Miller to commemorate their visit. On return home, their majesties sent a letter of thanks from Buckingham Palace to Mr. Miller.

The obituary of David Miller printed in the Hamilton Spectator on March 12, 1946, mentions some of his finest work as being in Hamilton



Wall detail

churches including the reredos portraying the Last Supper in St. Peter's Anglican Church and the choir stalls, cathedra, and pulpit in Christ's Church Cathedral. Also mentioned were the magnificent war memorial narthex screen depicting figures in the services in

the Second World War in St. George's Anglican Church, St. Catharines, and the beautiful figures at the Roman Catholic Mount Carmel College, Niagara

Falls. These all brought acclaim from connoisseurs of fine carving. His obituary went on to say that Mr. Miller's work can also be found in St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church and St. John the Evangelist in Hamilton, Memorial United Church in St. Catharines, St.

James Anglican Church in Dundas, the United Church in Weston, and Yorkminster Park Baptist Church and St. Martin-in-the-Fields in Toronto. Many other churches from coast to coast in Canada and throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland contain his lovely creations. Much of the interior work on the ocean liner Mauretania was executed by Mr. Miller. In addition to the plaque carved for the King and Queen, Mr. Miller carved a plaque of "five cherubs" for the Dionne quintuplets.

We are all very fortunate that David Miller chose to come to Canada in his mid-fifties and to work for



Detail under organ pipes

Valley City Manufacturing Company to exercise his considerable talent and skill in carving so many wonderful works, including for our beautiful church.



Wall detail



*This is the first article on this topic in our anniversary year. In the next Lychgate, I will write more about Valley City Manufacturing Company in the years from 1929 through 2012 when it closed. It is an interesting story. I will also show more of the detailed carvings at St. Martin's and especially of the choir stalls, pulpit, and font with thoughts on the carvings.*



**Angels on organ pipes**



**Choir stall**



**Choir Stall**



**Choir stall**



**Prayer desk**



**Choir stall with shield and cross**



**Pulpit with carvings of the crucified Christ, St. Mary, and St. John**





**Font**



**Credence table**



**Gothic pew end**



**Litany desk**





Communion Rail



Spring flowers in the St. Martin's garden, Spring 2021. Photos courtesy David McKnight

## Help Wanted

POSITION: Coordinator of the Christmas Market/Nutcracker Fair

SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES:

- Ability to organize oneself and others
- Ability to communicate
- Patience and understanding
- Flexibility and ability to adapt to changing environment
- Imagination
- Sense of humour and ability to enjoy oneself

Does that sound like you? Do you have questions? Please indicate your interest by contacting Kathie Wagg – [waggfamily@bell.net](mailto:waggfamily@bell.net) or 416-439-2171.

This event is an important fundraiser for our parish. It is also a great time to socialize with other members of our parish family and with others in the community.

Will it be virtual or in person or a hybrid of both? That would be for you and your team to determine depending on the conditions in the fall. It would be unfortunate if it did not take place this year.

Will there be support from others in the parish? For sure. People who have volunteered in previous years will be available this year – you just have to ask! St. Martin's parish community is famous for volunteering, but we need the Leader. We hope that is YOU!



Easter garden 2021 by Vicky Cooper