

THE LYCHGATE

March 26, 2023

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



From Father Philip

As we continue our journey through Lent, we look for opportunities that allow us to enter more fully into the path of Christ. As the outdoor signs at the church say, we are invited to accompany Jesus on his road to the Cross in order that we might also know the power of his Resurrection.

One of the opportunities that has helped me this Lent is our own church of St. Martin. Each week when we enter into the sacred space of St. Martin's, we are surrounded by the beauty of holiness – by the prayers of the saints, by the presence of fellow members of the Body of Christ, by the beauty of the church itself with its windows, woodwork and soaring arches. It is those windows that have spoken to me most especially this Lent. I was spurred into focusing on them by one of our Tuesday evening sessions on Zoom when Prof. Joe Mangina, in his reflections on the Gospel of John, concentrated particularly on the “I am” sayings of Jesus that occur throughout that Gospel. He was able to illustrate many of these sayings by using pictures of our nave windows, each of which includes an angel holding an open scroll on which is written one of the “I am” sayings. This Lent I have used those windows to guide my meditations and prayers.

It all began as I thought about one of those windows where the scroll reads, “I am the Way”. What does it mean for me and for each of us to be a follower of the Way? As we hear in Scripture, this was the very first name by which followers of Jesus were known, not Christians, but Followers of the Way. When Jesus invited people to join him, calling them to “Come and follow me,” it was literally to join him on the way, walking the dusty roads of Galilee beside him, but, metaphorically, it was also to join him on the way of abiding in the Father's love, of following the Father's will, of expressing the Father's mercy and forgiveness in teaching and healing and reconciling. As Jesus calls each one of us to follow him, we too step onto that same path, that same way of living and believing and acting.

On that way, we know that we are never alone. As Jesus says in another nave window, “I am the Good Shepherd”. He is always with us, walking beside us and before us, guiding us to those green pastures, carrying us through those dark places that are a part of everyone's life, providing us with the courage and perseverance to continue on our way. As one of the other windows reminded me in my reflections, Jesus also nourishes us on our way for he is the Bread of Life. He shares his life with us, to provide us with the strength and inspiration we need to continue to grow into the mercy and love of God. And not only that, but he also lights the way for us through the darkness, through the doubts and uncertainties and fears that we all face, for, as another window highlights, Jesus is the Light of the World.

One window which gave me much food for thought and prayer is the one where the scroll reads, “I am the True Vine.” It caused me to think more deeply about what it means for me to be one of the branches of the vine, to be grafted into the true vine that is Christ. It allowed me to reflect on how crucial it is to remain close to Jesus, to allow Jesus the Vine to provide the strength and direction I need to flourish, to grow, and to bear much fruit, sharing the goodness of the True Vine in my day-to-day life.

Finally, there is the wonderful window where the scroll reads, “I am the Resurrection and the Life.” The Lenten journey and the events of Holy Week climax in the glory of Easter Day as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ and the sharing of that new and risen life with all God's Creation including ourselves. As we hear so often in John's Gospel, Jesus has come to bring us abundant life, life lived in the presence of God. The Risen Lord calls us to rejoice in a transformed humanity that opens before us the amazing possibilities of a life transfigured by the light and glory of God.

What an amazing gift we have been given at St. Martin's in those wonderful nave windows. I give thanks to God for these past 26 years during which I have been able to share in the praise and worship of God surrounded by the beauty of holiness. I especially give thanks to God that we can once again this year join Jesus on the way, the way that leads us through the sacrifice of the Cross to the hope and glory of the Resurrection. May this Holy Week and Easter be a time for all of us to draw closer to Christ the True Vine as we bask in his light and are nourished by his new and risen life.

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

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:

Peter Chauvin
Jay Haddad
Nadine Barmania (Deputy)

Office Administrator:

Andrea Zinn

Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg

Children and Youth Pastoral

Associate: 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. 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.

From the Parish Registers

Since December 11, 2022 (last *Lychgate*)

Baptisms:

January 15, 2023 -- Constance Ramirez-Marshall

Funerals:

January 13, 2023 – Stephen Simpson

March 18, 2023 – Abby Yau

Holy Week and Easter

Services Live-Streamed have an asterisk []*

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

- **Sunday, April 2**, Palm/Passion Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Eucharist; 11:00 a.m., Sung Eucharist*
- **Monday of Holy Week, April 3**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Tuesday of Holy Week, April 4**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Wednesday of Holy Week, April 5**, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist; 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- **Thursday, April 6**, Maundy Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Eucharist, Washing of Feet, Stripping of the Altar*
- **Friday, April 7**, Good Friday, 1:00 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday*
- **Saturday, April 8**, Easter Eve, 8:30 p.m., Easter Vigil,* 10:00 p.m. Resurrection Party
- **Sunday, April 9**, Easter Day, 8:30 a.m., Eucharist, 11:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist*
- **Monday, April 10**, Easter Monday, 7:00 p.m. Eucharist
- **Tuesday, April 11**, Easter Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. Eucharist

Upcoming Events

- **Thursdays, April 13, April 27, May 11 and May 25** from 10:00 am to noon. The St. Martin's Walking the Neighbourhood group tentatively scheduled. Join us to connect with your neighbours and learn about the neighbourhood.
- **Sunday, April 23:** Fr. Philip's last Sunday as our incumbent. Reception in parish hall or garden after 11:00 a.m. service.
- **Sunday, April 30:** Celebration of ordination of Carol Shih as Deacon during coffee hour; ordination will be at 4:30 p.m. at St. James Cathedral
- **Friday, May 12: 7:30 p.m.,** Celebration for Fr. Philip, Albany Club, 91 King Street East.
- **Saturday, May 13: Blessing of Bicycles**, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, June 11:** FaithWorks Walkathon
- **Saturday, June 17:** Neighbourhood Fun Fair, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm.

Farewell to Father Philip

By David McKnight



Fr. Philip -- David McKnight

The Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields will sorely miss Father Philip when he retires on the Third Sunday of Easter, 23 April 2023. His retirement is well deserved, but we will still miss him.

Father Philip has been the Incumbent of the parish since 1997. Prior to coming to St. Martin's, he served in parishes

in Whitby and Oshawa and at St. James Cathedral in downtown Toronto. After completing a BA and MA in History at the University of Toronto, he entered the Faculty of Divinity at Trinity College where he completed his MDiv.

He has been very active in the Diocese of Toronto, currently serving as Regional Dean for the Deanery of Parkdale-West Toronto and as Ecumenical Officer for the diocese, reflecting his commitment to fostering deeper relationships with our brothers and sisters in other Christian denominations. He is a representative of the worldwide Anglican Communion on the Anglican-Orthodox International Theological Dialogue. He is the Liturgical Officer for the York-Credit Valley area, coordinating ordinations, inductions, and other services involving the bishop. Although the pandemic curtailed activities, he remains Chaplain of the Diocesan Girls' Choir School.

He also enjoys working with those in training for the ministry and serves in various capacities at Trinity College, including as chair of the Council of the Faculty of Divinity and on the executive of the Divinity Alumni. In 2021, he was honoured with the Chancellor William C. Graham Award for his contributions to Trinity.

He is a member of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd, a dispersed Anglican religious community

established in 1913 and is the North American Provincial for the Oratory.

Those who know the countless hours Fr. Philip spends on parish activities will be astonished to read all the other things he does. A rest is well in order, and he has announced that he will not be available for church duties for a time while he has a break and perhaps some travel. Well, he says that and immediately qualifies it by saying he will remain as Ecumenical Officer, has a meeting of the Anglican-Orthodox Dialogue in Jerusalem in October, the annual meeting and retreat of the Chapter of OGS in Tennessee, and a meeting of religious superiors in West Park, New York. Let's hope there can be some personal travel worked in too.

Father Philip will stay in the area as he will be moving to his mother's former condo, near Bloor and Islington. We hope that we will still see him from time to time.

(Note that part of this article is updated from a profile published in the Easter 2017 edition of *The Lychgate*.)

The Process to Identify a New Incumbent

By Peter Chauvin, *People's Warden*

As you all are aware, Fr. Philip, after twenty-six years as Rector and Incumbent at St. Martin's, announced his retirement on Sunday, January 22. He has been in holy orders for 43 years, 43 as a deacon, and 42 as a priest. His last Sunday with us will be April 23.

The wardens, in consultation with the diocese, have already started the process to find a new incumbent. A new incumbent can either be appointed by our bishop, Kevin Robertson, or the parish can take an active role alongside the bishop as part of the selection process. The wardens decided that the parish will actively participate, and we have the full support of the bishop in this regard.

The bishop has advised that it could take nine months or more to have a new incumbent in place. The process is governed by the canons of the diocese. The first step was to create a Parish Selection Committee (PSC). The wardens and deputy warden reviewed the parish list to identify individuals to represent the diverse communities in our parish family. We assembled a slate of candidates to be presented to the parish for ratification at a Special Vestry on Sunday, March 26. This list was published in the Sunday bulletin of March 19.

The PSC will choose its chair. The PSC is then responsible for managing all the necessary activities involved in choosing a new incumbent. They include:

- working with the bishop to ensure we have an interim priest assigned to us during the selection period;
- assembling information on the make-up of the parish and the features that make St. Martin's unique;
- developing parish surveys, focus groups, interviews, and so on. We expect that most parishioners will be contacted at some point during this process;
- compiling all the information and crafting a parish profile. The parish profile will be the document we use to attract candidates who most align with the needs of St. Martin's.

Candidates for the position may apply whether they are from within the diocese, from across Canada, or even outside Canada. Candidates will be vetted by the bishop initially and will not contact St. Martin's directly. The bishop will then work with the PSC to make the final selection. Because the process is thorough, that will be some time down the road.

An important aspect of this whole process will be the need for ongoing communication by the PSC with the parish. You will therefore see updates in future *Lychgates*, notices in the weekly bulletins, email blasts, and other periodic communications.

Please reach out to Jay Haddad, Peter Chauvin, or Nadine Barmania at any time if you have questions or concerns.

Missional Update

By Kathie Wagg for the Missional Team

What is Mission? *"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

Recent Missional Team Activities

The Missional Team is chiefly a planning group. The Team introduces and develops ideas, then looks to the parish family to implement them. Examples of that are the Neighbourhood Fun Fair in September of 2022 and Caroling in the Garden the Sunday before Christmas. These would not have taken place without the support of so many volunteers from the

parish. Both events saw us welcoming our neighbours – about 300 for the Fun Fair and more than 100 for Caroling.



Caroling in the Garden December 18 ,2022

The Team maintains the Blessing Box. While St. Martin's does supply some of what goes into the Box, your support by donating non-perishable foods, personal and household supplies, and hats, mitts, scarves, warm socks, and hoodies in winter, is critical to the success of this installation in the neighbourhood. Our neighbours are also donating to this Box, and for that we are so grateful. The little free libraries that are part of the Blessing Box are also supported by you and by our neighbours. Thank you all so much for helping to provide for those in need in the community.

The St. Martin's Pickleball group is sponsored by the Missional Team. This group plays weekly on Thursday afternoons and is attended by many players from our local community. This group will soon be expanding to one evening a week to be able to attract people who are working during the day. The group charges 'a toonie a time' to play and can cover all expenses from this. Our Pickleball group recently donated \$400 to St. Martin's from surplus funds. This amount was then donated to The Redwood, a local women's shelter supported by this parish, in the form of grocery gift cards.

Missional Team plans for 2023

Currently, there are five events in the planning stages:

- Blessing of Bicycles on Saturday, May 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Neighbourhood Fun Fair on Saturday, June 17, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- Blessing of Pets/Animals on Sunday, October 1
- a Family Games Night later in the fall – date still to be determined
- Caroling in the Garden on Sunday, Dec. 17.



Presentation of \$400 cheque

Mark your calendars now so you are free to attend and/or help with these when they occur. You will hear more closer to each date.

In addition to these events, members of the Team are developing meditation materials to be available in the garden for those who regularly use that great space. Also, we will be undertaking a survey of the community to ask what other things they would like us to do for them.

As you can see, we are busy.

Who is on the Missional Team and how could you join this group?

The Team presently consists of Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Lexi Brennan, Chris Dube, Jay Haddad, Glen Story, Alex Tinius, and Kathie Wagg (Chair). Two other parishioners, Corey Crawford and Tim Stephenson, are presently helping with some of our activities. If you have an interest in participating, please contact Kathie Wagg at waggfamily@bell.net – or in person at any Coffee Hour.

FaithWorks and Outreach

By Judith Kidd

I want to start this article with a very big "Thank You" to each of you who contributed to the

FaithWorks campaign of 2022. Your financial contributions helped again this year to make a very, very successful contribution to the 14 diocesan partners who together made life easier for 27,000 individuals.

Because 15% of your contributions are returned to the parish, your generosity also means that the Outreach Committee can provide more assistance to local agencies. This past year you were able to provide additional support to refugees and those seeking refugee status helped by the folk at Romero House; you were able to contribute to PARC's supportive housing programs; and you provided support to Feed it Forward, a local agency on Dundas St., that helps those dealing with food insecurity as well as helping to minimize food wastage.

The Outreach Committee is making an effort to learn more about these local agencies that we have supported financially over the years. Are there other ways that we can support them in their mission? They are telling us about programs they have for their clients. We are looking and asking about ways that the parish can contribute to the success of these agencies through contributions of time and talents. We have had presentations from both Romero House and The Redwood. We are listening and learning.

While Outreach has focused more on local agencies, we also support, often through special fundraising, organizations outside our neighbourhood. One longstanding project is raising funds for 'clean water' in the far north. Watch for "generous geraniums for clean water" in early May – buy a geranium for the garden and the proceeds go to a clean water fund for indigenous communities.

The 2023 FaithWorks campaign has started at St. Martin's. You will have received the information package and will have seen the quote from Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "Generosity is the best way of becoming more, more, and more joyful." I would only add that it is a joyful experience to be able to give time. If you have time, please join us for our FaithWorks walk on Toronto Island on **Sunday, June 11th**. It is a truly joyful experience.

Parish Profile: Kathleen Manneke

By David McKnight



Kathleen Manneke was born in Orillia where her father was in the OPP and her mother was a nurse. Kathleen's parents were both from Chatham, Ontario, and they arranged for her baptism at Holy Trinity, Chatham, where her mother had played the organ during her own teen years and where her

Kathleen Manneke -- David McKnight

grandmother was very involved in church activities. Interestingly, Kathleen's father was baptised at the same service — we don't see many father-daughter baptisms.

The family moved around southern Ontario during Kathleen's childhood, finally to Burlington in 1971 where she finished high school. At McMaster University, she studied German and classical studies and did a master's degree in classical studies with particular study of the Volsci, an Italian tribe of the 3rd century BC.

The degree included some archeology and she was fortunate to spend two summers on digs in the Liri Valley, between Rome and Naples, in view of the Abbey of Montecassino, the first house of the Benedictine order

Kathleen had known she would be a teacher from an early age, so she did a BEd degree at U of T, graduating in 1981. She says that she has been blessed in life: "Whenever I needed to take a step, a steppingstone was there." When she finished the education degree, the Durham Board was hiring, and she held several positions teaching French and German. At first she covered maternity leaves, but eventually got a permanent position and stayed until 1988.

At that time, Kathleen paused teaching school and returned to U of T where she undertook part-time Celtic Studies. One day, as the bus was passing Montgomery's Inn in Etobicoke, she thought "If not today, when?" and got off to look at the museum. It was another steppingstone. She did not know, but they were seeking to hire a museum educator. It was a change on many levels. From classroom teaching using sight and sound, she moved to museum teaching, in period costume, using five senses. Touch was permitted and smell and taste were part of food demonstrations. From teaching only high school teenagers, she moved to educating all ages from junior kindergarten to seniors' groups. She loved it.

Kathleen had married in 1986, and they moved to Hamilton in 1990. She moved back to classroom teaching in private schools and continued to volunteer at historic sites while she raised her two sons. In 2000, she began teaching for the Halton Board and moved to her current house in Oakville where she stayed on after her divorce in 2007. She retired from full-time teaching in 2017, but immediately began to do supply teaching part time.

Kathleen's family has been Anglican for generations and for her first 15 years attending church was a constant. However, when the family moved to Burlington, they did not re-establish attendance and entered a secular period. There was no rift, just a drifting away. Yet Kathleen says that while church may not have been in her life, God always was. Her belief persisted. In 2012, when her sons were near the end of high school, she sought to return to expressing her faith.

First, she attended the Levels program for Separation and Divorce through the Family Ministry Office in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton. It was not just for Roman Catholics; there were people from all faiths and none. It was her first experience of corporate prayer in years. She started looking for more connections and found the online presence of the Sisters of St. John the Divine (SSJD). At first, she followed anonymously, but in 2015, thinking "If not today, when?" she signed up for a Saturday retreat at the convent. It was another steppingstone. Attending the Eucharist for the first time in 17 years

was wonderful and she knew it was time for a return.

But life intervened; soon afterward she was diagnosed with cancer and had to undergo treatment. In retrospect, although cancer can never be considered a blessing, she recognised other blessings such as in a nurse, Mohamed, and in a patient, Joy. She saw God in and through others, not only revealed from above. Her treatment was successful, now seven years ago.

Kathleen returned to work part-time. She attended a Christian Foundations course one Saturday a month at Wycliffe College and was the only one in the course without a parish. One of the instructors was Mother Susan Bell. At the end of the course, she told Kathleen that when she was ready, the doors of St. Martin's would be open. In September 2017, she thought "If not today, when?" and came to St. Martin's. When she heard Fr. Andrew MacDonald's farewell homily, she almost laughed aloud when she heard the message "If you are not going to church today, when are you?" Another steppingstone. She was made welcome. In the parish she found a place that provides solace and support, but one that also looks out into the world. She sees a change in the church; what she came back to was not the church she drifted away from years ago. There is a clearer recognition that ministry is for all of us, not only for ordained clergy.

Kathleen has taken that message seriously. At a retreat at SSJD, she found a leaflet for Education for Ministry (EfM), a program of theological education for "ordinary Christians" with a goal of greater lay involvement in society. She found a contact in the Diocese of Niagara, began in 2018, and, despite interference from COVID, finished in 2022. It was no small endeavour: 36 weekly meetings in each of the four years and much reading to prepare.

At St. Martin's, punctuated by COVID, Kathleen's roles have changed. Before, she was involved in St. Martin's Table, in social events like games night, and in the Nutcracker Fair. During, she was one of the team that stayed in touch with people by phone. Since reopening, she has enjoyed being a Greeter and helped with the Christmas Market.

Kathleen values the vibrant, diverse congregation at St. Martin's, people of all ages who each contribute as they can to create a thriving and welcoming parish. We are grateful that those steppingstones brought her to us.

Update on Refugee Sponsorship of Tariq A. and Family

By Andrew Everton, Chair, Books Over Borders/St. Martin's Afghan Refugee Sponsorship Committee

As reported in the December 11, 2022 issue of *The Lychgate*, St. Martin's, the charity Books Over Borders, and AURA (Anglican-United Refugee Alliance) have entered into a co-sponsorship agreement to bring Tariq A. (not his real name) and his family to Canada.

By way of background, Tariq worked with Books Over Borders to promote literacy and education in Afghanistan. His work focused on distributing books of traditional Afghan tales promoting peace and understanding in their native languages through establishing an extensive distribution network. Unsurprisingly, the Taliban revile Tariq and have set on destroying his organization, which has a stellar list of accomplishments in education, health, and the promotion of human rights.

The family has now reached an important milestone in their journey to Canada. In February, the family arrived in Islamabad, Pakistan. With them in the relative safety of Pakistan, AURA filed sponsorship applications with the Canadian government on March 22. Unfortunately, we don't know how long the applications will take to be processed. Still, it is comforting to know that the family is safe in Islamabad.

The sponsorship committee (Books Over Borders, with Tim Stephenson and Ian Greene from St. Martin's) met recently on Zoom with the family for introductions. The family is excited about arriving in Canada. Tariq, his wife, and his brother-in-law already have basic skills in English and university educations and they look forward to continuing their education in their respective fields of study in Canada.

With the applications filed, we will focus on raising the necessary funds to support the family for their

first year in Canada. Our minimum target is \$75,000, of which \$55,000 has been secured.

We will keep you updated on the refugee sponsorship in upcoming issues of *The Lychgate* and Sunday bulletins.

St. Martin's Choir Stall Carvings

By Lynn McKnight

You may recall the *Lychgate* article in April 2022 for our 100th anniversary of our church building. It was entitled "St. Martin's Architectural Carvings and Oak Woodwork" and focussed on the excellent work of master carver David Miller. This article is part two, with focus on the Choir Stall and Prayer Desk carvings, also done by David Miller of The Valley City Manufacturing Company of Dundas, Ontario. A proud Scot, Mr. Miller worked at Valley City from 1919 through 1943 when he retired at age 80. The company stayed in business until its closure in 2012 due to reduced demand for their products.

Our choir stalls and prayer desks have twenty carvings in total representing shields (12) or flowers, leaves, and fruits (8), in three rows on each side. The back seats on each side of the chancel are uncarved, the front and middle seats and the sides of the prayer desk seats all have shields while the kneelers of the prayer desks and choir front rows all have flowers, leaves, or fruits.

The pictures included here each represent one end of a stall or seat. Some of the carvings have not been fully identified so if anyone has ideas on what they might be, please let me know. My aim is to confirm the significance of each of the carvings to shed light on why carver David Miller chose each for St. Martin's in 1922.

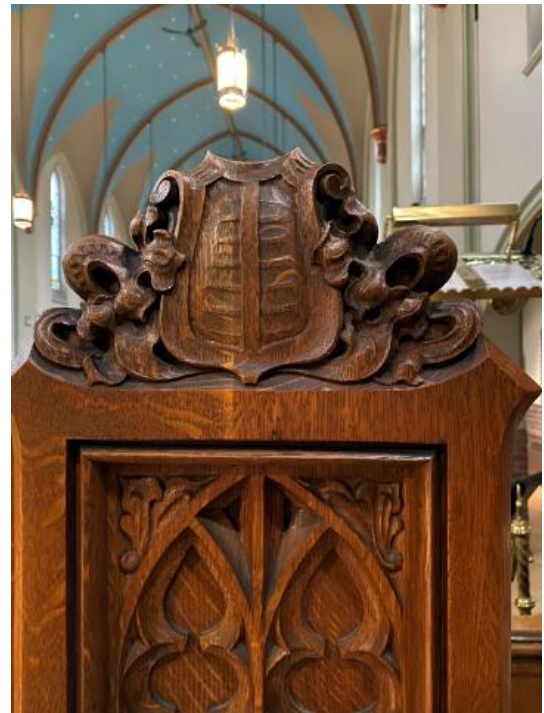
SHIELDS:

Gospel Side

(choir back row, sanctuary end) – Greek Cross, with all arms equal in length, in Glory with emanating rays.



(choir back row, nave end) – possibly buckle of righteousness, or knot representing love and faith.



(prayer desk seat, sanctuary end) - this could possibly represent a Roman soldier's breastplate of righteousness which in Paul's time was made of articulating bands of iron to allow protection with ease of movement. The bands were held together by leather straps.



(prayer desk seat, nave end) – likely the Cross of Lorraine (France) given spacing of horizontal bars equidistant from the top and bottom. In contrast, the Patriarchal Cross, with two arms horizontally but nearer the top of the vertical bar, with the lower being longer, refers to the death and resurrection of Jesus. The shorter upper arm represents the place of the inscription over the head of the crucified Jesus.



(choir middle row, nave end) – Tudor rose, possibly on St. George's Cross as patron saint of England and venerated as the model of knighthood and protector of women. He was also the patron of soldiers as a military man long engaged in warfare with the pagans.

Epistle Side



(choir middle row, sanctuary end) – the apostle St. Andrew's Cross, which he apparently chose to be different than that of Jesus. Also, as in the Scots national banner referred to as 'the Saltire'.



(choir middle row, sanctuary end) – in heraldry, a band from the viewer's upper left to lower right is referred to as a 'Bend'. The vertical flutes have unknown meaning and may be there to add interest.



(choir middle row, nave end) – either another version of the Greek Cross or St. George's Cross, also with horizontal carved flutes or banding, the significance of which is unknown.



(choir back row, sanctuary end) – unknown meaning. The other side of this carving is the same and has the usual outside facing (albeit facing the organ console) that is carved in similar fashion to the other stall ends.

(prayer desk seat, sanctuary end) – Latin Cross representing Christ's crucifixion. This carving is possibly the Shield of Faith or St. Patrick's Breastplate of Righteousness as in Ephesians 6:10-18.



(choir back row, nave end) – Cross Pattée – a square 'footed' version, similar to a Maltese Cross which has indented ends in a pattern of four 'arms,' dating back to the Crusades, with arms widened at the ends. There is similarity to the base of a chalice in the lower arm.



(prayer desk seat, nave end) – This elongated diamond shape with central raised portion and small squarish symbol overtop is of unknown meaning.

FLOWERS, LEAVES, FRUITS:

Gospel Side:

(Choir front row, sanctuary end) – Scottish thistle, perhaps chosen by carver David Miller to represent his homeland, though also familiar to Canadians of Scottish heritage.





(choir front row, nave end)
– oak leaves
with acorns,
perhaps
representing
virtue and
strength.

Epistle Side:



(choir front row,
sanctuary end) –
maple leaves and
keys (bottom left),
prevalent in
Canada and North
America.

(prayer desk kneeler,
sanctuary end) –
This may be a
stylized acanthas
leaf, as seen in many
architectural
elements of columns
in buildings in
ancient Greece and
Rome and in many
church carvings in
Europe, the UK, and
beyond. This leaf is
very common in
older carvings.



(choir front row,
nave end) – English
rose with vines and
buds, representing
England, the
ancestral heritage of
many Canadians and
perhaps the Church
of England and our
Anglican origin.



(prayer desk
kneeler, nave
end) – wheat
sheaf, emblem
of peace and
plenty or
“bread of
life”. Mark
14: 22

(prayer desk
kneeler,
sanctuary end) –
This appears to
be grapes at the
center with
curled vines,
representing the
blood of Christ as
taken at holy
communion.





(prayer desk kneeler, nave end) – lilies as symbols of Easter, immortality, and purity.

There are many other fine carvings at St. Martin's done in 1922 when the church was completed. We are very fortunate to have such a

fine building in which to worship.

As stated above, your additional ideas on these carvings are welcome.

GRATITUDE

By Adrienne Beecker

Our Priest is Father Philip Hobson
 Who arrived at St. Martin's
 To teach about God's Son.
 He toiled with his might
 From dawn until night
 To impart what is important
 In our lives.
 Now, the time is drawing nigh
 When we say "au revoir"
 To one we respect so much.
 But he will return
 With stories to tell
 Of his new beginnings
 And more...

Congratulations to Carol Shih

By Ian Greene

Carol Shih, our Children and Youth Associate at St. Martin's since May of 2022, will be ordained as a deacon on Sunday, April 30 at 4:30 pm. We will celebrate Carol with a luncheon for her at St. Martin's after the 11:00 a.m. service on April 30. She will become the Assistant Curate of St. Timothy, North Toronto upon her ordination.

Carol has been terrific in re-starting the in-person church school after the COVID interruption. We will miss her but are pleased for her success.

As a result of Carol's new posting, St. Martin's is seeking a new Pastoral Associate for Children's and Youth Ministries. For more information about the position and

how to apply, please see the posting on the St. Martin's web page: <https://stmartininthefields.ca/>.

Celebrating Fr. Philip Twice

By Retirement Party Organizing Committee, Mary Conliffe, Jay Haddad, Lindsey Hobson, and Kathie Wagg

Fr. Philip is retiring on Sunday, April 23. He has been the heart and soul of St. Martin's and our spiritual leader for the past 26 years. We wish to send him into his well-deserved retirement with our love and gratitude and two celebrations.

The first celebration will be on Sunday, April 23 after his final service at 11:00 a.m. with a reception in the parish hall or garden, depending on the weather. We'll have finger foods, cake, and champagne. We will be presenting Fr. Philip with a monetary gift of our appreciation and we would gratefully receive any contribution you would like to make to that gift.

To make a contribution, either send funds by e-transfer to cw-stmartininthefields@toronto.anglican.ca or by cheque placed in the collection box at the back of the church or mailed to the church. Please be sure that your contribution is clearly marked for Fr. Philip's gift and is received at the church no later than Thursday, April 20. Please note that any such donation does not qualify as a taxable contribution so a tax receipt will not be issued.

The second celebration will be a stand-up reception with hor d'oeuvres and drinks on Friday, May 12 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Albany Club, 91 King Street East, which is accessible via TTC (King Subway) or by driving. (There is public parking in the vicinity of the Club.) Fr. Philip has touched a great many lives outside our parish both before he came to St. Martin's and during the time he has been with us, and many of these people want to join us to celebrate his life of service.

Tickets will be available for \$50 per person to defer the costs of this second celebration. They can be ordered by e-transfer as above, or you may order tickets via the committee's email address frphilipsparty@gmail.com with cheque to follow. Again, please ensure all forms of payment are clearly marked for tickets, and received at the church by Friday, May 5 (not eligible for tax receipt).

There will be a supply of donated tickets available for those needing financial assistance for this event. To request such a ticket you must do so by May 5, and use frphilipsparty@gmail.com, or write to the church. You can also use that email to share your recollections of Fr. Philip.

We hope there is a stellar turnout at both events!