

THE LYCHGATE

September 8, 2024

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



Fr. Nicholas Hatt

By David McKnight

Fr. Nicholas Hatt, our new incumbent at St. Martin's, began his appointment on 1 September 2024. This profile continues his introduction to the parish.

A true Nova Scotian, Nicholas Hatt was born in Halifax and grew up in his family home in Chester, N.S., about 70 km away. His parents and many other family members have lived there for generations. He grew up in St. Stephen's parish, Chester, and notes the good example while he was growing up of the Reverend Edward Tuck who was the priest there for more than 20 years. Fr. Hatt's parents were the first marriage performed by Fr. Tuck. They are still active in the parish; his mother is currently a warden. The Hatts are an Anglican family: his paternal grandfather was warden for more than thirty years in the neighbouring church of All Saints, Canaan, N.S.



Young Nicholas attended public school and high school in Chester. Like many teenagers, he drifted away from being active in the church and had no real goal when he attended King's College and Dalhousie University. Initially, he studied political science but found it was not asking the important questions he wanted to think about. He moved to a joint honour's degree in medieval theology and contemporary philosophy and there he found questions that interested him. Reading around those questions brought him back to an active faith. After his B.A. degree in 2003, he took two years while discerning his vocation and held a number of lay jobs in parishes in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. He returned to Halifax and the Atlantic School of Theology and completed an M.Div. in 2008. He was approved for ordination, but was offered a position at King's College, first as a don in residence and later as Dean of Students. He expected to be there two or three years but so enjoyed the rewards (and challenges) of working with students that he stayed for ten! During this time, he also lectured occasionally in the King's Foundation Year program and in an inner-city humanities program for those who for various reasons had not been able to go to university in their younger days. He also began part-time graduate studies in Classics, eventually completing an M.A. in 2018.

Eight years after completing his theology studies, he was ordained a deacon in 2015, and then a priest in 2016. Over the next two years, he continued to work at King's and assist as an associate priest in the College Chapel, but was also appointed Rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Mt. Uniacke, N.S. This was a formative experience for him and rekindled his love of parish ministry. In 2018, he began full-time parish work at St. George's Round Church in Halifax, a true inner-city parish. During his time at St. George's, he developed a love for urban ministry, especially supporting and learning from those who live on the margins of society.

Not long into his ministry at St. George's, COVID forced changes — don't we all know! — but also taught lessons. Fr. Hatt learned how important the church is to people, all social beings, and how the rhythms of the sacraments and pastoral care need to continue in whatever way possible. He notes that the church has Good News to share, especially during times of social upheaval and change.

Fr. Hatt's hobbies include running, and he is happy with how near the rectory is to High Park. Despite a lacklustre attempt at tennis lessons as a teenager, he is looking forward to trying his hand on the parish pickleball court! He enjoys cooking and hosting people in his home and is very grateful for the recent work to the rectory kitchen. He likes to read, mostly theology and literature, with a newfound weakness for murder mysteries. The NY Times Crossword, Wordle, and Connections are daily puzzle challenges. Recently, he took his first flying lesson and may soon be arriving for parish meetings via Cessna.

Now in 2024, he comes to St. Martin's eager to join us in our faith journey and a new experience in urban ministry.

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:

Fr. Nicholas Hatt

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:

Nadine Barmania

Jay Haddad

Phil Snider (Deputy)

Office Administrator:

Andrea Zinn

Property Manager:

Mark Kolberg

Children and Youth Pastoral

Associate: Finn Keesmaat-Walsh
(they/them)

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

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday September 8**, 5 p.m., Parish dinner in the garden
- **Wednesday, September 11**, 8 p.m., Christian Education summer book club meeting on Zoom: *The Dean's Watch* by Elizabeth Goudge
- **Wednesday, September 18**, 8 p.m., Christian Education summer book club meeting on Zoom: *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things* by Sarah Bessey
- **Sunday, October 6**, 3 p.m., Blessing of the Pets in the garden
- **Sunday, October 20**, Safety Sunday
- **Sunday October 27**, 11 a.m., start of Stewardship Campaign
- **Sunday, November 24**, Stewardship Commitment Sunday
- **Christmas Fair**, 10 a.m., date to be announced
- **Sunday, December 8**, 7:30 p.m., Advent Lessons and Carols
- **Sunday, December 22**, 4 p.m., Carolling in the Garden

From the Parish Registers

Since June 30, 2024 (last *Lychgate*)

Baptisms: none

Funerals:

Andrew Hossack, died 9 July 2024, funeral 18 July 2024

Marriages: none



Fr. Carefoote cutting cake August 25



Fr. Hatt Cutting Cake September 1

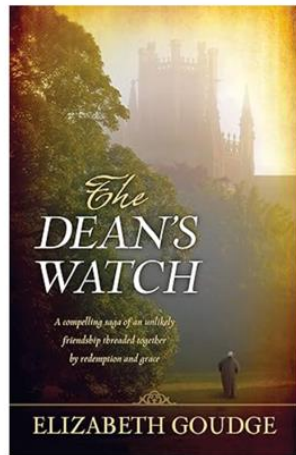
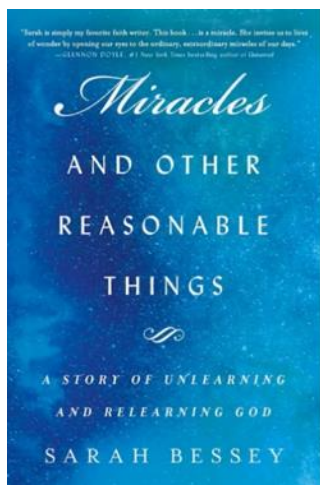
St. Martin's Summer Book Club 2024

By Mary Conliffe and Phil Snider

As noted in the June *Lychgate*, The Christian Education Committee shared our Summer Book Club picks for 2024. We selected two great books for your summer reading pleasure, as usual one a novel and the other a work on spirituality.

The Dean's Watch by Elizabeth Goudge, written in 2012, follows the ministry of the Dean of an English cathedral as he interacts with his colourful parishioners and neighbours, particularly a watchmaker who is struggling in his relationship with God. This book is described as "abounding in Grace" and we look forward to sharing our reflections on it when we gather over Zoom on Wednesday, September 11.

In *Miracles and Other Reasonable Things*, the Canadian writer Sarah Bessey writes about miracles from both a theological point of view and, more importantly, from her own experience recovering from injuries sustained in a serious car accident. She looks at miraculous healing, dealing with chronic



pain, and how God can appear in the midst of suffering. Her account is both faithful but open to the complications that attend suffering. We look forward to exploring these issues at our Zoom gathering on Wednesday, September 18.

We hope that you have had a chance to encounter these books. Regardless, we hope that you can join us on September 11 and September 18 for a lively discussion about them. Both books are so colourful that they will induce lively discussion about broader issues which you can participate in whether or not you've read the books.

St. Martin's Church School

By Finn Keesmaat-Walsh

I write this on a picnic blanket in the church garden, where I have had the joy of teaching Church School all summer.

This summer we have been working our way through the Book of Exodus, learning about how God heard the cry of the Hebrew people and sent Moses to lead them out of Egypt and how God cared for God's people in the wilderness, giving them manna and fresh water.

For many of the children at Church School, this is the first time they've heard this story. They are getting to hear the wonder of God rescuing God's oppressed people for the first time. It has been wonderful to be a part of their faith journeys as they learn how God cares for the marginalized and oppressed and calls us to do the same.



Summer Church School in the garden – photo with permission

It's a joy to witness the growth of our Church School over the past year. We've welcomed some incredible new families, and it's an honour to have them as part of our church. None of this—teaching the scripture, welcoming new children, and deepening the faith of the children in our church—would be possible without the help of volunteers.

I am deeply grateful for the volunteers who are a true blessing to this ministry. I would like to invite you to join their ranks. Whether you've considered helping with Church School before or not, if you have a love for children, I encourage you to visit Church School. If you find it fulfilling, you might consider volunteering regularly. Your contribution will help us connect with our wonderful children, engage in biblical conversations, and nurture the faith of our youngest church members.

Mary Conliffe has been one of the Church School volunteers for almost a year. When I asked why she volunteers, she answered, "I like to help with Church School because it is important for me to get to know my littlest fellow parishioners, and I love that they know me—by name! It also makes me feel that I am truly living up to the promise I made at their baptisms, that I would support them in their life in Christ."

I hope you will consider helping with this vital ministry. I would love to work with you. You can contact me at coffee hour or childyouthministry@stmartininthefields.ca.

A Missional Welcome

By Kathie Wagg for the Missional Team

The St. Martin's Missional Team is so very pleased to welcome Fr. Nicholas Hatt to our parish! We are very much looking forward to working with him on our various events, the first of which will be Blessing of Pets on Sunday, October 6 at 3 p.m. in the garden. Be sure to mark your calendars and bring all your various pets for a blessing.

We have very much enjoyed Fr. Carefoote's time with us and thank him so much for his support of our events during our transition months. We will miss him – but he is just down the road at St. Olave's.

The Missional Team continues to support and maintain the Parish's Blessing Box located in the lychgate at the top of the stairs. Please remember those less fortunate in our community when you do your weekly shopping. Donations of non-perishable foods as well as personal and household supplies can be dropped into the box in the narthex for this purpose or put directly into the Blessing Box. Used



Fr. Carefoote August 25, 2024 – Philip Dawson

books, especially for children, can also be put into the two mini libraries attached to the Box.

Our Pickleball season will be starting again on Thursday, Sept. 12 with sessions from 1 to 3 and 7 to 9 p.m. The conveners are looking forward to welcoming those in the community to our times of fun and fellowship.

The final Missional event of 2024 will be Carolling in the Garden to take place on Sunday, December 22 at 4 p.m. Please mark your calendars. We will have more information on this event in the next issue of *The Lychgate*.

God bless.

Summer Church Visits

By Ian Greene

Each year, parishioners are requested to post bulletins from churches they visited during the summer on the bulletin board at the church entrance. September's *Lychgate* is being published earlier than usual this year and, as of August 19, only five bulletins had been posted. (Twelve were posted in 2023.) If you haven't posted a summer bulletin yet,

please do so and I'll provide an update in the December *Lychgate*.

So far, our parishioners have visited two Canadian churches: The Anglican Church of the Epiphany in Sudbury and Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Surrey, B.C. One English church was visited: Holy Innocents and St. John the Evangelist Church, Paddenswick Road, Hammersmith, London. In the USA, Saint Anne Episcopal Church, West Chester, Ohio, has been visited twice.

An interesting addition to the posted bulletins was the April 2024 newsletter of the Quiet Garden Movement in the UK. The Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields hosts one of four quiet gardens in Canada. According to the Quiet Garden web site, "The Quiet Garden Movement is a network of outdoor spaces and gardens spread across both rural and urban locations worldwide. These outdoor spaces are used for prayer, contemplation, stillness and rest for the spiritual, mental and physical well-being of individuals, groups and communities." There are 214 Quiet Gardens in seven countries, including 164 in England, ten in the USA, nine in Scotland, seven in Wales, five in South Africa, and four in Australia in addition to the four in Canada. More information about the Quiet Garden Movement and St. Martin's place in it can be found at <https://quietgarden.org/>.



St. Martin's garden photo posted on the International Quiet Garden web site

Outreach Events

By Judith Kidd

The Outreach Committee supports several organizations in the neighbourhood in various ways. We believe that we can strengthen that support by making you aware of events these neighbours are hosting, as well as events that promote new learning, and advocate for changes that can help many of our neighbours.

Fund raising event: Romero House has sent us an invitation to participate in a first-time fundraising event, "Romero Moves," on Sunday, October 6. The event will be a 5 km run/walk/roll through High Park, followed by a delicious lunch. The invitation is to participate through running, walking or rolling to make pledges to participants or to volunteer for the event. Information is available on their website:

<https://www.romerohouse.org/events/>.

Learning:

This year's free Diocesan Outreach & Advocacy Conference will be held online on Saturday, October 26 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The theme of this year's conference is "Communities of Resilience and Resistance." The keynote speaker will be Chief Rudy Turtle of Grassy Narrows First Nation. For more information and registration please go to the Diocesan web site.

The opening of the Spirit Garden on September 30 at Toronto City Hall:

The Diocese of Toronto contributed to the creation of the Spirit Garden through a tithe from the Ministry Allocation Fund in 2021 and through a FaithWorks campaign in 2022. This is an opportunity to see the fruit of these contributions and honour residential school survivors. For more information about this event visit the [Council Fire](#) website.

Advocacy:

Grassy Narrows River Run, Sept. 18, 2024, 12 p.m. Generations of residents of Grassy Narrows First Nation have suffered the ongoing physical, social, and economic costs of mercury contamination of the Wabigoon River. A rally will be held in Toronto on Wednesday, September 18 to again call for an end to the extractive activities that exacerbate the degradation of the health of their community members, lands, and water.

Over a number of years, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, through its Outreach Committee has contributed to advocacy efforts of the Grassy Narrows First Nation.

Grassy Narrows Chief Rudy Turtle will be the keynote speaker for this year's Diocesan Outreach Conference, and it is hoped that many Anglicans will participate in this year's River Run. We will meet at St. George's Grange Park (30 Stephanie St., at the top of John St.) from 11:30 a.m. so we can join the River Run as a group. For more information please contact [Elin Goulden](#).

Say No to Racism/Yes to Immigrant Justice:

The federal government has fallen short of its 2021 promised regularization of undocumented people. Without status, migrants remain underpaid, exploited, and excluded, despite contributing to our society and economy in crucial ways. At the same time, anti-immigrant rhetoric is rising, scapegoating migrants for the housing and affordability crises. Join in a rally to say no to racism and yes to immigrant justice on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 1 p.m. in Nathan Phillips Square (City Hall).

(The materials under "learning" and "advocacy" have been sourced from the September edition of the diocesan Social Justice and Advocacy Update Newsletter.)

Our Companion Diocese: The Diocese of Brasilia

By Ian Greene

At our August 18 service, during the Prayers of the People we prayed for the Diocese of Brasilia, "our companion diocese." I was curious about our connection with Brasilia, and asked Mary Conliffe for guidance. She provided me with contacts, from whom I've learned the following.

After World War II, The Anglican Church of Canada initiated a program allowing links between Canadian dioceses and other dioceses in the worldwide Anglican Communion to "encourage and pray for one another, learn and share each other's joys and concerns, and participate in face-to-face, spiritual and material exchanges." Fourteen of Canada's thirty dioceses have a companion diocese. The Diocese of Toronto became the fourteenth in 2024.

There was a huge migration from Portugal to Canada after the Second World War. This was followed by migration from Brazil, a Portuguese-speaking country, starting in the 2010s. Today, there are more than 100,000 people of Portuguese or Brazilian heritage living in the Greater Toronto Area.



Bishop Mauricio Jose Araujo De Andrade of the Diocese of Brasilia (left) presents a plaque to Bishop Andrew Asbil during his visit to the Diocese of Toronto. The text of the plaque is 1 John 4:18: "Perfect love casts out fear" in Portuguese. – The Rev Canon Maurice Francois, *The Anglican*, June 21, 2024.

The Diocese of Toronto has had a Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) mission for 25 years. To celebrate the silver jubilee of the "Ministero Lusofono de Toronto" in 2023, and to generate more awareness of this mission and to initiate a discussion about a possible partnership between our diocese and the Diocese of Brasilia, The Rt. Rev. Mauricio Andrade, bishop of the Diocese of Brasilia, was invited to be a guest speaker at Toronto's 162nd regular session of Synod in November 2023. He spoke in favour of a link between the Diocese of Toronto and the Diocese of Brasilia – there is much we could learn from each other. Bishop Andrade also spoke of what he called a missing Beatitude: blessed are those who dream. "I invite you all to dream together," he said. "We can seek to dream together for the new work that is possible."

In return, Bishop Andrew Asbil and his wife Sandra were invited to Brasilia in June of this year and participated in a Sunday service at the Brasilia cathedral. Right after the passing of the peace, Bishop Asbil and Bishop Andrade signed the companionship agreement between the two dioceses, as reported in Bishop Asbil's letter to the diocese of June 21 (<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/from-our-bishops/letter-to-the-diocese-from-bishop-andrew-june-21-2024/>).

On a personal note, over the past decade I have helped to host lawyers and law students from Brazil who visit Toronto to learn about our justice system. It has been a rewarding mutual learning experience. I'm so pleased that our diocese is reaching out to Brazil. What an enriching Christian opportunity!

Afghan Family Settles In

By Ian Greene

As reported in the December 2023 *Lychgate*, the five members of the Afghan refugee family that St. Martin's is co-sponsoring arrived in September 2023. Thanks to one of our support group members who works in urban planning, the family found long-term reasonably priced accommodation in a newly constructed housing development in the Sheppard Ave. and Allen Rd. area, close to the Sheppard West subway station. By Christmas, their apartments were furnished thanks to donations from St. Martin's parishioners and others – all stored for a few weeks in the rectory prior to its renovation.

The Family

The family is four adults and a child. Attaullah, who worked with the Canadian charity Books Over Borders to promote education for girls and boys throughout Afghanistan, became a target for the Taliban when they seized power in 2021. Nevertheless, after arriving in Canada last September he has continued to promote ways to further girls' education through underground schools. He drove a car for Uber Eats for a few months but is looking for better employment.

Attaullah's wife Elnaz has completed the first part of a workplace job program and is in her internship at a workplace placement. She holds an undergraduate degree in public administration and hopes to further her education while working. Her brother, Firooz, has a background in urban planning and engineering. He is actively searching for any available work, and would like to pursue a Master's degree in the future. Atta, Elnaz and Firooz could all speak English at a basic level when they arrived a year ago. All three have been taking upgrading courses, and their fluency in English is now at a job-ready level.

Maryam, mother of Elnaz and Firooz, is a professional seamstress. The support group helped her to purchase a heavy-duty sewing machine, and she is currently doing piece work and providing sewing lessons to other immigrants.

Kaiwan, son of Attaullah and Elnaz, is now four years old. He will be starting kindergarten in September and is excited about it.

The family attended the 11 a.m. service at St. Martin's on May 26, the day that Nora Klemencic of the Anglican United Refugee Alliance gave the address. The family enjoyed meeting parishioners and chatting with them during the coffee hour.



Janet (volunteer), Maryam, Shauna (volunteer), Kaiwan, Elnaz and Firooz at Black Creek Pioneer Village, July 28

The support group took the family to Black Creek Pioneer Village on the afternoon of Sunday, July 28. Another trip to Niagara Falls took place on Sunday August 25.

We need your help

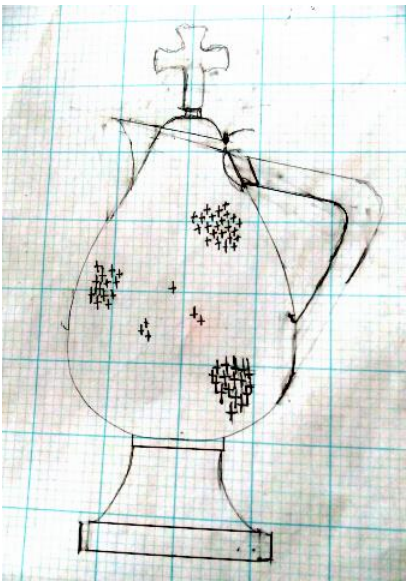
Atta and Firooz are spending all their time available searching for full-time employment. (Elnaz is likely to get employment once she completes her internship program later this year.) The support group is meeting with them on a weekly basis to provide advice and ideas. They will accept any job so that they can demonstrate a work history in Canada. If you have any possible leads for employment, please contact me through the church office, office@stmartininthefields.ca.

The Story of the St. Martin's Cruets

In 2019, Roberta Laking committed to donate a new set of silver cruets (vessels for the wine and water used in the Eucharist) to St. Martin's in memory of her parents, Bud and Shirley Laking, and her aunt Eleanor Finlayson. She selected David Ivens, an Ottawa silversmith, to hand make the vessels. He developed some proposals based on parameters Roberta listed and she and Fr. Philip both had input into the final design. Even though the pandemic intervened, the cruets were completed in 2020. Fr. Philip blessed them on Sunday, October 11, 2020 at the 11 a.m. service.

Mr. Ivens described the process:

The guidelines from Roberta included being able to see the level of liquid in the cruets when filling them, handles that can be grasped by an adult or older child; a hinged lid topped by a cross, spouts that don't dribble, and easy to wash and maintain.



Design photo from planning process

Mr. Ivens works to the silversmith's creed: the pieces are made of sterling silver and joints soldered with silver solder. Joints must be thought out to use the hardest solder first, so the next joint does not melt the previous one.

The body of each cruet is made from a single sheet of sterling 8 inches in diameter. It was

raised, manipulating the metal with hammers outside and anvils inside to control the shape. The diameter was reduced to approximately 1½ inches from 8 inches, taking a good many single hammer blows. It was a very exact shape to master. Between each course of raising the piece of silver must be heated until it is a dull red to anneal the metal and return it to a soft state. It took about 20 courses of raising to bring the bodies of each piece to the final shape. After the raising process, the pieces had to be

planished (made smooth) with flat-faced hammers with a steel stake inside to leave a reflective surface. Look inside and see the facets — each one indicates a hammer blow, and those are only from the planishing.

The handles are hollow tubes. The material was cut out of a flat sheet, hammered into a tube, the seam soldered, then planished round, and then drawn through a die on a draw plate to the final dimension. He made custom jigs to bend the angles so that they are slightly over 90° to fit the body of the cruets.



The cruets today – Lynn McKnight

The spouts are score folded on the front. This gives a sharp well-defined corner.

Finally, when all the pieces are made and planished it is time to fit them all together and solder the piece together. Clean and polish. No shortage of time in this step. The final step was to make a stamp to hammer in the random crosses.

Mr. Ivens says, "I hope you enjoy the pieces; they were built with heart and soul for your faith."

Youth Moving Forward



At the end of the 11 a.m. service on August 25, Finn Keesmaat-Walsh, Children and Youth Pastoral Associate, made presentations to three St. Martin's youth heading off to higher education in the fall. From left to right, Ian Snider will be attending the University of Waterloo, Ella Kennedy is going to Centennial College, and Quinn Kennedy is starting at George Brown College. We wish them every success and look forward to seeing them from time to time. (Photo courtesy Philip Dawson.)