

# THE LYCHGATE

## December 8, 2024



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

### Rector's Message

Since I arrived at St. Martin's, several of you have mentioned to me in conversation that Advent is your favourite liturgical season. I have heard this said in other parishes where I have served. When I ask people to explain why, most tell me it is because it is a quieter time, watching and waiting for Jesus to come into our lives. It seems to me that Advent is about the deepest longings of the human heart: our longing for truth and justice, peace and reconciliation. Above all, it is a longing for a Saviour, and for the coming of God's kingdom.

This universal longing lies at the heart of our hymns, our prayers, and the readings from Holy Scripture during this season. On the first Sunday in Advent, for instance, we read from the Book of Jeremiah who prophesies that a "righteous Branch" shall come who will save Judah and Jerusalem. The name of that Branch, that Saviour, shall be "The LORD is our righteousness" (Jer. 33:16). Though it was written centuries ago, during a time of great confusion and exile for the People of Israel, does it not also express the longings of our hearts right now, in a world that seems so confused and uncertain?

In the Prologue (section 5) of his commentary on the [Book of Isaiah](#), the medieval theologian Thomas Aquinas says that there is a three-dimensional character to Advent: on the one hand, we commemorate Jesus' coming to us historically, in the past, with his birth in Bethlehem; we also pray for his coming to us in the future, on the Day of Judgement at the end of history, when he will vanquish sin and evil once-and-for-all; but we also remember during this season God's coming to us now, in the present moment, in our daily lives by his grace. Together, these three dimensions of Advent teach us, that we are always surrounded by God's loving care and nothing in our life—whether past, present, or future—falls outside of God's care.

During this season of Advent, as you listen to the readings of Holy Scripture, as we sing our Advent hymns and offer up our prayers for the coming of God's kingdom, I invite you to consider the ways in which Christ has come and does come to you now, in the present. Recollecting these moments will help to open your heart and prepare you to receive the gift of the Christ child and the grace he brings to us.

As we celebrate our first Christmas together at St. Martin's as priest and people, let me offer my thanks to God and to you for the ways in which you have so warmly welcomed me in this parish. You have been one important way in which Christ has come to me this year.

Fr Nicholas Hatt+  
Incumbent

## 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:

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)

#### Sexton: Bernard Sanders

**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](mailto:office@stmartininthefields.ca). For digital access to *The Lychgate*, including colour photos and links to web sites, go to <https://stmartininthefields.ca>.

### From the Parish Registers

Since September 24, 2024 (last *Lychgate*)

#### Baptisms:

Arthur Eacho, September 22

William Lighthouse, November 3

#### Weddings:

Andrew Perryman and Julia Ruta, September 14

#### Funerals:

Edward Alan Rhodes, September 27

Dale McInnes Keel, September 28

Ruth Storey, Saturday, October 5

#### Celebration of New Ministry:

Fr. Nicholas Hatt, November 10

### Christmas at St. Martin's

#### Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant with Sung

Eucharist (family service)

10:00 p.m. Blessing of the Crib & Choral

Eucharist

#### Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. Eucharist with Carols, followed by

Christmas Lunch (sign up in advance at the church)

#### Sunday, December 29, First Sunday after

#### Christmas

8:30 a.m. Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols with

Sung Eucharist

#### Sunday, January 5, Epiphany

8:30 a.m. Said Eucharist

11:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

### Upcoming Events

- **Sunday, December 8, 7:30 p.m.:** Advent Carol Service
- **Tuesday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.:** Advent for Everyone on Zoom with Bishop Riscylla
- **Sunday, December 15, 3 p.m.:** Healey Willan Singers present "Christmas Lullabies"
- **Tuesday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.:** Advent for Everyone on Zoom with Bishop Andrew
- **Wednesday, December 18, 8 p.m.:** Voices Chamber Choir Concert "Joyeux Noel"
- **Sunday, December 22, 4 p.m.:** Carolling in the Garden (bring a flashlight)
- **Wednesdays, January 22 & 29, 8 p.m.:** Christian Education series on Ecumenical and Interfaith Dialogue
- **Wednesdays, February 5, 12 & 19, 8 p.m.:** Christian Education series on the Social Justice Vestry Motion (Harm Reduction)
- **Sunday, February 23:** Annual Vestry Meeting after 11 a.m. service
- **Tuesday, March 4, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.:** Shrove Tuesday pancake supper
- **Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 8 p.m.:** Christian Education series led by Fr. Hatt

## Access to the Church during Winter Conditions

By Cindy Paget, Chair, Health, Safety, and Security Committee



Winter in St. Martin's Garden, early December 2021

As winter approaches, the Health, Safety, and Security Committee has been diligently working to ensure safe conditions for access to the church grounds during the coming winter months. As the stairs leading down from Indian Grove tend to become snow-packed, icy, and difficult to clear, it has been decided to limit the use of these stairs just prior to and during future snowstorms. Signs will be posted at the bottom and top of the stairs and chains will be put up to prevent their use during these harsh conditions. Once these stairs are cleared of snow and ice, the signs and chains will be removed, and access will again be available. During such times, please use the Lychgate stairs.

Please remember that the laneway on the southwest side of the building is not cleared of snow by the city and although we endeavour to clear the parking area, access during harsh conditions will be

difficult. Please consider these concerns as you prepare to come to church.

These temporary steps are to ensure the safety of parishioners, visitors, and staff. Hopefully we will have another mild winter and these precautions will be minimally required.

## Parish Profile: Mely and Larry Barwick

By David McKnight

Mely was born Carmelina Losaria in Iloilo in the Philippines. Her father was a teacher with many hobbies including agriculture and organic gardening. One of his accomplishments was the development of a new strain of rice that would better withstand storms. Her mother had a psychology degree, also enjoyed gardening, and was the founder of a well-baby clinic.

Mely first did a general arts degree, then a nursing degree, then a specialty in community psychiatry. In 1965, she was recruited by the Province of Ontario to develop and teach a curriculum for nurses and orderlies in the appropriate care of psychiatric patients. That was based at the old 999 Queen Street mental hospital. In 1969, she joined the Social and Community Psychiatric Program at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry as a psychiatric nurse and was later promoted to Senior Mental Health Consultant. She spent the rest of her career there. She trained in psychotherapy and became interested in culturally appropriate mental health care in a multicultural society and the influence of culture on the access to and experience of health care. She was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto and was involved in teaching medical students and residents.

Mely was a founding member of the Metro Toronto Host program, now named Culture Link, that engaged individuals already acclimatized in Canada to support newcomers. She became involved with women in crisis to help with daily needs that ran from childcare to personal hygiene, medical care, and even safe injection. This evolved and she became a founder of Sistering, a program still active today.





**Mely and Larry Barwick**

Mely noticed that many callers to a crisis line were bereaved by suicide or homicide and built capacity to have this met as part of Toronto Distress Centre. She was a volunteer with Médecins sans Frontières, counselling those who had returned from missions. Throughout all this work, she made a point of having members of the group being served determine what their needs were and how they should be met.

Larry was born in Toronto and grew up in York Township and Etobicoke. His mother was a long-distance telephone operator and his father a salesman who also played saxophone part-time in his own band. Larry graduated from high school at Western Tech in applied electronics but then transferred to the matriculation program. While in high school, he joined the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and the navy band, also playing sax; his father, a pacifist, was not entirely pleased but because Larry was in the band he gave his blessing.

Larry attended university in the United States. Although his family were not churchgoers, he became interested in religion and faith during high school and picked Manchester College, now University, in North Manchester, Indiana, a private college founded in 1889 by the Church of the Brethren, a sect similar to the Amish and strong in their pacifist beliefs. Even so, when Larry wore a jacket that said "NAVY" he was shown great tolerance. Being private, Manchester was very

expensive, so Larry received scholarships and finished his degree at the State University of New York at Buffalo, graduating in Psychology in 1970.

He worked for a year as a childcare worker for the Ministry of Corrections in Hagersville, Ontario, then went back to Buffalo in the School of Social Work, graduating in 1973 with a Master of Clinical Social Work. He joined Catholic Family Services as a front-line social worker and stayed for 32 years, eventually becoming a branch manager, branch director, and finally Director of Communication, Marketing, and Development where he helped establish the CFS Foundation. Throughout his career he maintained a small case load of social work clients. He retired in 2005.

Throughout his career he remained active in the Naval Reserve. He joined at age 17 in 1961, played in the band until 1972, was commissioned as an officer in 1972, then worked in several departments. At his retirement in 1999, he held the rank of Lieutenant-Commander and was Commanding Officer of HMCS York.

Mely and Larry met at a party, went out for six months, and were married on 7 December 1972. Larry was still studying in Buffalo and commuted daily for the next six months! They have two daughters, Leeshia (now River) and Leanna. They have lived in their current house on Pine Crest Road since 1976.

Mely was raised a Roman Catholic — she was taught catechism by Fr. Jaime Sin, later Cardinal Sin — but always had questions. She was uncomfortable with the role of women, the attitude towards Jews, and the treatment of LGBTQ people; she even stopped attending church for a time. She sang in the choir at St. Joan of Arc parish for many years before switching to St. Martin's.

As mentioned, Larry was not raised in a religious family but became interested in as a teenager. He attended St. Joan of Arc with Mely and the children but was not baptised. Then he found St. Martin-in-the-Fields and loved it from the first visit. He particularly enjoyed the choir and the formality of the Mass. When he had a heart attack in 2010, Fr. Philip visited him in hospital. This confirmed his decision to become a parishioner at St. Martin's. He

had been attending St. Martin's for a couple of years before he was baptised in 2012 at the Mission to Seafarers by Fr. David Mulholland, chaplain at HMCS York and director of the Mission\*.

At St. Martin's, Mely values the role of women in the parish, its concern for social justice, being part of the gardening group, and the general hospitality of the church. Larry enjoys the celebration of the Mass, likes being in the servers, sidespeople, and Management Board and still appreciates the choir. He finds that the online Compline, after the Christian Education evenings, leaves him feeling at peace.

Two people from different parts of the world and different faith backgrounds, both accomplished in their professional lives, have become integral parts of St. Martin's and have enriched us.

\* See a *Lychgate Parish Profile* about Fr. Mulholland who was also an Honorary Assistant at St. Martin's:

<https://stmartininthefields.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Lychgate-2016-Eastertide-issue.pdf>

## **They Walked These Streets Project**

By Ian Greene

St. Martin's participated in "They Walked These Streets; We Will Remember Them" project by displaying on our fence posters of WW I and WW II veterans who lived in our area and who were killed in service. The project, now in its fifth year, has expanded from five to eleven locations, and St. Martin's was part of it this year for the first time. See: <https://sites.google.com/view/theywalkedthesestreets>

Posters of soldiers from the parish and the neighbourhood who lost their lives were arrayed along the Glenlake Street fence, adorned with poppies made by school children. The posters used our logo to show parishioners of St. Martin's.

Following is a list of the St. Martin's soldiers:

### **WW I**

- Cpl. William Ferguson of 135 Glenholme Ave., died at 27
- Lance-Cpl. Thomas Campbell, died at 26
- 2nd Lieut. Herbert Frances Jones of 56 Yonge St.

- Pte. Reginald Wild of 505 Indian Grove, died at 21
- Frederick George Wild of 505 Indian Grove, died at 27
- Pte. Joseph Cyril Stephan of 204 Symington Ave., died at 27
- Pte. Richard Trantor of 211 Wallace Ave., died at 24
- Lance-Cpl. Moses Trantor of 211 Wallace Ave., died at 26
- Pte. Walter Griffin Morall of 240 Perth Ave., died at 24
- Pte. Frederick Marshall Dobell of 469 Armadale Ave., died at 27
- Pte. Rowland Green of Central Ontario regiment, died at 24
- Sgt. Andrew Lawson of 329 Wallace Ave., died at 23
- Pte. Robert Sparrow of 433 Quebec Ave., died at 20
- Lance-Cpl. George Brunton of 291 St. Helen's Ave., died at 34

### **WW II**

- Lieut. David Philp of 359 Indian Grove, died at 23
- Sgt. Norman Stubbs of 164 Indian Grove, died at 20
- Sgt. Gerald Baggs of 36 Kingsway Crescent, died in a flying accident
- Flying Officer Allan Keith Hodgkinson of 62 Bernice Cres., died at 24

The display was accompanied by wreaths from Canada and Ontario.



They Walked These Streets Display -- David McKnight

## **St. Martin's Beaver Colony Learns About They Walked These Streets Project**

By Ian Greene

The Toronto 32<sup>nd</sup> Beaver Colony (children 5-7 years) which is part of the Toronto 32<sup>nd</sup> Scout Group meets at St. Martin's on Tuesday evenings. I'm one of the Beaver leaders. At our meeting on November 5, I

showed the Beavers photos I took of “They Walked These Streets,” posters of the soldiers in our area who were killed in the two world wars.

The Beavers recognized many of the addresses of the soldiers and commented on how sad their parents and other family members must have been, particularly when two brothers were killed. I mentioned that David Philp and his family had lived next door to where my family and I currently live, and that David’s father, Jack Philp, had been the People’s Warden at St. Martin’s from 1927 to 1941.

My Dad, Dr. Charles Greene, was a Canadian soldier during WW I. He fought at Vimy Ridge as a signalman. Later, he joined the Royal Flying Corps. I shared with the Beavers stories from Dad’s memoirs, as well as photos I took at the Vimy Ridge memorial when I visited it with Dad in 1966, and a video I took when my wife Eilonwy, and our children Christina and Philip visited in 2000. The video was narrated by our then eight-year-old daughter Christina, and the Beavers enjoyed her enthusiastic observations.

Then I showed the Beavers how I play my bagpipes and explained why these loud instruments were used in wars to encourage soldiers and frighten enemies. I taught them how to march accompanied by bagpipes. They marched remarkably well!

I’m grateful to St. Martin’s for hosting the Toronto 32<sup>nd</sup> Scout Group, which includes the Beaver Colony. The Beaver motto is “sharing sharing sharing.” I told the Beavers that if only more people over the past two centuries had the same sharing outlook, we could perhaps have avoided so many lives lost during the two wars.



Posters discussed with the St. Martin’s Beaver Colony – David McKnight

## The Grenadier

By Sandy Brown

On the subway, a woman sitting across from me looked familiar and we both smiled at each other. “I know I know you,” she said, and I replied, “I know I know you too,” and so she began asking questions.

Some of the other passengers put down their phones and started to listen to our conversation. “Did I live in Etobicoke? Did I work in a dentist’s or doctor’s office?” By now all the passengers at our end of the car were listening as the questions continued. Finally, she asked, “Do you play the piano?” And with that, we both yelled, “The Grenadier!” We had found our connection and the passengers cheered. For the last few years, Donna had come with her mother to the Eucharist at the Grenadier retirement home once a month.

I play the hymns for this service and have been doing so since Fr. Hobson asked me about 17 or 18 years ago. I am no concert pianist, but I would play a prelude of some sort, three hymns, and perhaps some music during communion. When Fr. Hobson announced his retirement, I thought that this would be an ideal time for me to retire as well. Fr. Carefoote asked me to stay on and, as you know, it is hard to say “no” to him. And so, I am still playing, although now it is Fr. Hatt who is the celebrant.

We get anywhere from 15 to 25 or so residents who come once a month for this service. Some are there all the time, and some come once in a while. Some are parishioners of St. Martin’s, some are Anglicans, some are not, and some just like to be there. A few PSWs come with their clients, helping those who are in wheelchairs or have great difficulty seeing. Some of them love to sing and follow the service enthusiastically. And they all like to greet and talk to the priest after.

For me, it has become a part of my own Christian journey. It is very moving to share the Eucharist with



Lighting St. Martin’s Advent Candle December 1 – Philip Dawson



them, to help them, to get to know them, to miss them when they have died, and to look forward to the next visit. I no longer play any preludes, my fingers don't move as well as they should, and I occasionally hit a wrong note or two, but I know that it is important to keep on as long as I can and I am thankful for that.

## Calling for Volunteers for the St. Martin's Livestreaming Team!

By Robert Snow, Chair, Livestreaming Committee

Are you or someone you know interested in video cameras, audio equipment, or computers? St. Martin's is looking to recruit some new members for the team that manages the livestreamed services at the parish. As part of the team, you'll get experience operating some of the cameras installed around the church, including our remote-controlled "robotic" camera. You can learn how to control the audio mix from the different microphones used by the clergy,

the readers, and the choir. You'll also get familiar with the broadcasting software used to switch camera angles and make the livestream available to watch on YouTube.

You don't need to have any previous experience with livestreaming - our team is happy to

provide all the training you need to help out during the 11 a.m. Sunday services. Our church livestreams are an important ministry at St. Martin's. They were first offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have since become helpful for anyone who can't physically attend a service, whether due to illness, mobility issues, or travelling. Learning how to

livestream is a skill that can be useful at school, work, or even if you want to share gaming content on platforms like Twitch. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Robert Snow through the church office.

## Christmas Market November 30

The St. Martin's Christmas Market the last weekend of November was both fun and successful, raising about \$10,000 for St. Martin's.



Photos courtesy Anne Longmore



Craft Table, Melissa Frost, Elaine Lumley, Nadine Barmania

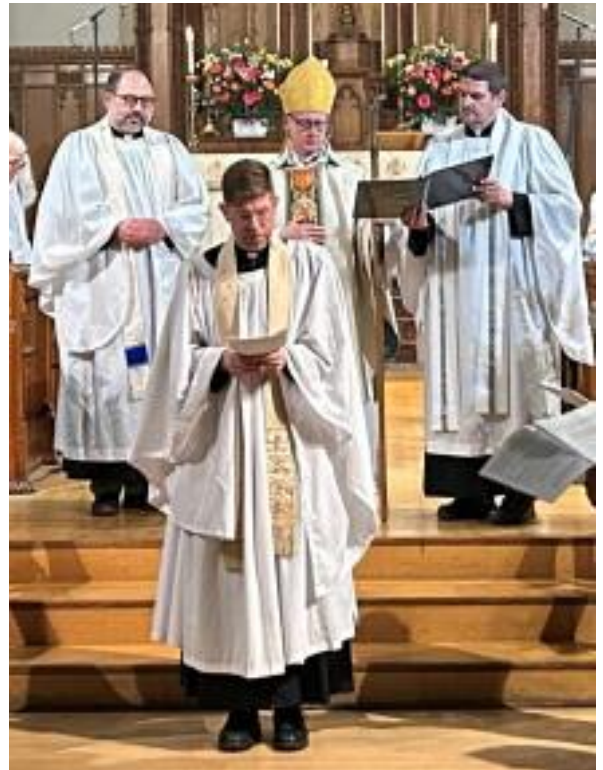


Robert Snow Livestreaming -- Philip Dawson





**Elaine Lumley, MP and Justice Minister Arif Varani, and Fr. Hatt at Christmas Market**



**Celebration of New Ministry for Fr. Hatt, November 10, with Bishop Robertson – Philip Dawson**



**MPP Bhutla Karapoche and Fr. Hatt at Christmas Market**



**Photos of Parish Dinner, September 8 -- Philip Dawson**

