



### **FUTURE BISHOPS**

Cassandra Graham (left) and Cassidy Beattie try on mitres at an Ash Wednesday program for children at St. James Cathedral in Toronto on March 9. The day included bell ringing, a tour of the crypt and a visit by Archbishop Colin Johnson. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

# Can we double the diocese in a day?

People just waiting to be invited, says leader



At the end of May, Mr. Harvey will be visiting the diocese to hold a seminar called "Unlocking the Growth," in which he will describe how to double the size of a congregation in a day.

"We need to invite every congregation to participate and invite every congregational member to ask God whom God might want them to invite," he says. "By doing so, it will change, I believe, the sumed they don't want to come. Back to Church Sunday has shown that there are people who will say yes to an invitation."

His job, he says, is to make invitation normal across the 52 weeks of the year. Back to Church Sunday is simply the day everyone practices together.

The Diocese of Toronto joined the Back to Church Sunday movement in 2009, and 2,600 people

## Archbishop plans parish hall meetings

**ARCHBISHOP** Colin Johnson plans to hold four parish hall meetings this spring to "hear the mind of the diocese."

The meetings will be informal and will not have an agenda. "I just want to listen to where people feel the church is at, and what is on their minds in this synod year," he says. Synod will be held Nov. 25-26 in Toronto. He says the feedback he receives will inform his charge to synod, but more importantly, will put him in touch with the grassroots of the church. "It's an opportunity to meet people in an informal way, face to face, and talk to them about what's happening in the life of the church."

#### BY CAROLYN PURDEN

**MICHAEL** Harvey is issuing a challenge to the Diocese of Toronto: double the size of the diocese in one day.

Mr. Harvey is the founder of Back to Church Sunday, a worldwide initiative that asks parishioners to invite a friend to church on the last Sunday in September. The movement, started in the United Kingdom in 2004, is based on the simple premise that if people are invited to go to church by



Michael Harvey

a friend, they will accept.

It is the only way to bring people into church, Mr. Harvey says, because they will not simply walk in off the street. "You have to be very determined to join a church," he explains. "It's almost as if we've become so church family, it's difficult to break anyone else into the family." destiny of the church. I think there are people out there just waiting for the invitation."

Since its founding, Back to Church Sunday has been adopted by 6,000 churches around the world, and 100,000 new worshippers have walked in their doors. Of that number, 15 per cent — 15,000 people —were still attending church six months later.

"We've lost hope that people will come to church," says Mr. Harvey. "Because they don't come at the moment, we've sort of asbrought a friend to church. Typically, there is a drop-off in the second year, and that's what happened in the diocese, as 1,700 people accepted the invitation – still a significant number, he says.

A common factor is that some 80 per cent of the congregation is not going to participate in Back to Church Sunday, and their reasons have to be understood. "Once we find out why they're not going to do it, we can start to address the issue," he says.

Continued on Page 2

Continued on Page 8

#### OUR BODIES AT PRAYER - SEE PAGE 8

## NEWS

# **Minister tours lunch program** Parish steps

## up advocacy

#### BY MURRAY MACADAM

**THE** diocese's advocacy work took a new twist when members of the Church of the Redeemer, Toronto, met with Glen Murray, Ontario's Minister of Research and Innovation, on March 18 and discussed parish work with low-income people.

Mr. Murray toured the parish's lunch program and met a few of the 90 volunteers who help sustain it. While noting that the Redeemer's lunch ministry treats people humanely, program coordinator Simon Lewchuk told Mr. Murray that "coming to a meal program can be incredibly undignified." Thus, the parish has been stepping up its advocacy efforts, including involvement in the diocese's foodbank diet campaign



Simon Lewchuk, the outreach coordinator at Church of the Redeemer, Toronto, talks to Glen Murray (left), the provincial government's Minister of Research and Innovation, about the church's lunch program and the challenges faced by the poor. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

and support for a Healthy Food Supplement for low-income people.

Parish members spoke of the wealth of talent possessed by the individuals who come to the meal program. Yet they face major obstacles such as homelessness, lack of access to employment and mental health issues, as well as poverty. How can they make progress in their lives, asked Mr. Lewchuk, "when they don't know where their next meal is coming from?"

Mr. Murray listened with sympathy, mentioning his efforts on behalf of disabled members of his downtown Toronto constituency, as well as his experience as a street outreach worker and as mayor of Winnipeg. He commended the group for its efforts and urged them to get involved in the

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government's extensive review of social assistance, headed by former United Way president Frances Lankin. The review offers a "huge opportunity" to achieve progress on the factors contributing to poverty, he said.

Mr. Murray said that there's a "good chance" of achieving the goal of a \$100 per month Healthy Food Supplement for social assistance recipients within the next 12 to 18 months. "Don't give up on the \$100 goal," he said.

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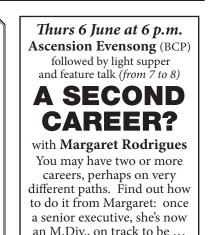
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# Michael Harvey to visit diocese

Continued from Page 1

People typically respond, "I have no friends. All my friends are in the congregation," and "I know my friend will say 'no." But the reasons are "many and varied," Mr. Harvey says. "Once we find out why people are not inviting people, the answers will become fairly clear to us. Knowing what they are will actually unlock incredible growth."

Retention is always a concern when an institution is welcoming new members, but Back to Church Sunday makes this easier because its focus is a friend inviting a friend. Thus the newcomer is already connected to the church.

After Back to Church Sunday, the parishioner should keep inviting the friend to return, Mr. Harvey says. "It's not rocket science, but people stay because people know their names and they're shown hospitality," he says.

Those who accept another invitation will soon form the habit of going to church. For those who say no, Mr. Harvey recommends repeating the invitation whenever one feels prompted to do so.

"I always say don't invite unless you feel that is what God wants you to do. I think God is at work in people's lives and he will give an impression as to whether to invite somebody."

The incumbent should be encouraging the congregation to get into the mode of continual invitation, he adds. "Back to Church Sunday should bring a change of habit in a congregation that at this moment in time is not inviting."

This year, Back to Church Sunday will be held in the diocese on Sept. 25. A number of new resources for clergy and laity are being developed and will be posted on the diocese's website, says the Rev. Stephanie Douglas-Bowman, chair of the diocese's Back to Church Sunday working group, which includes Bishop Philip Poole and clergy from across the diocese.

"Michael Harvey is really the guru when it comes to Back to Church Sunday, and it's a tremendous opportunity we have in the diocese to have him come talk to us in person," says Ms. Douglas-Bowman. "Clergy have been asking about ways to retain visitors after Back to Church Sunday, and I think Michael will have some useful insights on that front. He's also an engaging speaker, so it would be a great event to invite lay leaders out to - they'll leave inspired." Mr. Harvey will be in the diocese from May 30 to June 1. He will be in Trent-Durham on May 30, York-Simcoe and York-Credit Valley on May 31, and York-Scarborough on June 1. For times and locations, check the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.

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Seniors attend yoga lessons at St. Augustine of Canterbury. At right, a sign points the way. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

# Church teams up to provide yoga

#### BY STAFF

**ONE** of the first things the Rev. Canon John Wilton did when he arrived at St. Augustine of Canterbury, Toronto, as incumbent 18 months ago, was look at the demographics of the parish. He found that there was a higher proportion of seniors in the neighbourhood than in other parts of the city, and many of them were living alone.

Realizing that, and recognizing that while the church did not have much money, it did have space, he contacted an organization called Senior People's Resources in North Toronto (SPRINT) and asked if they could do things in partnership.



no pews, and the chairs are moved so the class can take place in the worship area. "It's a lovely space,"

church. "Certainly our hope is that they might see this as a welcoming place and a community of people who care about them," he says. "It might be an interesting place for them to explore faith if they're not already involved in a church somewhere else." St. Augustine's also reaches out to seniors through a book club that Canon Wilton started about a year ago. That has now become part of the Love Life program and SPRINT is also promoting it. As for the parishioners at St. Augustine's, they are all in favour of the new programs. "These activities are part of the parish's desire to reach out into the community more," Canon Wilton says.

# Anglicans to gather for talks

### Delegates from Jamaica, Hong Kong coming to diocese

#### BY CAROLYN PURDEN

**AT** the end of May, 16 Anglicans eight from Jamaica and eight from Hong Kong — are coming to the Diocese of Toronto to participate with eight local Anglicans in the Continuing Indaba Process. Organized by the Anglican Communion Office in London, England, the indaba process encourages listening deeply to one another to understand how and why decisions are made.

Groups of dioceses from across the Communion have been invited to gather together to learn from one another. As the delegations from Jamaica and Hong Kong arrive in Toronto on May 30 for eight days of talks, other dioceses from around the world will also be meeting in groups of three or four to hold discussions. There will be five of these groupings altogether, and the Diocese of Toronto is the only Canadian diocese involved in these first experimental gatherings.

The local Anglicans participating are Canon Robert Falby, the Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, the Rev. Dan Graves, Christian Harvey, Suzanne Lawson, the Rev. Heather McCance,Bishop Linda Nicholls, and Peter Tovell. Among the topics for discussion are youth alienation, cultural and religious differences around homosexuality, and social justice advocacy.

The agenda for the meeting is still being planned, but the three groups will initially meet at St. John's Convent in Toronto from Monday to Wednesday. Then, on Thursday, June 2, each local member will take one member from Jamaica and one from Hong Kong to their own parish, where they will be billeted until Sunday afternoon.

Following Sunday worship, the



#### **Bishop Linda Nicholls**

them," explains Bishop Nicholls.

In a diocese as diversified as Toronto, this is a significant task, she adds. "The cultural experience of Canada in the context of Toronto and in the context of the Diocese of Toronto is what we're going to have to try to convey to our partners from Jamaica and Hong Kong," she adds.

There will also be sensitivities, she says, and it will be important, while showing the city's attitude toward homosexuality, not to push the visiting delegates past their comfort level.

"It's important not to force anything but to allow things to emerge," says Bishop Nicholls. "We don't want people to be so uncomfortable that it's not possible to be part of the conversation."

The indaba process will continue in September, when Anglicans from Toronto and Jamaica meet in Hong Kong for eight days, and in February 2012, when Jamaica will be the host. At the end of that gathering, there will be a threeday meeting with facilitators of the Anglican Communion Office for a debriefing on the entire indaba experience.

The indaba process was introduced at the 2008 Lambeth Conference, and Bishop Nicholls knows from experience that it can be a painful and difficult process. But, she adds, listening is the only way to really begin to understand one another, and the deep listening that comes from living together is part of that.

Coincidentally, SPRINT had just received funding for a project called Love Life, the purpose of which is to engage seniors in healthy activities and learning about health, and was looking for faith groups to help them deliver some of these activities.

Canon Wilton was asked to sit on the Love Life advisory board, and the first project they have developed is a "Yoga for Seniors" class at the church. SPRINT did all the promotion and hired the teacher, and the church provided the space.

The space is ideal, Canon Wilton says. St. Augustine's has he says. "The sun shines through the stained glass windows and reflects off the hardwood floor and so it's a very beautiful, peaceful space for them to do yoga."

Classes began at the end of February and are held every Thursday morning for an hour. So far, there are 10 participants, most of them women, although Canon Wilton says he and his honorary assistant took part in the first class. "I just haven't had the time to do it since then," he confesses.

He admits that he hopes that the class may open the door to some of the seniors joining the delegations will return to the city, where a facilitator will help them draw together what they have experienced.

"The indaba process is meant to immerse the participants in the life of the diocese, so they understand the context in which we make decisions as we make



## COMMENT

## TheAnglican 4 I thank God for mentors



leven new transitional deacons will have been ordained for work in the Diocese of Toronto on May 1. This month marks 34 years since I was ordained deacon by Bishop Read on a sweltering Sunday afternoon

along with 10 others. How much has changed in the life of the church over those three decades! And I would do it all again. It has in the broadest sense of that word. I have met amazing people of deep faith (and none), participated in events that I would never have expected, and gone places I only had read about. I have learned so much about God, about fellow Anglicans, about myself.

I keep thinking about the people who have been my mentors over the years. Mentors are people who have gained wisdom and experience in life, and joyfully and freely share it with another person more junior. A mentor treats you as an equal partner when it is evident that you are not. They push you beyond your own comfort zone to stretch you to grow a little bit more than you thought yourself capable of. They listen to your ideas with a seriousness and respect that the quality of your wisdom has not yet earned. They introduce you to new people and new situations that broaden your understanding and ex-

#### ARCHBISHOP'S DIARY

BY ARCHBISHOP COLIN R. JOHNSON

pand your view of the world. They sit with you as you try on new ideas and test out alternative strategies. They help pick up the pieces when it all goes wrong. They give you the loving comfort you need to regroup, and they send you out to try again. And even though they recognise your faults, they still have more confidence in your true potential than you do, and help you realistically assess the possibilities that you have before you that you might not otherwise see. A true mentor is not seeking to create a clone but to help you become you — the unique person that God has created.

It sounds a lot like the job description of a good parent, but a mentor is not your parent. They don't have the parent's day-to-day care and responsibilities, the family history or distractions. And it is a rare child (young or old) who would respond as graciously to the well meant corrections of a parent with the same attention as those of a trusted mentor! There is a one-to-oneness that is a unique gift of themselves. There's a special chemistry with a mentor and the mentored that is mutually enriching.

I have been blessed by the many mentors

in my life. Bishop Douglas Blackwell, when he was a canon and later archdeacon in the Bishop's Office, introduced me to a wider participation in the diocesan affairs than my experience warranted. Bishops Michael Bedford-Jones, Terry Finlay and Jo Fricker showed me how to be a priest and then how to be a bishop. And lay people as well: Judy Ready, a high school teacher who opened up a world of ideas and esthetics beyond my confined community; Donna Hunter, the first lay director of diocesan Congregational Ministries; Walter Deller, who always engages me in conversations that I leave thinking of something in a way that I've never considered before; and my first parish in Georgina, where the parishioners saw it as their privilege and responsibility to help form clergy in the early stages of their ministry.

I give thanks to God for every one of them, and the many others I have not named.

In this Easter season, perhaps you could look in your own life to recognize who mentored you and to give thanks to God. Would that every one of the newly ordained deacons benefited from such mentors as they begin their ordained ministry! And would that each of us took the time to look around and make ourselves available as mentors to another person. Another word for that is discipling, and it is what we are each called to do by our promises in baptism.



### TheAnglican

The Anglican is published under the authority of the Bishop of Toronto and the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto. Opinions expressed in The Anglican are not necessarily those of the editor or the publisher.

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E-mail: editor@toronto.anglican.ca

**Circulation:** For all circulation inquiries, including address changes, new subscriptions and cancellations, call the Circulation Department at (416) 924-9199, ext. 259/245, or email circulation@national.anglican.ca. You can also make changes online: visit www.anglicanjournal.com and click Subscription Centre.

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#### In the Diocese of Toronto:

A community of 254 congregations in 210 parishes covering 26,000 square kilometers. Of the nearly 5 million people who live within the diocesan boundaries, 376,000 claim to be affiliated with the Anglican Church, with about 80,000 people identified on the parish rolls. The diocese is home to many ethnic and languagebased congregations, including African, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hispanic, Japanese, and Tamil. The City of Toronto has the largest population of aboriginal peoples in the country.

e are in Easter, alleluia! Easter follows Good Friday as life comes out of death. I attended several remarkable funerals during Lent, and I was deeply moved

by how well these particular funerals set forth the hope embodied in the Christian faith. Funerals are indeed great occasions on which people are more open to hear what God has to say. After one of the services, I was moved to write to two participants. I simply offer these, with their permission, as my reflection. I have changed the names of the people concerned.

#### Dear Mary,

I'd like to drop you a note to say how much I appreciated your words about Elizabeth on Saturday. Calmly and clearly, you chose incidents from your friendship that spanned her whole personality. You recalled her playfulness as well as her seriousness. Most of all, your love and appreciation of Elizabeth were plain for all to hear. It could not be easy for you, or any of those who paid tribute. I must say that you exercised great self-control! Thank you for doing that.

Do you remember when we invited people to give their testimony at the Saturday healing services? We asked ordinary, shy folks to tell us about what God did in their lives, and we were amazed by their stories. I believe what you did was to offer Elizabeth's testimony on her behalf, for one last time. You painted a picture of a person who embraced an integrated life, a life dedicated to love God and serve people. You offered several snapshots of Elizabeth: her love of eating good food; her tendency to tease you; her willingness to help others in the church and beyond; and her real faith, shown clearly in her struggle with cancer. Actually, you not only presented her life, but yours as well. And more than that, you presented a normal Christian life in fellowship. It may not have occurred to you that your tribute was actually an act of evangelism. It presented a life touched by God. Moreover, it

#### **BISHOP'S OPINION**

Even at the grave we make our song

#### BY BISHOP PATRICK YU

painted a picture of a community touched by God in its everyday life. In your very telling of the story, it showed to all present what it is like to be a Christian, day in, day out. Not least, you showed all present how a Christian deals with the sorrow which death brings. Some would have already been familiar with it, others may have forgotten, and yet others would have heard it for the first time, or been faced with a different reality than what they thought the Christian life was.

We now move through Lent to Easter and we hold more dearly to the hope of Resurrection. Indeed, we live in its power daily. But missing a good friend must be hard, so be extra good to yourself. Please give my regards to your family.

#### Yours truly, Patrick

#### Dear Father Robert,

This is a belated note to show my appreciation for how you conducted Elizabeth's memorial service. We are both aware that the congregation consisted of people who were familiar with church in various degrees, let alone the Anglican Church. It was amazing that you kept everyone engaged by using the hymn book and the BAS, rather then resorting to the current preference of printing everything out. I suspect you just ran out of time to make a detailed bulletin, with the number of funerals you have had. But it is good for the environment. In any case, vou carried it off by conducting the liturgy clearly, with strategic announcements of pages, pausing to let people find them. I also appreciate your sensitive invitation to communion, which extended a welcome to everyone present and offered a suitable way for each person to participate. It was a model of principled hospitality. The funeral was actually an act of evangelism. To be brought short before death, one of the "last things" in our daily rush of production and consumption, is itself a holy disturbance. To confront death in the context of a

rite rich with the language of death and resurrection is to surround grief in the context of hope. The Eucharist provides just this framework. But so do the architecture, windows, vestments and the paschal candle. All these proclaim the Good News in a diffused way.

But your sermon brought the diffused into focus. I appreciated your deliberate couching of this particular funeral in the general Christian understanding of life and death, and the place of the church in the matrix of faith. You opened your sermon by summing up succinctly the reality of death and the messiness of the world, and set it side by side with the Christian hope: "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." So often, funeral sermons descend to sentimentality or have too narrow a focus on the deceased or even the bereaved, without a strong connection to the bigger picture of salvation history or theology. As for the church, you said, I think deliberately, that Elizabeth's two loves are what this church is about: praise and worship on Saturday, and outreach on Wednesdays. "Worship and service," you said. "That is in great measure what a church is about, and Elizabeth modelled it." Anyone who was intrigued enough by what went on in the funeral knew simply but clearly what we believe about death and what this church values and does. I wonder if

any of them will show up at church or the outreach lunch.

I hope the train of funerals has stopped! We have no control over these things, but we can both be and tell the Good News in them. Thanks for doing that, and please remember to take some time off.

Yours truly, Patrick

#### Postscript

"The celebrant welcomes the congregation and may ... express thanksgiving for the gifts of the deceased person, especially for the marks of a Christian life. Such remarks, without denying the legitimate grief of the mourners, should relate the life and death of the Christian to the victory of Christ." BAS rubrics for the Funeral rite, p. 576.

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# A tribute to mothers

#### **BY AMIT PARASAR**

ver the years, my mother and I have frequently clashed on the subject of my not calling her enough. Whether I was out with friends or away at school, my mother would never fail to scold me if I didn't call her at some point with some sort of status report.

I think that since my mother could just as easily call me and she's the one who wants information, she should be the one calling. Unfortunately, I've come to accept that my mother and I may never agree on this issue, although I admittedly might sing a different tune if I ever have children of my own.

Even though I know my mother's expectation is born out of love, I still don't agree with it. After all, mothers aren't perfect. They make mistakes. They do the wrong thing. They aren't always as smart as they think they are. These, however, are all minor flaws when we consider the many positive attributes of good mothers.

Motherly love is like God's love for us. Childbirth is similar to the expression of God's love for us through creation. Childbirth is an especially powerful example of love when we take the painfulness of the delivery into consideration. I've heard of tragic cases of complications in pregnancy where the mother is ready to sacrifice her life for her unborn child. Such sacrifice is the epitome of love that finds its parallel in Christ's sacrifice for us.

Many characteristics that relate to mothers can be found in Paul's description of love in 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7. He writes that love is patient, kind and not easily angered. While our mothers may not always fit this description, they've had to deal with our shortcomings for so long that they've probably been more patient with us than we realize.

Paul writes that love keeps no record of wrongs. Mothers often have to point out our wrongs to us to correct bad behavior. The fact that they continue to love us regardless of our wrongs demonstrates that they keep no record of them in the long run. At the end of the day, mothers love us despite our inadequacies, just as God does.

Paul writes that love is not self-seeking, that it always protects, always trusts, always hopes and always perseveres. Mothers often convey all of these attributes through their willingness to do anything for their children at the expense of their own needs, their constant worrying and their persistent belief in the individual value and potential of their children. These godly characteristics of mothers are what compels us to love and respect them even when we disagree with them. I know my mother has these attributes. I also know that I don't appreciate her enough for them. I get so wrapped up in my busy life that I'm sure my mother isn't the only person I neglect. Thank God we have at least one day in the year dedicated to rectifying this oversight.

I'm blessed to have had many strong women in my life that have been as mothers to me in some way. Some are still alive, while others have passed. To all of these amazing women, whether they're aunts, grandmothers or mothers of friends, I want to take this opportunity to thank them for the love they've shown me. Of course, my mother deserves special gratitude because she's had to put up with me the most.

Mom, thank you for cooking me my favourite food, worrying about me even though it can drive me crazy and loving me even when I don't deserve it. All of your children love you for all the things you've done for us, great and small. On behalf of all grateful children everywhere, I wish all mothers a happy Mother's Day.

Amit Parasar is a member of St. Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering.

#### EDITOR'S CORNER

BY STUART MANN

# Saving up and giving

ou may remember that some time ago I wrote about taking my daughter, Evangeline, into Toronto to visit the foot clinic at St. James Cathedral and the homeless memorial at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square. She was writing a speech about homelessness for her school and wanted to do some research.

Well, the speech went very well. She was chosen to go on to the regional final, where she spoke about the clinic and the memorial and homelessness in general to about 300 people, including the local MPP.

I thought that would be the end of it – but no. She quietly announced that she would be saving up her allowance money to buy socks and other necessities for the people who came to the foot clinic. My wife and I were impressed, but I must confess I thought it was a passing fad. In a week she would have forgotten all about it.

Wrong! After a couple of months, she informed us that she had saved up \$45 and asked us to drive her to Zellers to buy the socks. "Are you sure?" I asked. It was a lot of money for her.

She was very sure, so off we drove to Zellers and bought socks and toothpaste and the like. The next day we drove into Toronto and met the good folks at the cathedral's drop-in, including the Rev. Canon David Brinton, who graciously accepted the socks and introduced us to the volunteers. I know it was a moment Evangeline will never forget. In the days that followed, as the temperature plunged, we would often wonder who was wearing her socks.

I'm immensely proud of her, of course, but that's not why I'm writing about it. I'm writing because this shows how the church can be an enormous force for good in the world. Not only did it provide shelter and hospitality to desperate people, but it also changed a young girl's view on life.

I often wonder whether my children will carry on the faith when they become adults. In Evangeline's case, I don't worry about it anymore. In addition to Sunday services, she has experienced the church at its best selflessly giving to others. This is bound to sink in.

# Changing course, not direction

#### BY HELEN ROBINSON

have osteoporosis. I can be neurotic when I'm faced with walking over snow and ice. At one time, the thought of leaving the house in severe winter weather to get to church on Sunday morning could be paralyzing — and the church I attended was just a couple of blocks from where I lived!

I changed churches, and now I have experienced my second winter at St. Andrew-bythe-Lake on Toronto Islands. I have walked along snow-covered side streets to reach the Yonge Street night bus that took me to the ferry docks. Sometimes the ferry changed course for Hanlan's Point when there was too much ice to allow the boat to dock at Ward's Island. Once, after a church service on a really cold Sunday, the van that transported us back to the ferry got a flat tire.

I realize I have changed. What changed me? What motivated me to leave my apartment on those cold, wintry mornings when it would have been so much easier to stay at home and listen to Michael Enright on the Sunday Edition? I missed something. It was as if I went into withdrawal. I hadn't received my nourishment for the week. Singing hymns, reading scripture, listening to a reflection and celebrating the Eucharist are important, but for me, worship at St. Andrew's begins as soon as I enter the church. One morning, I walked through the doors to be met by a group of visiting parents and children milling around the coffee urn. A small boy was playing the organ. A little girl hugged a large rabbit with long, floppy ears. Both children felt at home.

On the first Sunday of the month, we have a birthday cake, bought and iced by one of the parishioners. Candles are lit, blown out, and we sing "Happy Birthday" to all who are celebrating birthdays that month. All this is done in the context of the service.

A dispersed community called Contemplative Fire also nourishes me. It is a fresh expression of church. Begun in the United Kingdom, it is now being seeded in Canada. Members or "companions," as we call ourselves, commit to a rhythm of life rooted in prayer, study and action. We communicate through emails and the Internet, and come together locally for worship, small group discussions, pilgrimage walks and retreats. Last summer, companions and other interested people came to St. Andrew's to spend the day on a pilgrimage walk. We ended our time together by cleaning up the beach and praying for Toronto. In Advent, I worked with other members of the Canadian community to write and design seasonal resources for companions here and in the United Kingdom.

My spiritual journey, like the ferry out to Ward's Island, may change direction during the coming year. I will be meeting with Anne Crosthwait, the leader for the Canadian community of Contemplative Fire. Together with two other women, we will explore introducing contemplative living and prayer to unchurched people. I had fun helping at St. Andrew's pancake supper. As I participate in the Blessing of the Boats and the strawberry social this summer, and as I celebrate the baptism of a young couple's first child and attend the concerts arranged by island residents, I know the way I see and understand this unique church and the people who live around it will change and expand. I may encounter some metaphorical broken ice, but the journey will continue.

Helen Robinson is a member of St. Andrewby-the-Lake, Toronto Islands.



## Round table focuses on environment

Archbishop Colin Johnson will be one of the participants at a round-table discussion entitled Environment and the Climate in Peril on May 11 at 7 p.m. at Trinity College in Toronto. Also on the panel will be the moderators of the United Church of Canada and the Presbyterian Church in Canada, a climate scientist, and the Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Rois, executive director of the Anglican Foundation. The event is sponsored by the Diocese of Toronto, The Anglican Foundation, the Green Awakening Network, and the Oikos Network. Space is limited. Register at environmentinperil.eventbrite.com. Tickets are free but a \$10 donation is encouraged.

## ACW holds annual general meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Anglican Church Women (ACW) in the Diocese of Toronto will be held on May 14, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., at St. George Memorial, 39 Athol St. W., Oshawa. The keynote speaker will be Marian Timmermans. Tickets are \$25 per person. For further information, call 416-363-0018 or email acw@toronto.anglican.ca.

#### Weekend for anointers a first

Training weekends for lay anointers usually take place in the spring or fall, but this year it was held for the first time in winter, Feb. 4-6, at St. John's Convent in Willowdale. Thirtynine people from 20 parishes were registered. Archbishop Terence Finlay spoke on the function and role of prayer in episcopal ministry. Priests from 11 parishes attended the clergy session on Saturday afternoon. Everyone enjoyed meals in the refectory and worship with the sisters of St. John the Divine. The next training weekend will be held Oct. 14-16, and a refresher day will be held in May or June. For more details, call Shelley Tidy at 416-425-3205 or email stidy@rogers.com.

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# Local organist plays, teaches in Iqaluit

### Presentations about Arctic benefit rebuilt cathedral

#### BY MARY LOU HARRISON

**SINCE** June of 2009, Lori-Anne Dolloff, the organist and choirmaster at Our Saviour, Don Mills, has been making music in Iqaluit, the capital of Nunavut, in Canada's Arctic. Her first trip was made at the invitation of a former student who had begun teaching there and who asked her to come and conduct choral workshops in the school system.

"I fell in love with the community immediately," says Ms. Dolloff, adding that many people in the south have either a romantic or a "have-not" view of the Arctic, and that neither is correct. Instead, she has found the community to have a rich diversity of people and traditions.

It is not, however, a community without challenges. In November of 2005, the igloo-shaped Cathedral Church of St. Simon and St. Jude was destroyed by fire. An international appeal was launched immediately for financial assistance to replace it with a larger structure and, as fundraising continues, the new St. Jude's Cathedral is beginning to resume its prominent place on Iqaluit's skyline.

Ms. Dolloff plays the organ for services in St. Jude's parish hall during her twice-yearly trips to Nunavut's capital to teach in the

schools and to participate in a summer music camp organized by the Iqaluit Music Society. In the six schools she visits, Ms. Dolloff encourages singing and teaches new songs, one in Inuktitut and one in English. Her evenings are spent with the 25 or so adults who sing in the Iqaluit Community Choir. At the free music camp held each August, she learns from northern and southern instructors who teach everything from fiddle, recorder, guitar and singing to drumming and traditional throat singing. Ms. Dolloff herself is taking both drumming and traditional throat singing lessons.

On her trips in 2009 and 2010, the new cathedral was no more than a cement pad. But in March of this year, she says, "to see the white dome from the air was really exciting." Construction in the Arctic is no easy task. Everything must be brought in to Baffin Island by ship during the summer months only. "You have to plan ahead and use what you get," she says. "People don't understand the sheer difficulty of the rebuilding efforts." Even some workers need to be brought in for the construction project.

Ms. Dolloff is impressed by the dedicated volunteers and church members who are working together to rebuild the cathedral. After her first visits to Iqaluit in



Lori-Anne Dolloff, wearing Inuit earrings, is photographed at Our Saviour, Don Mills. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

2009, "I started to wonder what I could do to help," she says. She makes presentations about Canada's Arctic to church and school groups, including to Our Saviour and to St. Peter, Erindale, her home parish. She includes the cathedral's story in every presentation and brings along her growing collection of Inuit carvings to help illustrate her talk. "I re-invest my fees in the local economy," she says about her cherished collection. Any speaking fee she is offered is redirected to the St. Jude's Cathedral rebuilding fund.

NEWS

Ms. Dolloff would be happy to share her presentation and her experiences in Iqaluit with anyone who would like to learn more about life in the North. She may be contacted via email at ldolloff@chass.utoronto.ca.

## **Diocese sends funds** to Arctic, New Zealand

THE diocese has sent gifts of \$100,000 each to the St. Jude's Cathedral Restoration Fund in the Diocese of the Arctic and to the Diocese of Christchurch, New Zealand, for earthquake relief. It is also spending \$11,931 to pay for a shipment of medical equipment and supplies to the Diocese of Wiawso in Africa. Diocesan Council approved the gifts and the expenditure at its meeting in March. The funds will come out of the diocese's Ministry Allocation

Fund. The gifts and expenditure are being done in accordance with the principles adopted by Diocesan Council to support the wider church.

Diocesan Council heard that the Primate of Japan has not asked for large monetary gifts at this time to deal with the devastation caused by the earthquake and tsunami. The diocese will make a gift when the Primate of Japan indicates that the time is right to do so, said Archbishop Colin Johnson.



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# New grants to water 'tiny shoots'

# Money helps people willing to take risks

#### BY STUART MANN

**THE** diocese is making small grants available to parishes that are trying new ways to reach people who are not being reached by traditional church.

The new Reach one-time grants range from \$500 to \$5,000. "If you want to try to reach new people that your parish has never before connected with, this is the grant for you to think about applying for," says the Rev. Jenny Andison, the Archbishop's Officer for Mission. Special consideration will be given to proposals that aim to reach the un-churched or the dechurched with a fresh expression of church.

The application process is simple. Those who want to apply for a grant need to write a proposal that cannot be longer than two pages. If accepted, the applicant will have 20 minutes to pitch his or her idea to a three-person panel. The panel will decide on the spot whether the applicant gets a grant.

"We're trying to make it a very simple, streamlined process because we want to water the tiny green shoots that are popping up all around our diocese," says Ms. Andison. "We want to get that money to people who are actually taking risks to reach new people."

In a recent pilot project, the panel awarded grants to five out

of 11 applicants. One of the grants went to start up the Pints of View Chapel, a gathering of men at an Army and Navy Club to discuss God and the big questions of life, followed by a small worship service at the club. A second grant provided seed money to create a worship experience for those living with cancer who do not attend the local church. Another grant will be used to create Christian community for teens using social networking. Two applicants will be using their grants to purchase advertising space in the newspaper to announce their new programs. (The grants are not for building projects or long-term staffing.)

The applicants ranged from clergy to parishioners to a theological student to a youth worker. Most of them had attended the diocese's Mission Shaped Intro course. "They were people who were willing to take some risks and to try new things," says Ms. Andison. In return for the grant, applicants will be expected to report back in six months on what they've learned.

The deadline for applications is June 24. The terms of reference for the grants can be found on the diocese's website. For more information, email reach@toronto.anglican.ca or Elizabeth McCaffrey at emccaffrey@toronto.anglican.ca.



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*Water on the Table*, a documentary by Canadian filmmaker Liz Marshall, is shown at the Film, Faith and the Environment Free Film Festival at St. George-the-Martyr, Parkdale. The series looked at the intersection between faith and the environment. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

# **Church hosts film festival**

#### BY MARY LOU HARRISON

**FOR** five Wednesday nights in Lent, St. George-the-Martyr, Parkdale, hosted a film and discussion series that explored the intersection of faith and the environment. The series was organized by the Rev. Stephen Drakeford, incumbent of St. Matthew, Islington, and founder of the Green Witness Community, a project of environmentally concerned Christians that seeks to attract and engage both environmentalists who have left the church and those who are still attending.

The Film, Faith and the Environment series attracted an average of 20 to 30 people each week

Canadian churches working together

for justice and peace

and also new members for the group's email list after every film. Many, but not all of the film-goers, were Christians. Some were from other faith traditions.

On March 29, the film presented was *Crude Awakening: The Oil Crash*, a Swiss-produced film that asked the question, "What will happen when we run out of cheap oil?" The audience was diverse, and all were engaged in the lively conversation that followed.

Other films in the series covered topics such as the earth's history, water, corporate farming and the problems facing the world's life systems. Each film was followed by a group discussion, as well as by earth-friendly refreshments.

The Rev. Simon Bell, priest-incharge at St. George-the-Martyr, was excited to host the film festival and the Green Witness Community. "It's been brilliant," he says. "It says to the broader community that we have a role to play in these issues." A parishioner at St. George-the-Martyr, Billy Gekas, is working on a Masters in green theology at Wycliffe College, and his discussions with Mr. Bell helped open the door to the partnership with the Green Witness Community.

For more information on the Green Witness Community, send an email to greenwitnesscommunity@gmail.com.

**KAIROS**' enduring commitment to the gospel work of justice will not be stopped by the government's funding cut. We thank all **KAIROS** churches and organizations, and thousands of Canadians, who are defending our work and supporting it financially.

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## St. Nicholas Anglican Church is seeking an ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Responsibilities include playing for Sunday worship services throughout the year and directing our small, enthusiastic 4-part choir. Rehearsals on Thursday evenings, Sept.-June. The church has a 3 manual Classic organ with 59 stops. Duties to commence September 1st, 2011. Should be familiar with Anglican services. Salary commensurate with RCCO guidelines.

Applications should be forwarded to **The Search Committee, St. Nicholas Anglican Church, 1512 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, ON, M1N 1R7** or E-mail: office@stnicholasbirchcliff.com Website: stnicholasbirchcliff.com

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# Jump-start your parish offertory

s stewardship educators, we hear this question often: "What is the fastest way to increase the parish offertory?" From the evidence of those on the front lines, the quickest way to uptick financial stewardship is to ask for a gift.

That solution may seem obvious, but the fact is that most parish leaders leave the act of giving purely to chance. They are making three assumptions about the people in the pews: they already know what to give; they know what the ministry needs of the church are; and they intend to give. The latter point can't be taken for granted.

As we are all too aware, \$5 in an offertory envelope in 2011 doesn't go quite as far as in 1981. Typically, as few as 20 per cent of parishioners represent 80 per cent of the total annual giving in our parishes. Surprisingly, another 20 per cent give nothing to the church at all. Do they give nothing because they think nothing is expected? Do they believe that someone else should provide for the needs of the church? Do they avoid giving because they think their gift would be inadequate? The reasons for not giving are many and varied. But what if they didn't give because they were never asked? How many of our churchwardens, treasurers, greeters and church bazaar coordinators assumed their positions without being asked or at least nominated? The same goes for supporting the temporal needs of our churches.

It is interesting to note that about a third of the parishes in the Diocese of Toronto conduct an annual sacrificial giving campaign. They dedicate a block of time (usually

#### THE STEWARD

BY THE REV. BILL WELCH AND PETER MISIASZEK

in Lent or just after Thanksgiving) each year to educating their parishioners on the theology of giving and the needs of the parish, and then they ask for a proportionate gift – usually through a pledge. Results vary, but in a parish that is doing this for the first time, between 30 and 40 per cent of givers will pledge, resulting in an annual increase to revenues of 15 per cent. St. James, Sharon, saw a 40 per cent increase when it did its first ask in 2007. Over time, more people will participate in an annual sacrificial giving campaign. For example, St. John the Evangelist in Peterborough, now into its seventh consecutive year of annual pledging, experienced a 75 per cent participation rate.

The extended results speak for themselves. Consistently, parishes that ask parishioners to pledge have a clearer sense of their ministry case, they engage their members more actively in that ministry as volunteers, and they have the financial resources to support their ministry. For some parishes, pledged giving has proven to be the energy necessary to sustain and grow church operations. At St. Peter, Carlton Street (an inner-city parish in Toronto), pledging has doubled their annual offertory amount in just three years. For St. Luke, Dixie (on the border between Toronto and Mississauga), pledging meant they could pay off an accumulated deficit in one year - way ahead of schedule.

What about the other two-thirds of parishes, those that do not conduct an annual sacrificial giving campaign? While their ministry might be flourishing, the stability of that ministry is a whole lot more uncertain.

If the giving strategy in your church is to leave boxes of offertory envelopes on a table at the entranceway, then you are missing out on two wonderful opportunities: first, enriching the ministry life of the parish; and secondly, introducing your members to a fuller understanding of Christian discipleship. Others might suggest a third opportunity is overlooked: the chance of avoiding the annual late-summer angst felt by many a churchwarden, treasurer and priest when parish revenues inevitably begin to slip.

On a wall in the diocese's Stewardship Office hangs an old placard that reads, "All Seats in the Church are Free. The maintenance of the Church depends on the free-will offerings of the people." This brief statement should be considered by everyone, as it strikes at the heart of the relationship between each one of us and the important work being carried out in the parish community.

If you want to make a real impact on your parish offertory, you have to learn to ask. It's that simple.

The Steward is a series of articles focusing of developing parish resources and promoting stewardship as a way of life. This month's article was written by the Rev. Bill Welch, chair of the Stewardship Development Committee and incumbent at St. James, Sharon, and Peter Misiaszek CFRE, the diocese's director of Stewardship Development.

### Conference stresses **'living on** holy ground'

#### BY MURRAY MACADAM

**A** strong focus on First Nations issues will highlight this year's diocesan Outreach Networking Conference, taking place in Richmond Hill on Oct. 15. A major highlight will be keynote speaker Bishop Mark MacDonald, the national indigenous Anglican bishop. The conference theme is "living on holy ground."

Bishop MacDonald will bring together themes of First Nations' spirituality, care for creation and reconciliation in his address. He will also lead a workshop on the spirituality of social justice.

Meanwhile, the Rev. Ann Smith will lead participants in "The Blanket Exercise," a powerful learning experience about aboriginal Canadians. The Rev. Frank Tyrrell and Elsa Jones will lead a workshop on reconciliation.

Workshops will also be offered on a range of other topics, including new ones on community gardens, and one on "vertical poverty," that is, widespread poverty amongst high-rise apartment tenants. The Rev. Martha Tatarnic will lead a workshop on how small parishes can do successful community outreach. Joe Gunn, director of the Christian advocacy organization Citizens for Public Justice, will help lead a workshop on how Anglicans can work with justice partners.

A special program for young Anglicans (ages 14 to 30) will be provided, led by Christian Harvey, youth social justice coordinator for Trent-Durham.

The conference, now in its tenth year, attracts about 150 Anglicans from across the diocese. The event is open to all Anglicans. The conference fee of \$20 (\$10 for students and the unemployed) includes lunch. The conference takes place at Holy Trinity School, 11300 Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Child care is provided.

For details, visit the conference website, www.toronto.anglican.ca/outreachconference, or contact Social Justice and Advocacy Consultant Murray MacAdam, at 1-800-668-8932 or

# **Our bodies important to prayer life**

#### BY BRUCE WILLIAMS

nthony Bloom famously said that to pray well, the most important thing is to own a good alarm clock. However, our bodies are also of great importance to our prayer life. This should not surprise us when we consider the high regard that scripture has for the body. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God ... therefore glorify God in your body" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Scripture describes many gestures to accompany prayer, from the publican smiting his breast in contrition (Luke 18:13), to lifting up one's arms in praise (Psalm 134:3), to meditating while lying in bed (Psalm 63:7), to bending the knee in reverence (Ephesians 3:14). Bowing and making the sign of the cross have always been of special importance. All of these gestures, and others, can be very useful in prayer. However, I wish to look at three things that I think are of particular importance for us, namely position (standing, kneeling or sitting), posture and breathing.

still used in many eastern churches. It is said of Abba Arsenius (circa 400 AD) that on Saturday evening he would leave the sun behind him and, stretching out his hands towards heaven, would pray until the rising sun shone on his face.

Kneeling in prayer became very common in the Middle Ages to express penitence, and it remains common in many western churches. Both standing and kneeling remain good positions for prayer. However, for longer periods of quiet, sustained prayer, sitting, like blind Bartimaeus at the side of the road calling out to Jesus (Mark 10:46-52), would seem to be the most comfortable position. This could be in a comfortable but firm chair, or on the floor with a pillow under one's buttocks, or using a prayer stool. It is good to pray twice daily, if possible, and, to create a prayerful ambience, in the same corner of the house.

Attentive prayer needs a comfortable, relaxed, restful posture. It is best to sit upright, with back and neck straight, with hands quietly folded on one's lap. Take a moment to relax the muscles of the neck, trunk, and limbs, perhaps shaking or squeezing out any tension in the major muscle groups. Once one is sitting comfortably, it is important, especially for beginners, to start

with some breathing exercises to help relax and to place one in a prayerful frame of mind. The breath should be deep and slow, expanding the tummy rather than the chest or shoulders. Both exhalation and inhalation should be gentle and steady, with exhalation being somewhat longer than inhalation, with a short pause before again inhaling. Imagine breathing in all that is of God, and, conversely, breathe out all that comes between you and God. With practice, this type of breathing will become almost automatic and will greatly assist in preventing the mind from wandering from God.

Once one is relaxed and breathing quietly, it becomes easier to enter and rest in the presence of God and to be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit. At this point, short, one word prayers are all that is needed to keep attentive or to return, when the mind wanders, to attentiveness. Try this type of prayer and you will be amazed at how God will work in you.

Standing upright facing east with outstretched arms is an ancient position for prayer going back to the early church and

This is the second of a four-part series on prayer by Deacon Bruce Williams. Mr. Williams has organized and facilitated a contemplative prayer group at St. John, York Mills, for more than 20 years. This article was first published in St. John's newsletter.

### **Vital Church Planting Conference this month**

THE fifth annual Vital Church Planting Conference will be held May 31 to June 2 at St. Paul, Bloor Street. This conference has become a valuable opportunity for learning and networking for leaders on cutting edge of missional renewal and transformation in the Canadian church. Bishop Steve Croft of the Diocese of Shefield is the keynote speaker. Register at www.vitalchurchplanting.com.

### Archbishop plans parish hall meetings

#### **Continued from Page 1**

Parish hall meetings will be held in the following locations:

- St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, May 29, 2-4 p.m.;
- St. John the Baptist, Dixie,

June 5, 1:30-3:30 p.m.;

- St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope, June 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.;
- St. George, Allandale, June 26, 2-4 p.m.

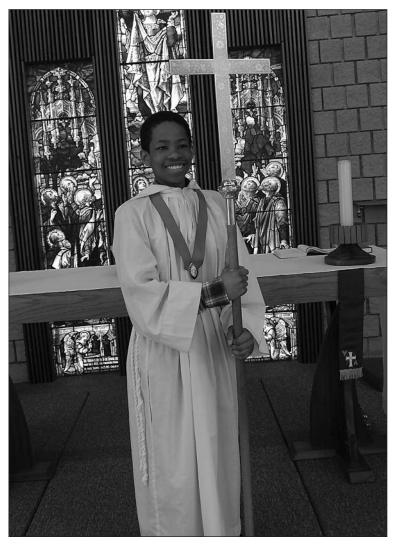
416-363-6021, ext. 240, or email mmacadam@toronto.anglican.ca.

### **Mission Shaped** courses still have room

THE diocese's Mission Shaped Intro courses still have space. One course will be held at St. Andrew, Scarborough, and the other course will be held at Trinity, Streetsville. Both courses will run in May and the beginning of June. To register, contact Elizabeth McCaffrey at emccaffrey@toronto.anglican.ca.

## PARISH NEWS

### **TheAnglican** 9



#### **PROUD MOMENT**

Akini Davidson, crucifer at St. Martin, Bay Ridges, Pickering, proudly displays his Server's Medallion, presented to him by the church on April 3. Akini is one of 15 youth who share in this ministry.

#### Anglicans invited to mosque

The Islamic Forum of Canada, based at a mosque in Brampton, invited members of St. Jude, Brampton, and other Anglicans to attend its family day on Feb. 20. Members of St. James, Brampton, and Trinity, Campbell's Cross, also attended. Sheikh Faisal Abdur-Razak of the Islamic Forum and the Rev. Ken Roguszka of St. Jude's gave talks on what the family means to each faith group. After the talks, there was lunch, a time of mingling and a time for the children to play.

It is thrilling to transcend the distance between Islam and Christianity, said Mr. Roguszka. "Jesus, after all, was open and friendly with those whom society expected to be his enemies." Everyone expressed enjoyment of the afternoon, and an open house for Muslims is being planned at St. Jude's in the spring.

from measuring the health of a parish using Natural Church Development, to matters of personal faith such as prayer and meditation. There were sessions on music and Sunday schools for smaller churches, Messy Church, and ways Anglicans can work with low income and mar-

riety of topics. These ranged

ginalized people. Bishop Linda Nicholls led a workshop on "Words to Live By" that included a practical model for the study of the New Testament. In another workshop, the Rev. Ed Cachia, who recently became an Anglican priest after 20 years as a Roman Catholic priest, spoke in a moving and entertaining way about the evolution of his thinking and the decisions that resulted from it.

Nine young people who came with their parents worked on individual weaving projects developed by Jan Stapleton, St. Peter's Sunday School director.

#### Caledon house tour raises funds



Bidrideen Hassan, Sheikh Faisal Abdur-Razak, the Rev. Bill Craven and the Rev. Ken Roguszka enjoy family day at The Islamic Forum of Canada's mosque in Brampton.





#### **GREAT MESS**

Jorge Lopez and the Mexico Amigo Band join the Rev. Canon Al Budzin (in sombrero and poncho), Andrew MacDonald, Mieke Nicholson and children at the Messy Fiesta Church service on Feb. 26 at St. Philip, Etobicoke.

ed the scene for the young and not so young. Colourful masks provided a guessing game of whose faces were covered. People enthusiastically indulged in New Orleans cuisine as they enjoyed the festivities. The evening benefited FaithWorks and the Church of the Ascension's outreach programs, including the Community Share Food Bank.

#### Volunteers appreciated

St. Paul, Lindsay, which is commemorating its 175th year, is holding a Volunteer Appreciation Sunday on May 15. Bishop Douglas Blackwell, a former area bishop of Trent-Durham, will be the special guest.



Martha Scott and helpers assemble a loom at the Trent-Durham Area Day, held in Cobourg.

#### Mardi Gras benefits **FaithWorks**

Carnival Brazil was transported to the Church of the Ascension Hall, Don Mills, on March 5 to the jazz beat of The Charles Cozens Mardi Gras Quartet as parishioners and friends danced the night away at this pre-Lenten party. Balloons, bright beads, sparkling tiaras and leis decorat-

#### Area day draws 300

Trent-Durham's annual area day, held on March 5 at St. Peter, Cobourg, drew more than 300 people. The theme was "The Tapestry of Life: Bringing the Threads Together." Upon arrival, each delegate received a short piece of coloured thread that, during the day, was woven into a tapestry by Martha Scott from the parish of St. John the Baptist, Lakefield. The completed work was displayed at the closing Eucharist.

The day included about 30 workshop sessions on a wide va-

St. James, Caledon East, with the assistance of a real estate agent, is planning to hold a "Caledon Homes Charity Tour" on May 14. Participants will be able to tour five or six unique homes in the Caledon Hills. The tickets are \$50, and the funds raised will go to build homes in Guatemala when St. James' parishioners go there on a mission trip next year. A portion of the funds will also be given to Caledon's Meals on Wheels program. For tickets and more information, contact the Rev. Wendy Moore, at 905-584-9635.

#### Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, June 21, 2011 6:30 pm - Business Meeting 7:00 pm - General Meeting

> St. Lawrence Hall, 3rd Floor 157 King Street East (at Jarvis) Downtown Toronto

For information on attending, please contact: Velvet Melanson by phone: 416-979-1994, ext. 221 or by email: vmelanson@loftcs.org

www.loftcs.org



# **Canon McNab served in Jamaica, Canada**

**NEWS** 

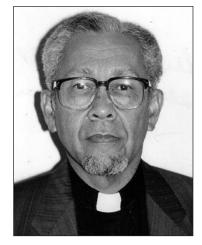
#### BY DAVID TAYLOR

10

THE Rev. Canon Dr. John McNab passed away on March 17 in Toronto after a long battle with Parkinson's disease and cancer. He was 79. Canon McNab lived a full life, rich with intellectual stimulation, charitable works and a multitude of successes. He was a devoted teacher and scholar who made a lasting impact on students and colleagues alike. Known for his motto, "It is easy to stand outside and criticize; it is a far more challenging and rewarding exercise to enter in and try to understand the other person's point of view," Canon McNab lived his words in his everyday actions.

TheAnglican

Canon McNab was prepared for



Canon John McNab

ordination at St. Peter's Theological College in Kingston, Jamaica.

### **OBITUARY**

He was made a deacon in 1956 and ordained a priest the following year in Jamaica. He held degrees from London University in England and from McGill University in Montreal.

In Jamaica, he served as assistant curate at St. Andrew's Parish Church, and as chaplain and teacher at Jamaica College. He was also a founding rector of the Church of the Ascension in Mona Heights, a chaplain at the University of the West Indies, and a chaplain and tutor at St. Peter's Theological College, his alma mater. He was the warden of Anglican students and the deputy president at the United Theological College of the West Indies (1965-1974). He served as the principal at Kingston College (1974-1978) and was Canon, Cathedral Chapter of St. Jaga del Vega, in the Diocese of Jamaica.

In 1978, Canon McNab came to Canada and became rector of St. Paul's, Côte-des-Neiges, in the Diocese of Montreal. The following year he was appointed regional dean, Mount Royal. He was appointed by the Archbishop of Cantebury to the International Anglican-Orthodox Joint Doctrinal Commission (1981-2000). In 1982, he was appointed diocesan canon, and served as director of Pastoral Studies at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, which is attached to McGill University, until 1999. He acted as Principal for two terms. He retired in 2000 and received many honours, including an award by the honorary consul for Jamaica, for his dedicated and outstanding contribution to Jamaicans and the community at large, in the field of religion, on Jamaica's 38th year of independence. Canon McNab subsequently moved to Toronto and served as an honorary assistant at St. Martin, Bay Ridges, Pickering.

Canon McNab was married to Mary Elisabeth Kirby (deceased) and to Jean Woodstock (nee Brandford). He had two children, David and Catherine, and four grandchildren.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

To submit items for Looking Ahead, email hpaukov@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the June issue is May 1; for the September issue, it's August 1. (The Anglican does not publish in July and August.) Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese's website. Visit www. toronto.anglican.ca, click Calendar, then click Submit an Event.

#### Services

**MAY 1** – Polka Vespers with the Walter Ostanek Band at St. Philip, Etobicoke, 25 St. Phillips Rd., at 4 p.m. Call 416-247-5181. MAY 1 – Epiphany and St. Mark, along with special guests, Bishop Mark Macdonald, the national indigenous bishop for the Anglican Church of Canada, the Rev. Andrew Wesley, and members of the Aboriginal community will celebrate Earth Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at an ecumenical worship service in Masaryk-Cowan Park across the street from the church on Cowan Ave., just south of Queen St., in Parkdale. All will share in a community meal following the service. MAY 8 & 29 – Jazz Vespers at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto, at 4:30 p.m. Scripture reading, prayers and a brief reflection. May 8: Mark Eisenman, piano & Chase Sanborn, trumpet; May 29: Tribute to Benny Goodman (Bob DeAngelis, clarinet; Frank Wright, vibraphone; Brian Barlow, drums; piano & bass TBA). For more information, call 416-920-5211 or visit www.christchurchdeerpark.org. MAY 15 – St. Paul, Lindsay, hosts the second of its four major 175th anniversary celebration events at 10 a.m., called "Volunteer Appreciation Sunday." All those who have helped in the church, currently and in the past, will be honoured. Bishop Douglas Blackwell will be the special guest. All are welcome. For more information, visit www.st-pauls-lindsay.ca and follow the links to the 175th anniversary events, or call 705-324-4666.

**JUNE 5** – St. Timothy, Agincourt, continues to celebrate its first 100 years of witness and service in Scarborough by welcoming (at both the 9:15 a.m. & 11 a.m. services) as their guest preacher the Rev. Canon Harold Roberts, who served as incumbent from 1982 to 1997. For more information, call 416-293-5711.

#### Educational

MAY 1, 8, 15 - St. Clement, Eglinton, 70 St. Clements Ave., Toronto, presents its spring Forty Minute Forum series, Sunday mornings from 10:10 to 10:50 a.m. The speakers will be: May 1, Alison Loat, Executive Director of Samara, on "Our Accidental Politics;" May 8, Dr. Kwame McKenzie of CAMH on "Mental Health, Immigration and Prosperity in Canada;" and May 15, Dr. Evan D. G. Fraser, research chair in Global Human Security, University of Guelph, on "Empires of Food." Books will be for sale when available. All events in this series are free, and everyone is welcome. Call 416-483-6664.

MAY 11 – Archbishop Colin Johnson will be one of the participants at a round-table discussion entitled Environment and the Climate in Peril at 7 p.m. at Trinity College in Toronto. The event is sponsored by the Diocese, The Anglican Foundation, the Green Awakening Network, and the Oikos Network. Space is limited; register at http://environmentinperil.eventbrite.com/. Suggested donation \$5. For more information, contact ldrainie@climateactionnetwork.ca or 416-593-0906. OCT. 14–15 – Mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual Canadian Festival of Biblical Storytelling, to be held at St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough. The festival will feature storytelling and workshops, with keynote speaker Pam Faro. All are welcome. Further details to follow.

#### Social

**MAY 6–7** – Join St. Theodore of Canterbury for a unique dining experience at Monks' Cell, in a mediaeval setting reminiscent of a monastery refectory. Seating available Friday night 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday night 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. For reservations, call 416-222-6198 or email monkscell@hotmail.com.

**MAY 11** – The Neighbourhood Interfaith Group invites everyone to the Neighbourhood Interfaith 25th Anniversary Dinner, at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, Toronto. The reception starts at 5:45 p.m. The dinner will be preceded by the unveiling of a new memorial honouring "Victor Kugler: The Man Who Hid Anne Frank" at 11 a.m. at Sanctuary Park Cemetery in Toronto. For more information, contact Bryan Beauchamp at bryan.beauchamp@sympatico.ca or 416-926-9438.

#### Sales

**MAY 7** – Spring Fair at St. Cuthbert, Leaside, 1399 Bayview Ave., Toronto, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featuring art gallery, books, crafts, jewellery, kitchenware, knitting, odds & ends, sewing, stamps, toys, and treasures. Barbecue on the green and snack kiosk. Free activities for children. For further information, call the church office at 416-485-0329.

**MAY 28** – St. Martin, Bay Ridges, in Pickering, presents its 3rd annual Spring Plant and Craft Sale from 9 a.m. until noon. The bazaar will feature plants, bird houses, crafts, cards, books, homemade chocolate, bake table and tea room. The church is located at 1203 St. Martin's Dr. in Pickering. For more information, visit www. stmartinsanglican.ca. **MAY 28** – Huge Garage Sale at St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Indoor flea market, jewellery, books, furniture, clothing, bake table, barbecue, trinkets to treasures. Call 416-494-7020.

**JUNE 4** – St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough, is having a flea market in support of its outreach program, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 416-283-1844.

#### Music/Poetry

**MAY 5, 12, 19, 26** – Lunchtime Chamber Music, Thursdays at 12:10 p.m. at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto. Admission free; donations welcome. For more information, visit the music page of the church's website, at www.christchurchdeerpark.org.

**MAY 15** – St. John, York Mills, invites you to Musicfest 2011, a funfilled concert for all ages, taking place at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. An amazing mix of English handbells, percussion, guitars, sax, piano and voices. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$5 for children. Call 416-225-6611. Proceeds go to Sleeping Children Around the World.

**MAY 15** – Epiphany, Scarborough, will hold a Spring Concert at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20, available from members of the church or at the door. Children 12 years and under pay \$10 at the door. For more information, call 416-261-7659.

**JUNE 8** – The St. Thomas Poetry Series (www.stthomaspoetryseries.com) invites you to attend a poetry reading by two Christian poets. Susan McCaslin (British Columbia) will launch *Persephone Goes Skydiving* (University of Alberta Press), and Richard Greene will read from *Boxing the Compass*, for which he received the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 2010. The reading in the parish hall will be followed by a reception. Books will be for sale and the authors will sign copies.

# God in art, photos

**THE** Rev. Mark Kinghan and the Rev. Don Downer, the incumbent and honorary assistant of St. Mary, Richmond Hill, will join forces with Sandra MacPherson, a member of Holy Trinity, Thornhill, to explore the relationship between art, photography and spirituality. The art show and sale will take place at Holy Trinity, Thornhill, on May 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on May 15 from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Ms. MacPherson has been working with watercolours since 1992. Her paintings include landscapes, buildings, floral, still life and figurative works. "God and spirituality are heavily in my experience of painting and in the finished product too," she says.

Mr. Kinghan says photography also has spiritual overtones. "Last year during a Sabbath leave, I reflected on how my hobby of making photographs was directly linked to my spirituality. It has been profound for me to photograph and then intentionally reflect on what motivated me to capture that image or moment what I saw, what I experienced and what I was feeling. The relationship between photography and spirituality has become a passion which I not only enjoy personally, but which I would like to share with others through facilitating retreats and workshops." Mr. Downer, also an avid photographer, delights in sharing his love of photography and uses his camera to translate rare glimpses of nature into exciting digital imagery. "I have been doing meditation for many years and practice contemplative prayer," he says. "I have just recently realized that taking photos has become a major part of both my prayer life and my meditative practice." In the process of making and reviewing his photographs, he has recognized God in surprising moments, he says. Holy Trinity is located at 140 Brook St., Thornhill.

# To advertise in The Anglican call Carol at 905.833.6200 x25

# AnglicanClassifieds

May 2011

#### TO PLACE AN AD CALL CAROL 905.833.6200 EXT. 25

Street, in Toronto, on May 1 at

4:30 p.m.: Matthew Adams, Ali-

Rachel Kessler, Joanna Man-

ning, Terry Noble, Jesse Park-

• The Rev. Dr. Stephen Reynolds

died on March 12. Ordained in

1978 in the Diocese of Eastern

Newfoundland and Labrador,

he served in the Diocese of

Toronto from 1981, as Hon-

orary Assistant and later As-

sociate Priest at St. Mary Mag-

dalene, Toronto, Incumbent of

the Parish of Bridgenorth &

Emily, and Honorary Assis-

tant, later Associate Priest, at

the Church of the Redeemer,

Toronto. He was professor of

systematic theology at Trinity

(1994). His funeral was held on

March 18 at the Church of the

College and compiler of For

All The Saints: Prayers and

Readings for Saints' Days

• The Rev. Dr. Paul Scuse has

last Sunday as Associate

Pickering, will be May 15.

announced his retirement. His

Priest at St. Paul-on-the-Hill,

Redeemer, Toronto.

Retirement

son Falby, Maggie Helwig,

er, Beth Pessah, Pamela

Prideaux, Margaret Ro-

drigues, Pam Trondson

Death



#### IN MOTION

#### Appointments

- Mr. Solomon Bhatti, Lay Pastoral Associate, Asian Congregation of St. Hugh and St. Edmund. March 1.
- The Rev. David Julien, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. George, Allandale, Barrie, March 1.
- The Rev. Robert Ross, Honorary Assistant, St. Matthias, Bellwoods, Toronto, March 4.
- The Rev. David Bryan Hoopes OHC, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Stephen-in-the-Fields, Toronto, March 7.
- The Rev. Anne Crosthwait, Associate Priest, St. John, York Mills, Toronto, March 13. She continues to serve as Honorary Assistant at St. Leonard, Toronto, and with Contemplative Fire.
- The Rev. Andrew Sandilands, Honorary Assistant, Parish of Stayner & Wasaga Beach, March 15.
- The Rev. Dawn M. Gilby, Honorary Assistant, St. James the Apostle, Brampton, March 22.
- The Rev. Stephen Kern, Incumbent, St. Philip-on-the-Hill, Unionville, May 15. • The Rev. Bill Gray, Priest-in-
- Charge, St. Peter-on-the-Rock, Stony Lake, for the month of July.
- · The Rev. Nicola Skinner,

#### **PRAYER CYCLE**

#### FOR JUNE 2011

- 1. Grace Church on-the-Hill
- 2. Church of the Messiah

Priest-in-Charge, St. Peter-onthe-Rock, Stony Lake, for the month of August.

#### Vacant Incumbencies Clergy from outside the diocese with the permission of their bishop may apply through the Ven.

#### First Phase - Parish Selection Committee in Formation

- (not yet receiving names): • Hastings & Roseneath
- St. Thomas, Millbrook
- Parish of Perrytown
- Christ Church, Deer Park
- Emmanuel, Richvale
- Trinity, Barrie

Peter Fenty.

• Craighurst & Midhurst

#### Second Phase - Parish

Selection Committee Receiving *Names* (via Area Bishop):

• St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea

#### Third Phase - Parish Selection Committee Interviewing (not receiving names):

- St. Cyprian
- St. Monica
- Parish of the Evangelists
- Holy Trinity, Thornhill

#### Ordination

- The following persons will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. Paul, Bloor
- 11. Interfaith Social Assistance Reform
  - - 24. St. Thomas a Becket (Erin Mills South)
    - 25. Trinity, Port Credit
    - 27. Trinity, Streetsville

29. St. Aidan, Toronto

30. St. Andrew, Japanese

28. Church of the Resurrection

26. Toronto East Deanery

**READING THE BIBLE** 

# Acts a fast-paced,

by Luke during the 60s or 70s CE, probably in Rome, gives us a glimpse of life in the early church, covering the first 30 years. The story begins with the ascension of Jesus as he disappeared into a cloud after giving his followers instructions to be his witnesses unto all the world. But first they are told to wait in Jerusalem until they are empowered by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit will equip them to proclaim this good news that the Kingdom of God was inaugurated by His death and resurrection.

These early believers felt it necessary to maintain the number of disciples at 12, representing the 12 tribes of Israel. Matthias was chosen to replace the dead Judas Iscariot (Acts 1:26). They were the new Israel and Jesus was the expected Messiah who would come again during their lifetime to fulfill this messianic message. They were to proclaim this good news in preparation for his second coming.

It is Luke who gave us the timetable for our church year. For Luke, the ascension of Jesus came 40 days after the resurrection. Pentecost, which means 50, was the seventh week after the resurrection. It coincided with the Jewish festival of the Feast of Weeks, or seven weeks after Passover. Pentecost marked the beginning of the Christian church.

The 120 followers of Jesus, who gathered in a home in Jerusalem on Pentecost, were empowered by the Holy Spirit. Luke suggested they literally burst out the doors, proclaiming the good news about Jesus in many different languages. Three thousand were baptized on that first Pentecost. The first few chapters of Acts centre on Peter, the undisputed leader of that young church. It was considered a sect of Judaism and all of the members were Jews. Luke suggested that the church grew daily during those early days in Jerusalem. However, Christians continued to be a problem for the temple authorities. Eventually, a Christian leader was put to death. His name was Stephen. He was elected a deacon to look after the social needs of the Christians, but

he was soon found preaching the good news at a local synagogue and was stoned to death by the authorities (Acts 6 and 7).

11

Stephen's death led to further persecutions and many believers fled Jerusalem. As they settled in other communities, they began to spread the word about Jesus, and Christian groups were established in a number of centres. One of the leaders of this wave of persecutions was a young tentmaker and rabbi-in-training called Saul. He pursued these "Followers of the Way," as these Christians were called, to Damascus. Saul met the risen Christ on the road to Damascus, was baptized, and became part of that Christian community. He was to become the most influential member of that young church. This was Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles. Most of the rest of the book of the Acts was about his ministry.

Paul led at least three missionary journeys from his headquarters in Syrian-Antioch. Our author was present for most of the last two. In Acts 16:10 and throughout much of the rest of the book, we see the switch from the third person to the first person in the writings, the so-called "we" passages. Luke was now giving us an eye-witness account.

Paul, who began his missionary journeys in 46 CE, establishing churches throughout much of Asia-Minor and Achaia, modernday Turkey and Greece, arrived in Rome about 60 CE. He was under house arrest and awaiting his trial and eventual execution by the Roman authorities. Luke ended his story with Paul in Rome. He was with Paul, and we assume remained so until the end of Paul's life. Acts may have been written in preparation for Paul's trial!

This is a story about a young church struggling to exist in the midst of a hostile world. It grew from a tiny Jewish sect in Jerusalem and spread throughout most of the Roman Empire in those 30 years. Acts is a fast-paced, exciting story about the beginning of our faith. As you listen to these passages during this Easter season, think about that group of believers who had walked with Jesus, witnessed his crucifixion and resurrection and who struggled with the local authorities in Jerusalem. We praise God for their witness and the spread of this Good News as the church became a major part of our life and history. Enjoy the dialogue.

- Holy Spirit, Dixie North
- 12. Mississauga Deanery 13. St. Luke (Dixie South)
- 14.

Coalition

22. St. Paul (Lorne Park) 23. St. Peter (Erindale)

- St. Augustine of Canterbury 3.
- St. Clement, Eglinton 4.
- Eglinton Deanery 5.
- St. Cuthbert, Leaside 6.
- St. Leonard 7.
- St. Michael and All Angels 8.
- 9. St. Timothy, North Toronto
- 10. Church of the Transfiguration
- 15. St. Bride, Clarkson
- 16. St. Francis of Assisi, Meadowvale West
- 17. St. Hilary (Cooksville)
- 18. St. John the Baptist (Dixie)
- 19. St. James Cathedral
- 20. College View Supportive Housing Services
- (LOFT)
- 21. St. Elizabeth Church. Mississauga

## **Church authors to speak in Toronto**

**CLERGY** and lay leaders are invited to Presentensions, a one-day conference on May 20, featuring keynote speakers Phyllis Tickle,

author of The Great Emergence, and David Fitch, author of The End of Evangelicalism. The conference will be held at the Toronto Airport Marriot Hotel from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration cost is \$40. For more information. contact www.presentensions.com.

The Rev. Canon Don Beatty is an honorary assistant at St. Luke, Dixie South, Mississauga.



#### **UNSUNG HEROES**

Bishop Philip Poole and 80 churchwardens from York-Credit Valley pose for a photo before a service commemorating and blessing churchwardens at All Saints, Kingsway, on March 27. It is the second year the episcopal area has honored its churchwardens. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

# Justice Camp planned for Peterborough

### National event held in diocese for first time

#### BY MURRAY MACADAM

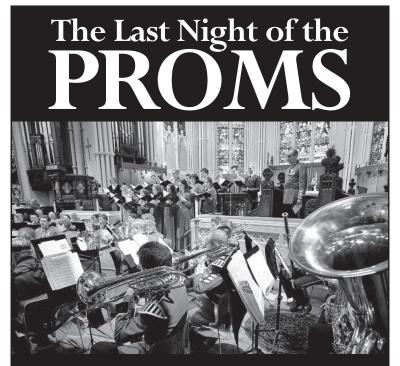
**A** learning experience like no other will take place when the diocese hosts an Anglican Justice Camp in August 2012, based in Peterborough.

Justice camps are intergenerational learning experiences based in a residential setting — in this case, Trent University. Unlike a conference, where people often sit and listen to speakers, Justice Camp involves active learning through small groups focussed on a particular concern. These small groups travel to community and advocacy organizations to learn first-hand about key issues. The 2012 Justice Camp's small groups are likely to focus on food and sustainability, rural issues, First Nations realities, healthy communities, welcoming newcomers, violence, and environmental concerns. Creative worship and biblical reflection are central to the camp experience. Participants are encouraged to bring their own instruments for worship services. The camp's closing worship

brings together the week's experiences and offers them up to God, as campers are blessed and sent forth to live out God's call for justice in their home communities.

While the camp will be based in Peterborough, participants will travel throughout the diocese to meet with people and organizations involved in social justice, outreach and advocacy work. A key goal is that participants return home equipped with the community development skills, advocacy skills and a deepened faith — three things needed to do effective work on local concerns. Five justice camps have been held across Canada. This is the first one ever held in the Diocese of Toronto. Up to 100 people will take part, half of them from the Diocese of Toronto, and half from the rest of Canada, with one or two international partners. About half of the campers will be aged 16 to 30. Some non-Anglican participants will also take part.

Camp is already causing a buzz of excitement within the diocese. "We can talk about justice issues, but there is no substitute for direct engagement in a community with their concerns," says Bishop Linda Nicholls, area bishop of Trent-Durham. "Justice Camp brings together direct engagement and time for reflection through our faith. It deepens our shared community as Canadian Anglicans and enriches the life of our church across the country. I am looking forward to being a full participant." The success of the camp relies on strong volunteer involvement. Volunteers can help in a wide range of ways, including promotion to parishes, planning worship, youth engagement, contact with community partners, and much more. If you're interested in helping, email Murray MacAdam, the diocese's Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, at mmacadam@toronto.anglican.ca, or 416-363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932. ext. 240. To learn more about the camp, visit its website, www.justicecamp.ca.



The Band of The Royal Regiment of Canada The Elmer Iseler Singers

With its creativity, youthful energy, range of participants, and focus on community, the Justice

### The St. James Cathedral Choir May 27, 2011 at 7:30pm Tickets now available (\$35/\$30)

Tickets including a pre-show dinner at the Albany Club available \$85 (plus tax) - 416-364-5471

The Cathedral Church of St. James Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada 65 Church Street at King Street 416-364-7865 • www.stjamescathedral.on.ca

#### Visit our web site at www.toronto.anglican.ca