

The

# Georgian



Thanksgiving 2004

## VIEW

St. George's Newsletter  
Vol. 04, No. 4



**St. George's  
Anglican Church  
Place du Canada**

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**Office Hours**

Tuesday - Friday  
9:00am - 4:30pm

**Church Open**

Tuesday - Sunday  
8:30am - 4:30pm

**Rector**

The Rev. Ralph Leavitt

**Lay Pastoral Assistant**

Miss Alison Cole

**Christian Education  
Co-ordinator**

Barbara Hill-Bissonette

**Organist and Choir  
Director**

Dr. Erik Reinhart

**Services**

**Sundays**

9am Holy Communion  
10:30am Main Service  
(see calendar for details)

**Wednesdays**

12:15pm Holy Communion  
5:30 pm Holy Communion

Have you read my  
#1 best seller?  
There is a test.  
-God

## From the Rector's Desk...

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God Philippians 4:6

We at St. George's have a bundle to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. First, we should give thanks to God for the successful joining of the Church of the Advent with St. George's. Months of planning fell into place. We had a wonderful 'joining' service on September 12th, with a warm welcoming reception. The Holy Spirit blessed us all as we became one. The following week we had two baptisms (Kitana and Dwayne) and Susie Sabadin put on a full course reception for over a 100 people. Robert Warren visited from Scotland and gave a rousing sermon. What enthusiasm! Give thanks to God for strengthening His church.

Second, we give thanks for the election of a new Bishop in the Diocese of Montreal. Bishop-elect Barry Clarke was elected with strong numbers on the 4th ballot. Please keep Barry in your prayers as God graces him with the skills he will need to lead this Diocese. Give thanks to God for choosing our Bishop.

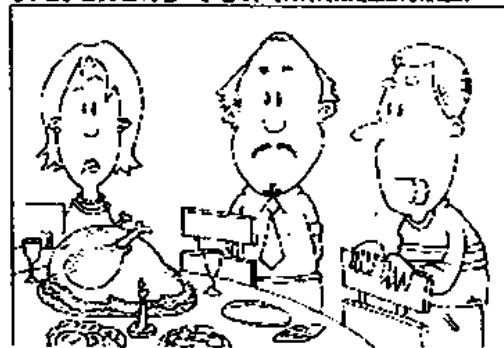
Third, on a personal note, I must say that I am overjoyed to be staying with you at St. George's. Allowing my name to stand as a candidate for Bishop was a growing experience for me, it deepened my obedience to the Lord and his will for

me. Give thanks to God for being obedient and faithful to our calling.

Finally, at this time of year, we give thanks to God for the harvest. Of course this refers principally to God's creation and what we receive from it. However, Thanksgiving should also be a time when we give thanks for everything that has been harvested in our spiritual lives. What is it in this last year that you have learned from Jesus? How has the Holy Spirit guided you in these last 12 months? Take some time this Thanksgiving, and truly thank God for all that Father, Son and Holy Spirit have blessed you with. And don't stop there, but as Paul urges us in his letter to the Philippians, continue in prayers and supplications, with thanksgiving, letting your requests be made known to God. Why? Paul concludes with encouraging words, And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Ralph+

**REVEREND FUN** [WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM](http://WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM)



HAS IT ALREADY BEEN A YEAR SINCE WE WERE THANKFUL?

## WARDEN'S WORDS

by John Netten, People's Warden

When the long, long days of summer shorten and the leaves start to turn, one realizes that the Church's busy season is coming again. As this is being written "Apple Picking Sunday" has just happened - a great success this year. This event has become an annual happening at St. George's and is always a sure indicator of the beginning of the new season.

We have already had one major event at St. George's - the coming together with the Church of the Advent. The Service of coming together was a moving a memorable one; bot at the Church of the Advent and at the conclusion at St. George's - a real new beginning for everybody.

St. George's begins the new season this year with a new Christian Education Coordinator, Barbara Hill-Bissonnette. Her main responsibilities are to oversee and coordinate the church school and youth group programs, to organize *Alpha* and other adult education groups and also to assist in the planning of the Family Services. The Parish looks forward to her contribution to the program.

The new parish library, completely redesigned and reorganized, is now fully operational. New shelving has been built by Mel Wood and the books have been systematically arranged on them. An awesome

amount of work has been done on this project by Marlene O'Connell and Ian Scott. The materials have been superbly organized and catalogued. The catalogue and shelf-list alone is well worth looking at. Some reference books must be used only in the library but most material may be borrowed. The library is highly user friendly and instructions are provided for borrowing books. There is a surprising amount of material available, both old and recent. I strongly recommend that you pay a visit. We are most grateful to Marlene and Ian for a job well done.

I conclude on another positive note. On a recent Sunday evening, the attention of passers by was directed to a vast number of young people having a barbecue on the Church lawn. In fact over one hundred young people were participating. These young people were those who come to the Crossroads Youth Service held on the third Sunday evening of each month. Most parishioners are not around the church on Sunday evening and this activity is not as well known as it ought to be. These people bring their own music and conduct an invigorating Service with great enthusiasm. This program is part of Crosstalk Ministries. It is always being said that the church has great need to attract youth. We should all be glad that this many young people meet willingly and regularly at St. George's.

## STEWARDSHIP

Our Stewardship Committee has been meeting over the summer and is now preparing for the launch of the our six week campaign commencing on Thanksgiving Sunday, Oct. 10. Each and every parishioner will be receiving a package explaining the need and asking for an increased annual pledge. In addition there will be two minute segments in each Sunday service during the campaign set aside to inform people about stewardship. Your committee asks for your prayers for a successful campaign and asks for your co-operation in completing and returning your pledge card. This six week period is only the first part of a three pronged programme which will address Time, Talent and Treasurer. The committee is composed of Mrs. Betty Infilise, Dr. Nelson Mitchell, Me Victoria Netten, Ms. Michelle Hackel, Rev. Ralph Leavitt, and Mr. William Raso who are available to answer any questions you might have concerning the campaign and/or stewardship in general.

*(continued on page 3)*

**J o k e** There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.

### The Georgian View

is the parish newsletter of St. George's Anglican Church, Place du Canada, Montreal, QC. It is published five times a year. All material contained herein is copyrighted and cannot be used without permission. Submissions for the next issue can be given in at the Church Office, 1101 Stanley St. or e-mailed to the editor at victoria.netten@mcgill.ca.

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## STEWARDSHIP

(continued from page 2)

### Facts & Figures

Did you know that based on the 2004 Operating Budget of \$321,200 it costs \$36.70/hour, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to keep St. George's functioning? How many hours will you sponsor?

Our Music Ministry (salaries, organ, music) costs \$30,000 per year. How important is this ministry to you?

This year we are supporting mission in the diocese by contributing \$20,000. This is a cut-back of \$4,000 over 2003. Can you help us to support mission projects in the diocese and areas beyond?

### Planned Giving

When writing your will or adjusting it please remember St. George's by inserting a paragraph "I bequeath to St. George's Church the sum of \$....."

Generations to come depend upon what we do today to secure St. George's future.



## A JUICY PROSPECT...

Do you enjoy fresh oranges and/or grapefruit in the middle of winter? Then read on ...

L'Abri en Ville, a non-profit organization devoted to supplying housing for people with mental health problems, is once again holding its fund-raising project by offering boxes of fresh Florida oranges and grapefruit.

## GUILD TIDINGS

by Bill Raso

Sunday, Sept. 12 was a day to remember in the life of the parish as the parishioners of Church of the Advent said good-bye to their beautiful building and joined with St. George's. The spirit created between both churches bodes well for a fruitful future for all parishioners. After a moving service, the Guild arranged a reception in the parish hall for all 167 people. Our thanks go to all who helped in making the event such a success; in particular our thanks go to Sheila Brehn, Pat Rose, Caroline O' Connor, Bea Francis, and Nicole Borntraeger.

At our General Meeting on Sept. 22 guest speaker David Wigglesworth gave a presentation on a facility being created by Welcome Hall Mission; to provide "bed-sitters" for men who are attempting to re-enter a more stable life style, as opposed to that of living on the street. David's multi media address was enthusiastically received and elicited many questions on the part of his listeners. The Guild voted \$2,000 to furnish one of the bed-sitters at this new facility.

The Guild also voted to contribute \$2,000 to a relief fund to help victims of the many hurricanes recently inflicted upon the Caribbean islands.

A challenge to the parish to support the Stained Glass Window Restoration fund was issued by the Guild. The Guild will match monies raised by the parish dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$10,000. The total \$20,000 raised would be the parish's portion of the required funding for the project.

Please do not forget our CHRISTMAS SALE from 11:00am to 3:00pm, on October 28. Come and have an excellent lunch for \$7 and shop early for Christmas at our Treasurers, Baked Goods, Book, Gifts, Children's, Shop, and Jams & Jellies tables.

We look forward to seeing many parishioners at the sale. We invite our newest members, from the Church of the Advent, to consider joining our Guild. If you are interested in joining the Guild or if you have questions about any of our activities, please contact Bill Raso.

To order, simply fill out the form on the page 4 or call Marianne at the l'Abri office at 932-2199 or Sheila Brehn at 484-9413. Orders must be received by November 1.

*These make great Christmas gifts.*

*Thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.*

# Have you met our Christian Education Go-ordinator?

by Barbara Hill-Bissonnette

I am very pleased to be working with everyone at St. George's to continue the tradition of Christian Education here, and to take our children and youth to new heights.

First, a little about me. I am a cradle Anglican, baptized and raised in St. Barnabas, St. Lambert, and still attend there. I'm also my parish's Synod delegate. I am married to Randy Bissonnette, originally from Windsor, Ontario, and we have two wonderful daughters, Nikki and Jessie Bissonnette. My daughters are very involved at St. Barnabas, but they would like to attend at St. George's for the family service every month. I am a fulltime student at Champlain Regional College in my second year of a 3-year diploma in Tourism Management.

The job of Christian Education Coordinator is to bring together teams for Church School and Nursery, Youth Group, Family Service and Adult Education, including the Alpha programme. Church School and Nursery reopened Sunday, September 19, and

our first Family Service of the "new year" was September 26. I am very grateful to Jonathan Davies and Jonathan Crane for their enthusiasm and talents in creating the music for the Family Service. Thank you to Victoria Netten as well, for "showing me the ropes." In the months to come the Family Service will have heart-warming music, wonderful liturgical dance and inspiring homilies and we hope that you will enjoy the services with your children/grandchildren.

I would like to encourage any of our Youth Group members to attend Crossroads Youth Service, held here at St. George's at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month. I am eager to begin a brown-bag-dinner gathering on Crossroads Sundays. If you'd like to join me for a time of informal breadbreaking and chitchat before the service, please come to the parish hall at 5:00 p.m. I would like to talk with our young people to see if there's interest in meeting at times other than during worship.



We are always in need of volunteers, especially in Church School and Nursery, and would like to do the teaching on a roster basis so that no one is teaching every week. We have excellent resource materials and welcome enthusiasm. Please see me between services or after the 10:30 service. There will be a meeting of all education volunteers on October 3 after the service. It won't take long, just bring your coffee to the boardroom.

I am in the office on Sundays from 8:30 until 4:00 p.m. (until 9:00 on 3rd Sundays), Wednesday mornings from 9:00 until 1:00 p.m. and Thursday afternoons from 12:30 until 5:00 p.m. Please feel free to call at any time. My home number is 450-466-51247, but we have two teenagers and one computer/phone, so you may need to leave a voicemail. I shall do my best to get back to you as quickly as possible.

### CAN YOU TYPE?

The Georgian View is looking for someone who is willing to type 1 or 2 articles per issue. If you are willing to help out, please contact Victoria Netten 514-289-0902

## CITRUS SALE ORDER FORM

Client \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 lb. Box of oranges X \$22.00 = \$

\_\_\_\_\_ 40 lb. Box of oranges X \$35.00 = \$

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 lb. Box of grapefruit X \$20.00 = \$

\_\_\_\_\_ 40 lb. Box of grapefruit X \$34.00 = \$

Total of order \$



(Do not send money now)

# A Journey To Remember

by Tina Oppong

When the idea to become a part of a YMCA youth exchange trip between the Diocese of Montreal and the Diocese of Athabaska was introduced I enthusiastically got involved. The farthest I had travelled in Canada was Toronto, Ontario. The thought of visiting Alberta, which to me seemed as far away as China, was truly intriguing.

As the magical day of departure neared, plans were finalized and it was almost impossible to control my excitement. Finally, July 9th was upon us. Ten teenagers and two adults from the Montreal area boarded a plane to embark on a memorable voyage. We reached our destination, Peace River, Alberta, that night. There was a big welcoming dinner waiting for us. Introductions were made thus officially marking the start of a fun-filled, educational and exhausting week.

The following five days were packed with activities. I could go on for pages describing all the outings. However, I will only mention a few. We visited an Elk Farm, Bison Farm, a Pioneer Village, a Pulp Mill, a Ranch, where we did horseback riding (most of the group did anyways, I basically just sat on a horse, trust me that was a huge accomplishment for me.) We went strawberry picking and even did community service by cleaning the highway. I have so many memorable memories. One of my favourite is the day we went on a boat ride. Initially, I was hesitant about getting on a boat due to the fact that I do not know how to swim. My fears quickly

evaporated as the boat sped up on the river with the wind flowing through my hair and the beautiful scenery passing by; it was breathtaking.

July 15th, departure day from Alberta, arrived too quickly. On our way to the airport at 3:00 a.m., while everyone else on the bus was snoring, I thought about all the amazing people I had met and the magnificent province that I had the privilege of seeing. I will never forget the gorgeous scenery, the friendly neighbours and the sun setting at midnight, midnight!!! It was the coolest thing gazing at the bright, sunny sky at 11:30 p.m. I will miss that the most. Along with the wonderful, lifelong friends that I made who welcomed me into their lives without hesitation.

I learned so much on this trip. One of the most important being that people from different backgrounds can interact and acquire knowledge by sharing various aspects of their lives. Also, I realized that I am terrified of most living things; bugs, horses etc. It is surprising I do not run away from human beings. However, aside from these phobias, I discovered an inner strength, courage and willpower that I had no idea existed. If anybody had said a couple of months ago that I, Tina Oppong, would one day sit on a horse, I would have rolled on the floor laughing hysterically at the ridiculous comment. Nonetheless, on this trip, I was able to sit on one of those huge, unbelievably gentle creatures for more than five minutes... before bursting into tears from fear; oh well, there is always

next time. I was still extremely proud of myself. I would never, in this lifetime, have been able to surmount this challenge had it not been for this incredible voyage.

This exhilarating experience will forever be in my heart. I want to give my utmost gratitude to all those who worked really hard to ensure its success. First and foremost, the Almighty Lord, who makes all things possible. Also, the Canadian Government, the YMCA, the Diocese of Montreal, the Diocese of Athabasca, Jessica Bickford (you rock), Shawn, Rae, Gail, my own parish, St. George's Anglican Church and anyone else who contributed to this amazing journey. I will never forget those marvellous seven days. This trip enriched my outlook on life and fuelled my desire to explore the world. Thank-you from the bottom of my heart and may God bless you all.

## **Tyndale St-Georges Community Center**

**"Open House"  
To Celebrate the newly  
Renovated Building**

**Friday, October 29  
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**Please come and help us  
celebrate!**

**876- Richmond Square  
Richmond Square**

**Information :  
Iva Gray: 514-931-6265**

## Christian Alphabet

Although things are not perfect  
Because of trial or pain  
Continue in thanksgiving  
Do not begin to blame.

Even when the times are hard  
Fierce winds are bound to blow  
God is forever able  
Hold on to what you know.

Imagine life without His love  
Joy would cease to be  
Keep thanking Him for all the things  
Love imparts to thee.

Move out of "Camp Complaining"  
No weapon that is known  
On earth can yield the power  
Prayer can do alone.

Quit looking at the future  
Redeem the time at hand  
Start every day with worship  
To "thank" is a command.

Until we see Him coming  
Victorious in the sky  
We'll run the race with gratitude  
Xalting God most high.

Yes, there will be good times and  
yes some will be bad, but...  
Zion waits in glory...where none are  
ever sad!

**Note:** When I was at AWARE, the speaker presented Shaespeare's Sonnet 29 "When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes". She suggested we look at it as though Shakespeare was referring to God.



## Meditation on Psalm 23

by Jane Wigglesworth

Lord you are my shepherd. You know everything about me and you alone can make me pure and holy. You promise to supply all my needs according to your riches in Christ Jesus. You make me lie down in green pastures that I might rest and spend time with You; listen to you and learn Your daily plans for me.

You lead me beside the still waters that I might experience Your peace which passes all understanding.

You restore my soul, enabling me to think pure and lovely thoughts about everyone and everything. You lead me in paths of righteousness for Your Name's sake, fulfilling Your promise to go before me always to prepare my way. Only You Lord know the plans and purposes that You have for me and my desire is to hear You and obey.

When I walk through the valley of the shadow of death; experience the trials that Jesus said I would have in this world, I will fear no evil, for Jesus the greater one lives moves and has His being in me, and

no evil can proper in His presence. With Jesus I am more than a conqueror. I am comforted Your rod and staff, which, gently but firmly, lead me through all the storms of life. Tests will come to try my firth which is more precious to you than gold.

You prepare a table before me; give me the divine wisdom, discernment and knowledge that I need for all Your assignments. You anoint my head with oil; fill me with Your Holy Spirit that the life of Your Son Jesus may be abundantly manifested in my life. My cup runs over as You bless me with Your many wondrous and precious promises.

Surely good and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life for Your word is true and Your desire is to give Your children everlasting love and all good gifts. I know that I am Your beloved and that You are mine. And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever; sit together with Jesus in the heavenly places now and always.

### Sonnet 29 "When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes"

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes,  
I all alone beweepe my outcast state,  
And trouble deaf Heaven with my bootless cries,  
And look upon myself, and curse my fate,  
Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,  
Featur'd like him, like him with friends possess'd,  
Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,  
With what I most enjoy contented least:

Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,  
Haply I think on thee,  
—and then my state  
(Like to the lark at break of day arising  
From sullen earth) sings hymns at heaven's gate; F  
or thy sweet love remember'd such wealth brings  
That then I scorn to change my state with kings'.

William Shakespeare  
(1564 - 1616)