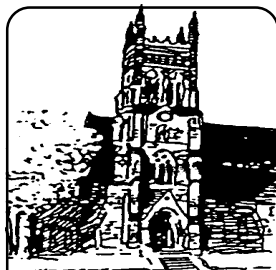


The Georgian

Lent 2008



*St. George's
Anglican Church
Place du Canada*
1101 Stanley Street
Montreal, Quebec H3B 2S6
Tel: 514-866-7113
Fax: 514-866-6096
www.st-georges.org

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

Church Open
Tuesday - Sunday
9:00am - 4:00pm

Rector
The Rev. Ralph Leavitt

Wardens
William Raso
Mark Diaczun

*Church School
Co-ordinator*

*Organist and Choir
Director*
Dr. Erik Reinart

Services
Sundays
9:00am Holy Communion
10:30am Main Service
(see calendar for details)

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

**Lord, sustain us in our
fasting and sacrifice
during these forty days
of Lent.**

St. George's Newsletter
Vol. 08, No. 2

VIEW

From the Rector's Desk...

Greetings to you in this Lenten season. I am happy to see that this Newsletter is devoted in large part to "Mission". One of Jesus' greatest commandments stated at the end of the Gospel of Matthew is; "Go and make disciples of all nations". Often when we think of this verse we think it applies to some foreign country. It need not do that at all. It actually applies to right here and right now.

As soon as we leave the church on Sunday our work as disciples begins. We are to bring the light of Christ to all the people we meet. We are to share the Gospel story with those who are closest to us. Who in your family does not really know Jesus? Have you invited them to church lately? What about your neighbours, or your friends? Do you share your faith with them? How about where you work? Do you ever mention that you are a Christian? Just be yourself, and be honest about your experience of knowing how Jesus is your Saviour, and God will take care of the rest. As Jesus himself said, "Come and see". Why not invite someone to "Come and See"? God will take care of the rest.

In this Lenten season, please do not give something up, but rather, take something up. Take up the Gospel, and share it with someone. Let God do the rest.
Blessings,
Ralph+

Our Beloved Anglican Church

The other day a parishioner approached me and was confused by what is happening in the Anglican Church of Canada. She had heard and read about the Diocese of the Southern Cone, and wondered how that affected us. I want to clarify this as much as I can.

One of the greatest gifts of the Anglican Communion is the gift of "comprehensiveness". This has been a hallmark of our Communion since the beginning. What this means, in effect, is that within our communion we can have differing opinions about several aspects of our faith. In one particular aspect, it means that the "liberals" in the church, and the "conservatives" can live together; they might disagree on certain issues, but they will always rally around the communion table to celebrate the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Another hallmark of our Anglican Communion is that we are built upon the basic unit of the Diocese and the Bishop; we are as such an "episcopal" church. We are not "centralized" like the Roman Catholic church, but rather "decentralized". So the basic building block of our church is the Diocese, and only from that comes

structures, such as the four “provinces” in our Canadian church (we are in the province of Canada), and from that the Anglican Church of Canada, and from that the worldwide Anglican church. We all acknowledge that the Archbishop of Canterbury is the “titular” head of our church, but we also know that he has no “power” in other countries.

Recently, two retired Bishops in the Anglican Church of Canada (Harvey and Harding) relinquished their licenses to minister in our Anglican Church of Canada, and they joined the Diocese of the Southern Cone. The Southern Cone is a Diocese in the southernmost part of South America and the Bishop (and Primate) there is Archbishop Venables. Although this an unusual move, it does not contravene any “normal” Anglican practice. However, now these two Bishops are planning to minister in Canada and ordain ministers in Canada. They say they must minister to those people on the conservative side of the equation, those who are not happy with the recent actions of the Anglican Church of Canada. They have set up what is called “The Anglican Network in Canada” (ANIC) as a parallel church structure. This is **NOT** part of the Anglican Church of Canada, but rather under the leadership of the Primate of the Southern Cone. This move goes very much against the traditional policy of our church.

Our Primate has spoken out against this move. In a Pastoral letter (read to the Parish on Advent One) he said “we deplore recent actions on the part of the Primate and General Synod of the Province of the Southern Cone to extend its jurisdiction into Canada through the Essentials Network Conference”. Recently the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams said he "cannot support or sanction" ordinations of priests or bishops that take place outside a national church's jurisdiction.

In our Anglican Church of Canada, if a particular Parish (meaning the Priest and the Parish) disagrees totally with their Bishop on certain issues, they may ask for “Shared Episcopal Ministry (SEM)”. This way, the Bishop of the Diocese is still in charge, but an individual parish that disagrees with their Bishop may request that another (more conservative) Bishop be their pastoral leader. This is the “Anglican” way to proceed. In my mind the actions of the Diocese of the Southern Cone are inappropriate.

I would ask you all, in these difficult times in our church, that you pray for our church. Pray that the will of God will be done and that we might, through the power of the Holy Spirit, bring about the kingdom of God. Let us never forget the words that Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians:

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Please keep your eyes and hearts on Christ.

God bless you,
Ralph+

A. Diocesan and National Outreach

1. Regular Parish Commitment

Sources: Parish Budget

This figure is not available yet as it represents the Parish Mission Commitment which will be accepted at the Annual Vestry Meeting on February 17, 2008.

Our Outreach contribution to the Diocese is our primary and most important mission giving and comes mostly from our general budget. It is included in the top line of our envelopes. Our contribution is used by the diocese as follows:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| a. | Support to aided parishes | 30% |
| b. | Diocesan programmes and staff | 36% |
| c. | Mission Commitment to General Synod | 34% |
- (for national programmes, the North and overseas.)

2. Anglican Journal \$ 200

Source: Guild \$ 200

The Anglican Journal is our national paper, which appealed for funds this year, in order to continue its excellent coverage.

B. Local Missions and Agencies for 2007: \$12,750

Sources: Envelopes	\$ 1,892
Parish Budget	\$ 4,940
The Guild	\$ 5,200
Carol Service	\$ 718

The above is divided among each of the specific missions as follows:

1. Tyndale-St. George's \$ 4,923

Sources: Envelopes	\$ 105
Parish Budget	\$ 3,500
The Guild	\$ 600
Carol Service Collection	\$ 718

Tyndale-St. George's is the joint Anglican/Presbyterian community centre in Little Burgundy. St. George's is included in the name because of our direct involvement as a parish in its early stages. Work includes pre-school daycare, work with seniors and youth, food and clothing distribution, work with refugees, and much more.

2. Diocese of the Arctic \$ 100

Sources: Envelopes \$ 100

Our parish has had a long history of concern for ministry in our northernmost diocese. We have a prayer link with St. James' Parish in Salluit, Northern Quebec. A special area of interest is the Arthur Turner Training School in Pangitung. Prohibitive costs in the Arctic necessitate outside financial assistance in spite of exemplary giving by church members there.

3. Isaiah 40 Foundation \$ 100

Sources: Envelopes \$ 100

This Christian counselling service uses prayer counselling to assist in the healing of the inner self. This counselling and teaching ministry is led by Vina Sweetman, who is well-known to many parishioners and the conference team has already led four courses on healing in our parish.

4. L'Abri en Ville \$ 700

Sources: Envelopes \$ 100
The Guild \$ 600

L'Abri en Ville is a downtown ecumenical project designed to meet the need for supportive housing for ex-psychiatric patients. It is run mainly through volunteer "advocates" from the churches including our own, working under the supervision of a co-ordinator. Many apartments have been established with two sponsored by St. George's, largely through the efforts of the Guild.

5. St. Michael's Mission \$ 900

Sources: Envelopes \$ 300
The Guild \$ 600

St. Michael's Mission is an Anglican drop-in centre for the lonely and those people on the street. It is located in the basement of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, behind Place des Arts, and serves breakfast, a nourishing soup for lunch, offers friendship and counsel, washing facilities, and clothing.

6. Auberge Madeleine \$ 600

Sources: The Guild \$ 600

Auberge Madeleine is a shelter for women on the street and for those who have been under extreme duress. It has 14 short/medium term beds and six long term beds. The shelter ministers to about 300 women each year. Anglicans have been some of the key people involved with this project.

7. *Chez Doris* \$ 600
Sources: The Guild \$ 600

Chez Doris is on Chomedey Street and acts as a drop-in centre for women on the street and those with problems. It provides companionship and warmth and a good hot noon-day meal. It is open during the day, seven days a week.

8. *Church of the Advent Refugee Centre* \$ 1,440
Sources: Parish Budget \$ 1,440

This represent our contribution to the Refugee Centre at the Church of the Advent. Unfortunately the Centre had to cease operations last Septembr.

9. *Emerge* \$ 256
Source: Envelopes \$ 256

Emerge is a new venture started by the Rev. Nick Brotherhood. Its mission is to be a vital Christian Community that effectively engages people in the 18-25 age group working, studying, living, playing in contemporary downtown Montreal, with the good news of Jesus Christ.

10. *F.A.C.E. Chaplaincy* \$ 1,000
Source: The Guild \$ 1,000

F.A.C.E. (Fine Arts Core Education) is one of the alternative high schools operating out of the old High School of Montreal on University Street. Downtown churches and others have combined to support Lyne Dufresne as "pastoral animator" (chaplain) for the students, through a ministry of personal support, counselling and a Christian presence in the school.

11. *Fulford Residence* \$ 600
Sources: The Guild \$ 600

The Fulford Residence is a home for the elderly associated with the Anglican Church. Support such as ours helps to purchase the extra touches that help make the senior years more pleasant. Past donations have gone towards drapes, repainting rooms, a VCR, and so on. 40 ladies live at the Fulford Residence in Montreal.

12. *Mile-End Mission* \$ 1,531
Sources: Envelopes \$ 931
The Guild \$ 600

Mile-End Mission is a store front mission run by the Rev. Roslyn McGregor. Its mission is to be a safe and welcoming community, where people can come together for mutual support, for personal growth, concrete

programs, and to be a part of and serve the community of Mile-End.

D. Other North American Missions

1. *Diocese of E. Newfoundland & Labrador* \$ 600
Source: The Guild \$ 600

These funds are designated for church building projects, general assistance, other special needs in this far-flung diocese of the east coast.

E. Other Missions Overseas

1. *Primate's World Relief and Devel. Fund* \$ 2,581
Sources: Envelopes \$ 1,981
The Guild \$ 600

The PWRDF is the arm of the National Church which gives emergency assistance and long term development aid, helping people to help themselves. Ministry is carried on at the request of, and through local church bodies in the third world. Funds are usually matched by the Canadian government and this, along with individuals' donations are the only source of funds. Donations this year include those specified for Tsunami Relief (\$950).

2. *South American Missionary Society* \$ 200
Source: Envelopes \$ 200

SAMS is an independent Anglican Mission working in Latin and South America. SAMS Canada responds with prayer, financial, and personnel support to requests from the rapidly growing Anglican Church in these regions.

Thank you!

The Miracle of the Pipe

(A True Story)

At the back of the church at St. George's is a sign asking for donations to the Church's Restoration Fund. Visitors are invited to make a contribution by dropping change down the pipe where it collects in a black box located in the basement. It has been explained to the Church's new treasurer that it is his duty to empty the black box periodically.

Last summer, the contributions stopped. They didn't just slow down, they stopped completely. The Treasurer didn't pay a whole lot of attention, being relatively new, but it dawned upon him after a few months, that something was definitely wrong.

After making a few inquiries, he enlisted the help of Mel Wood, the church's Mr. Fix-it, and the pipe was inspected. It was discovered that someone had stuffed something down the pipe and blocked it. Why, you might ask, would anyone do such a thing?

A rod was pushed down the pipe from the top to unblock it. This allowed it to release its contents into the black box and then onto the earthen floor in the dark basement below. The group of people gathered there were amazed as the contents poured out. Not only did loose change pour out, but a fair amount of paper money including two \$100 bills. When all was collected and taken to the bank, it totaled over \$500. We were truly astonished.

A few questions remain. Who had stuffed the 5 Sunday leaflets down the pipe to block it and why? Equally interesting was the identity of the kind benefactor who gave us the \$100 bills. You can be sure the Treasurer will be more careful in checking the pipe in future. The Lord works in mysterious ways!

Tom Burpee
Honorary Treasurer

GUILD TIDINGS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Guild, the new executive for 2008 was elected: William Raso – President; Mrs. Anne McGuigan – Vice President; Mrs. Carole Gabellini – Secretary; Mrs. Thea Drummond – Treasurer; Mrs. Sheila Brehn – Past President. Members at Large who were elected are: Mrs. Josette Contissa; Mrs. Lorna Flanagan; Mrs. Eileen Gibson Holme; Mrs. Doreen Lussier; Mrs. Laura Hind-Montaque.

William Raso moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing executive. Bouquets of flowers were presented to Mrs. Brehn and Mrs. Ruth Stevenson as tokens of thanks for their long years of service as part of the Guild executive.

The Guild members voted to accept a \$20,000 budget for the new year.
William Raso

Leadership in our Parish

Recently we asked our parishioners to fill out a Nominating Form for our Annual Vestry meeting. One parishioner mentioned to me that she was unsure of what this form was really for. So here is a brief explanation.

There are two main leadership groups in our church. The first is the Corporation, consisting of the Rector (as Chair), one Rector's Warden and one Rector's Deputy Warden (appointed by the Rector and approved by the Vestry), and one People's Warden and one or two Deputy Wardens (elected by Vestry).

Then there is the Church Council which consists of up to 21 members. The Council elects its own Chair. The Church Council is meant to be representative of the whole congregation, and act as sort of a Parliament, both enacting the Corporation's directions, and suggesting to the Corporation things that have to be done.

Then there are the Synod delegates that are elected at our Vestry meeting. They go to the Annual Diocesan Synod meeting each year, along with the Rector, to represent the Parish in Diocesan affairs. They vote on the Diocesan budget, and can even vote for a Bishop when the occasion arises. There are also Youth Synod delegates to be elected.

The Treasurer of the Parish is approved at our Vestry meeting. He or she presents the Parish budget to be approved.

This coming year we will be concentrating on membership development, outreach and fundraising. The Corporation and the Church Council will be very involved in making sure our plans for growth in 2008 are fulfilled. If you wish to be part of the leadership in our Parish, please speak to the Rector or to the Chair of our Nominating Committee, Lee Dowker at 514-637-2208.

Blessings,
Ralph+

Amanda Montaque

At the graduation ceremony for Westmount High which was held on October 28, 2007, many awards, prizes and certificates were presented to the graduating students. One of the awards is the Dora Louise Lord Award. This was created by Richard Lord in memory of his sister, who attended Westmount High School and also St. George's Church. Louise, whose untimely death took place in 1978, has been remembered each year at the annual graduation.

On this occasion, the winner was our own Amanda Montaque. She was selected by the teachers and administrators in recognition of her outstanding contributions in the area of academics, athletics, school activities and leadership. Shown presenting the award is Carol, wife of Richard, both parishioners of St. George's.

Congratulations to Amanda, we look forward to her earning more awards as she continues her education at Dawson College and beyond. Also congratulations to her very supportive families at home and at St. George's.



THOUGHTS

One of my favourite scriptures is Romans 12:2 which states:

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what it is that is good and acceptable and the perfect will of GOD.”

My desire is to do GOD’s will and I therefore pray that my thoughts will be godly ones, ones that will be in line with HIS ways as opposed to the world’s ones which are often contrary to HIS will. I need to daily seek to become more like JESUS to be empowered by HIM to be changed from glory to glory.

Another scripture, Proverbs 23:7, tells me that “as I think in my heart so I am”. I therefore need GOD to purify my heart. I know that Satan has access to my thoughts and that he can plant evil suggestions in my mind, which, if entertained, could lead to wrong words and actions. I pray that GOD will always give me the wisdom to recognize Satan’s deceptive ways. I pray as Paul tells me to in 2 Corinthians 10:5, “to bring every thought captive to obey Christ”. I need to replace all negative thoughts with godly ones; to replace Satan’s words with GOD’s ones.

I learned recently that negative thoughts are also bad for my health. This I learned from Dr. Caroline Leaf who was featured on ‘Life Today’. She talked about the connection between the brain and the heart. She said: “decisions come from the heart, but that if the mind is confused then the words from the heart are nullified”. Proverbs has much to say about health. It warns in Chapter 4:23 “to keep our heart with all diligence for out of it springs the issues of life”. Then in Chapter 14:30 it tells that “A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rottenness to the bones”. These are just two of several found in this book.

To conclude, I need to do what Colossians 3:2 tells me to do: “to set my mind on things above, not on things on the earth” and to pray according to Colossians 2:8 that no one will cheat me through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

AMEN.

Jane Wigglesworth

Georgian View Schedule

Submissions for the next two issues of the Georgian view are as follows; for the Easter Issue, inputs are due **March 2nd, 2008** and for the Pentecost Issue, inputs are due **April 20th, 2008**.

The Georgian View

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Editors: Marleen & Ron O’Connell

Office Support: Carol Johansen

Mailing Preparation:

Robert Chubb, Tracy Davidson & team

Contributors

Ralph Leavitt, Tom Burpee, Carol Johansen, Carol Lord, William Raso and Jane Wigglesworth