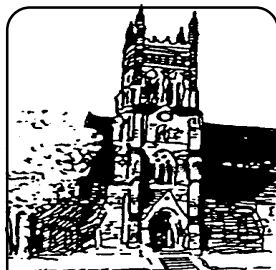


# The *Georgian*

Advent 2008



*St. George's  
Anglican Church  
Place du Canada*  
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Montreal, Quebec H3B 2S6  
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**Office Hours**  
Tuesday - Friday  
9:00am - 4:30pm

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

**Rector**

The Rev. Ralph Leavitt

**Honorary Assistants**

Rev. Canon Dr. Lettie James

Rev. Fred Tiplady

**Deacon**

Rev. Robert Bergner

**Wardens**

Richard Lord

Mark Diaczun

**Church School**

**Co-ordinator**

Jacki Brown

**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

*Do not be afraid; for  
behold, I bring you  
good news of great joy!*

St. George's Newsletter  
Vol. 08, No. 7

## VIEW

### From the Rector's Desk...

I give thanks to God for the busy Autumn we have had this year. Our previous Honorary Assistant, Neil Mancor, was inducted as the new Incumbent of St. George's Church, Ste. Anne de Bellevue. Men's and Parish breakfasts have continued. We had the Bible Study of the Psalms in several people's homes. We had a great Antique Show and Tell. The Special Vestry went well. We celebrated Mission Sunday and our Companion Diocese of Masasi. We have had an exciting Stewardship program with great guest preachers. Our Christmas sale was a success. We had a great 100th Birthday party for our oldest parishioner, Marcelle Gagné. We celebrated Robert Bergner's Ordination to the Diaconate. We had a good old-fashioned hymn sing with Gordon White. And celebrated American Thanksgiving. Wow! We have been busy.

Now we enter that special time of Advent, a new Christian year. It is a season of expectation as we wait for the Lord to come at Christmas. Mark your calendars now! Lettie James will be teaching an Advent series on our Book of Common Prayer. We will have a Confirmation service with Bishop Barry on December 7th (there are 4 candidates). The Carol Service is Friday, Dec. 12th (make sure to invite your friends). There is a Parish Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 13th (Carol Lord will be speaking to us). And the Service for Nine Lessons and Carols is on December 14th. Christmas follows!

I thank God for all these activities and for the general good spirit of the Parish. Let us continue to work together to the glory of God.

I hope that as you enter Advent you will be able enjoy these Parish activities, and also find time to relax and grow closer to the Lord. In Advent we are meant to meditate on the coming of Christ and on the love, hope, peace and joy that Christ brings. Do you have these things in your life? Ask God for them. They are the most precious gifts of all.

God bless you.

Ralph+

## GOD'S PRECIOUS CHILD by Jane Wigglesworth

"I am MY beloved's and HE is mine", Solomon's Song of Songs 6:3. GOD has called me by name and says that I am HIS, and HE says again in Isaiah 43:7 "Everyone who is called by MY name, whom I have created for MY glory; I have formed them, yes I have made them". And in verse 21 HE says that "the people HE has formed for HIMSELF shall declare HIS praise".

I learn much about GOD and myself in the Psalms. Psalm 139 particularly tells me how well GOD knows me. He says in verse 3 that "HE is acquainted with all my ways". HE knows my thoughts and the words that I will speak before I utter them. In Psalm 91:11, I learn that GOD gives HIS angels charge over me to keep me in all my ways; and in Psalm 46:1, that HE is my refuge and strength – a very present help in trouble. There are many other wonderful promises in the Psalms and throughout the BIBLE so, like King David, I do indeed thank and praise HIM for HIS loving care of me.

Yes indeed, GOD loves me. Deuteronomy 31:6 and Hebrews 13:5 declare that "HE will never leave me or forsake me". What a promise! Then there is HIS greatest gift to me. HE loves me so much that HE sent HIS SON JESUS to die for me, that I might live and gain eternal life. I am not my own; I was bought at a price, therefore I must, as St. Paul writes, glorify GOD in my body and in my spirit, which are GOD's (1 Corinthians 6:19,20).

GOD has made me to know HIM and to love HIM and I do. He promises that I will find HIM when I seek HIM with all my heart and all my soul (Deuteronomy 4:29). What is the work that GOD requires of me? JESUS declares in John 6:29 that "I must believe in HIM WHOM GOD sent". Truly I believe that JESUS is GOD's SON, HIS precious gift to me that I may live, move and have my being in HIM (Acts 17:28), that through HIM I may be enabled to do all things (Philippians 4:13).

Yes GOD loves me and my desire is to love HIM and glorify HIM all the days of my life. AMEN.

Marcel Gagné at her 100th Birthday Party with Kay Patton, our previous rector Rev. Dr. Brett Cane, Carol Lord, Josette Contissa and Father Ralph.

Photo by Tony Hadley



### The Georgian View

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Robert Bergner, Tony Hadley, Ralph Leavitt, Fred Tiplady, and Jane Wigglesworth

## Autobiography by Father Fred Tiplady

I thank both Fr. Ralph and your Wardens for their kind invitation to become one of your Honorary Assistants, as of Thanksgiving Sunday. This is an honour beyond my wildest imagination.

I was born on September 2, 1937, the third child of Scottish parents who had met and married in Montreal. They later moved to Verdun, where my growing up and early education took place in a community of Scottish, Irish and English immigrants, who emphasized to their children the old fashioned family and personal values of hard work and good education – a heritage of which I am still very proud and thankful, for making me who I am.

After high school I worked at different places for about six years trying to decide whether I should be a teacher or a priest. While working full time, I took evening courses at SGWU for 2 years, then became a ‘full time’ student and completed a BA. From there I went on to the Faculty of Divinity, Trinity College, Toronto and graduated with an STB (Hons) in Pastoral and Dogmatic Theology. I was ordained Deacon in Christ Church Cathedral on the Eve of The Ascension 1968.

I served as Deacon in St. James the Apostle and was appointed, by Bishop Maguire, as Assistant Director of St. Edward’s Half-Way House, a Diocesan run home for court released young offenders. In the Fall of 1968, I was sent to St. Barnabas’ Church, Pierrefonds, to serve Rev’d Reginald Hollis, first as Assistant Deacon, then Priest. I was ordained Priest on The Feast of The Annunciation of Our Lady in 1969.

In 1970, I became Incumbent of my first parish in Arundel, Weir and Rockway Valley in The Laurentian Area and for two days a week I served as Chaplain to Douglas Hospital, where I met my ‘wife to be’ Elizabeth Jean Verdon. In 1973, I was inducted as Rector of The Church of The Redeemer, Cote St. Paul.

In 1980, Elizabeth and I were married in ‘The Redeemer’ and we have two children, Elizabeth-Mary and Andrew. In 1982, I was The Incumbent of The Parish of St. Hubert, and later I was appointed as the Rector of St. Clement’s Church, Verdun. During my first year at St. Clement’s, in 1992, I graduated from Concordia University (after more years of evening study) with an MA in Religion (with emphasis on The Church Fathers and Apophatic Theology). I retired from St. Clement’s as their last Rector, Sunday, September 30, 2007.

Thus I ended my full time ministry in the Community in which I was raised and educated, and in the Church where I became an Anglican, was Confirmed and then found my vocation to the Priesthood.

Praise be to God, Alleluia.

## The Five Marks of Mission

The Five Marks of Mission of the Worldwide Anglican Communion were adopted at the Lambeth Conference in 1988.

Bishop Barry Clarke of Montreal is seeking to make these a central theme for many parishes this year.

The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ;

- o To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God

- o To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

- o To respond to human need by loving service

- o To seek to transform the unjust structures of society

- o To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Let us seriously consider how we can incorporate these themes into our plans for the coming years!

## MY ORDINATION

Thank you all for getting my ministry - our ministry, really - off to an auspicious start! The ordination, Sunday afternoon, November 9th, went very well. You were excellent hosts! I have received many positive comments about the service from people who were there and from people who only heard how beautiful it was. My family was extremely impressed and moved, as were my not-so-church-going friends from the world of the arts. Now, that's evangelism in action! Bravo! And, thank you to all those who participated directly in the service, to those who prepared the reception, to those who came to pray and sing and celebrate, and to all those who were not able to be physically present, but whose presence and support were felt nevertheless.

Deacon Robert



Robert with his father,  
Dr. Lawrence Bergner



Rev'd Canon Linda Borden Taylor, Rev'd Ralph Leavitt,  
Deacon Robert, and Bishop Barry

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Thank you, also, for your participation in our month-long Celebrate Stewardship Campaign. This prolonged meditation on stewardship could easily have turned into a painful drudgery. Instead, the campaign did justice to its title and became a celebration of an essential part of our life together in Christian community: how we use the resources that God has given us - our talents, time, and treasure - to further our individual and communal lives in the Spirit, and to fulfill God's commission to carry the good news of salvation to the ends of the earth. Along the way, we heard from five different preachers, acted out a math parable, decorated the church with posters, balloons and - a new invention - stewardship trees, and more. I suggest another round of applause for the Stewardship Committee - Sylvia White, Royal Leduc, Nicole Borntraegar and Carol Lord - and for the Rector, all of whom helped to keep this journey fun, interesting and inspiring.

The only thing left to do is to give. Give our talents, give our time, give our treasure. Give ourselves to God. If we cannot afford to increase our financial offering by a large amount, why not take the Tim Horton's Challenge? As I have already observed, if we take the challenge together, we will have the joy of watching our individual \$4 per week turn into more than \$20,000 per year with which to carry out the mission of Saint George's Church: To know Christ and to make Him known.

Shalom, Deacon Robert