



# THE NEWSLETTER

of the Parish of the Resurrection,  
St. Andrew and St. Mark

**ADVENT 2018**



## **Bazaar success**

Above, the sellers at the bake table: Alex Jenkins, Sylvia Tomsons, Anne Simpson, Susan Joseph, Johanne Pugh and Stacey Neale. For more photos and a guide to services and events in the coming days, look inside.

# Advent & Christmas

2018

The Parish of the Resurrection, St. Andrew & St. Mark  
865 Lakeshore Drive, Dorval  
[www.pramchurch.org](http://www.pramchurch.org)

**Sundays in Advent:** 8 am Holy Eucharist, 10 am Choral Eucharist, with Lighting of the Advent Wreath.

**Saturday, December 1st:** Advent Retreat, "Strangers & Exiles: Advent for a Homesick People". 9 am-1 pm, catered lunch, suggested donation \$10.

**Sunday, December 2nd:** Family Advent Crafts & Pizza, 12-1:30 pm.

**Saturday, December 15,** 11 am: Basket packing for Dorval & Pointe-Claire. Potluck lunch at noon.

**Sunday, December 16,** 4 pm: Service of Lesson and Carols, with a sherry and shortbread reception to follow.

**Monday, December 24,** Christmas Eve Services: 4 pm Family Service with Come-As-You-Are Pageant & Communion; 10 pm Festival Choral Eucharist (carols beforehand at 9:30)

**Tuesday, December 25,** Christmas Day: No worship service. You are invited to attend services at 10:30 am at St. John the Baptist in Pointe-Claire or at 11 am at St. Barnabas in Pierrefonds.

**Sunday, December 30,** 10 am: Morning Worship. Please note there is only one service today.

*We are collecting money for Christmas food and gifts for families in need in Pointe-Claire and Dorval. You can contribute by adding the amount to your weekly offering and marking it on the envelope for "Christmas Baskets". Also, help decorate St Michael's Mission Tree with socks, hats, mitts, scarves, toiletries, new underwear and other good things for the men and women that visit the mission. Thank you for your support.*

# Christmas Letter 2018

Dear friends:

When I arrived in Montreal, one of my priorities was to get back into singing in a chorus after a 10-year hiatus that began, not coincidentally, when Peter was a baby. When I began investigating, I realized there are an astonishing number of choral ensembles in this city! And particularly now, in late November and December, one could go to a concert every day between now and Christmas if one had the time! Just last night I attended a glorious concert of the St. John Passion, one of the final presentations of the Montreal Bach Festival, and on December 8 (my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday!) I'll be singing myself with the Cantabile Choir (tickets available upon request!).

Music is a beloved and cherished part of our Advent and Christmas traditions, including the Festival of Lessons & Carols, the hymns we sing on Christmas Eve, and concerts of Handel's *Messiah* and many other holiday favourites. People have strong opinions about the seasons — what they like and don't like, when it should be played, and how and when to switch from Advent to Christmas selections. Some in the church are the "Advent Police," and wish to restrict all Christmas-specific festivity to December 24 and later.

I understand the impulse, and am as frustrated as anyone when commercial interests start acting as though the Twelve Days of Christmas begin on December 13, or take down all their Christmas decorations on the 26<sup>th</sup>, when for liturgical Christians the true Christmas season is just getting started. But I'm also suspicious of those who would try to turn Advent into a penitential season in the same mode as Lent. Advent is about preparation, not penitence.

To use a musical metaphor, Lent is a continuous decrescendo ending in silence, which is then interrupted by the fortissimo blast of the Resurrection. Advent, on the other hand, is a crescendo: Starting from the cold and dark of late autumn (which, this year, might as well be midwinter!) we gradually increase the light and festivity until we come to the joy of the Christmas Midnight Mass. We might argue the fine details, but nobody is going to be struck down by divine vengeance for singing "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" on December 12<sup>th</sup>. (Or even in — gasp — November!)

That said, we will be singing Advent hymns in church in Advent! But the decorations will go up early in December, and we'll read the Nativity story at Lessons & Carols on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The important thing is the spirit of giving and celebration, as we "make our house fair as we are able" and prepare to welcome the Christ child.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll find details of many events that will help you to celebrate and prepare throughout Advent. Please think and pray carefully about your Christmas giving, both to the many outreach efforts supported by PRAM at this time of year, and to the church to support our worship, music, and fellowship at Christmas and beyond.

A very melodious Advent and harmonious Christmas to all!

In Christ's peace,

Grace+



*A very Blessed Christmas season to you all from the Corporation,  
Nancy Longworth Hamilton, Helen Haslam, Laura Hill, George Sklivas, Gladys  
Randle, Maureen Shields, Trevor Smith and the Rev'd Grace Burson,  
and from the staff, Jennifer Gibb, Tim Klempan and Chris Grocholski.*

### **A message from the Corporation**

The parish will soon embark on the process of choosing a new name to replace PRAM with a goal of making that choice by Easter, which is April 21, 2019. We want everyone to feel able to contribute to this choice, and you will soon hear more about the process.

When a name has been chosen, we will explore what our vision and mission should be.

There was a lot of discussion at the parish meeting on November 25, and a consensus was reached to support hiring a consultant to help with this process. M & M International has given us a quotation, and the Corporation will renegotiate with them, as the scope and the time-frame of the proposed work has changed. The Corporation will also pursue grant money to help offset the cost.

We hope the work will take place during Lent. The Corporation will continue to keep the congregation informed.

## Pre-Christmas Bazaar raises \$6,389 +



The table of hand-knitted goods brought in more than \$800 alone. Above are sellers Miora Razafindrazaka, Pat Funnell, Janet Callary, Catherine Pemberton, Susan Pawsey and Yvonne Bayne, modelling a



Andrew Callary and Lillian Rhodes, above, sold raffle tickets. Prizes included a microwave oven, the Nativity scene seen in the photo, and a copy of *War and Peace*. The Bartlett-Klempman family and friends sold popcorn in the cloakroom, and did it ever smell good.



Gladys Randle, longtime organizer of the Church of the Resurrection bazaar, adapted the event to a new venue.

At the right, Joan Kohner, Pamela Manning and Joan Whattam sold delightful little objects, many of them made by Joan.

Add to the total above about \$1,000 raised by the sale of Christmas cakes. Bravo!

Thanks to Trevor Smith for all the great



# NEWS

## Help for local families

We are giving to six families in Dorval and Pointe Claire who have been identified by aid agencies in those cities.

Non-perishable food and suitable gifts should be brought to the church by 11 am on Saturday, Dec 15. You may also give money, by Dec 9, please.

In the six families there are 18 adults (9 women, 11 men), three teenagers (two female, one male), one girl and two boys aged 8 or 9, two girls aged 5-6, and a 2-year-old.

You are invited to the church hall on Saturday, Dec 15, at 11 am to pack the boxes and enjoy a potluck lunch.

## Financial picture

Treasurer Trevor Smith reported at the parish meeting on Nov 25 that our finances are healthy. However, the parish depends on regular giving. Please ensure that you are meeting your commitment and consider increasing it.

The PAR program is an easy way of giving to the church, as it ensures that you don't forget or miss a Sunday. If you are interested in making an automatic payment from your bank account, please speak to Stacey Neale, the envelope secretary, at [sj.neale@sympatico.ca](mailto:sj.neale@sympatico.ca).

## Canadian Church Calendars

These beautiful calendars for 2019 are only \$5. You will see them displayed at the back of the church. Gladys Randle is selling them.

## Book Club

The book club will meet for its holiday potluck dinner at Pamela Manning's house. We are all too busy to discuss a new book,

so we are each giving a two-minute review of a book we have read in the past.

If you would like to join the book club, which meets once a month at members' houses, usually on a Wednesday evening, please speak to Barbara Peden.

## Prayer list reboot

The prayer list will be remade with your help. If you feel a name should remain on the list, please contact Jennifer at [office.pramchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.pramchurch@gmail.com), and she will ensure that it is retained.

## St Michael's Mission

Bob Morrell hopes that the tree near the baptismal font will soon be groaning with warm clothing for the clients of the mission, especially white socks. (White socks enable foot infections to be detected more easily than other colours.)

The tree will be up for three Sundays, December 2, 9 and 16, after which the clothing will be taken downtown.

The Christmas celebration at the mission is held over two days, December 20 and 21, and McGill students distribute the bags of useful things for the homeless people to take away with them.

Bob says that like many of us, the mission was caught off-guard by the early arrival of winter, and is especially grateful for coats and blankets.

## Meals on Wheels

This useful service, which provides a hot meal to shut-ins on Tuesdays and Thursdays, needs drivers in the Lachine area. If you can help, please call Susan Ippersiel at 514-634-3785.

# ROAST BEEF DINNER



A splendid dinner of prime rib was served up by the men of the parish on October 10.

In the photo at left, Dave Tomsons, Frank Dottin, Nicholas Kohner and Geoff Dowd are ready to serve.

Below, Bob Morell and Bill Wilson prepare the vegetables.



Above, Bill Wilson and Ross Hamilton bring out the beef.

At right, former rector the Venerable Gordon Guy greets his fellow diners before saying the Grace.



# John Wesley's Directions for Singing

That this part of Divine Worship may be the more acceptable to God, as well as the more profitable to yourself and others, be careful to observe the following directions.

- I Learn these tunes before you learn any others; afterwards learn as many as you please.
- II Sing them exactly as they are printed here, without altering or mending them at all; and if you have learned to sing them otherwise, unlearn it as soon as you can.
- III Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find it a blessing.
- IV Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the songs of Satan.
- V Sing modestly. Do not bawl, so as to be heard above or distinct from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound.
- VI Sing in time. Whatever time is sung be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend close to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can; and take care not to sing too slow. This drawling way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.
- VII Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually; so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.

These directions were written in the 18th century by John Wesley (1703-1791). Although he is considered the founder of the Methodist sect, he was an Anglican cleric throughout his life. He travelled and preached outdoors, and appointed itinerant, unordained evangelists to do the same. "Methodist" was an insult levelled against these preachers and their adherents, but they adopted the name proudly. Under Wesley's direction, Methodists became leaders in many social issues of the day, including prison reform and the abolition of slavery.

At our hymn sing service on November 18, choir director Chris Grocholski read Wesley's directions. His bold delivery, coupled with the directness of Wesley's prose, were startling, and brought smiles to faces in the pews, especially those of our choir members. Thanks, Chris!

# Welcome, Yvonne Bayne

Meet Yvonne Bayne, our newest lay reader. You can tell right away that she is intelligent, calm and caring. Yvonne has filled many roles in the Church over the years, and her experience will be valuable.

Yvonne came to Montreal from Guyana in the 1980s to pursue graduate studies at Mc Gill. In 1991, she moved to Toronto where she worked in education and human services.

Upon retirement, Yvonne embarked on the spiritual exercise of walking the first half of the Camino de Santiago across Northern Spain. She plans to complete the other half before 2020. This pilgrimage helped deepen her Christian faith and revealed the path she ought to take for a closer walk with God.

Becoming a lay reader was a signal on that path. Now she is ready to resume her pilgrimage. "I hope to finish it soon, while I have the health and strength."

The Rector adds, "We're very grateful that Yvonne is sharing her many gifts for ministry among us."



## Job well done

Yvonne Wakeland walks down the aisle after being presented with a certificate by Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson. She had just been named lay reader emeritus after being an active lay reader for 15 years.

The induction of lay readers for the Diocese of Montreal was held at St John the Baptist Church on November 10 and was attended by many clergy and laity from across the diocese.

Yvonne was commissioned by Bishop Andrew Hutchison back in 2003 when she attended St. Paul's Church in Lachine, of which the Reverend Barry Clarke was the incumbent.

The certificate gives her the authority to perform the duties of lay reader and catechist emeritus under the guidance and direction of the Bishop in the Diocese of Montreal "for the rest of my days," she said. "I am still doing all the tasks asked of me by the priest at the church I attend, but not required to go to all the workshops and study days necessary for continuing education. I also serve as hospitality convenor on the executive committee of the Lay Readers' Association.

"I am thrilled that Yvonne Bayne has chosen to become a lay reader at PRAM and I look forward to supporting her in this ministry."

# Prayer Care

Scarlet, David, Helen, Linda and Randy, Ross, Lois, Bob and Louise, June,  
Janie and John, Marlene, Monica, Eileen.

**If you or anyone you know would like a pastoral visit, please call the church office at  
514-631-3601.**

## Flowers for Christmas

If you would like to make a give to the Flower Fund to help with the purchase of Christmas flowers to decorate the sanctuary and have the names of departed loved ones remembered in the Christmas bulletin, please email Jennifer Gibb or leave her a note no later than Sunday, Dec 16. You may include your donation marked for "Flower Fund" with your regular offering.



## PARISH VOLUNTEERS

The decision-making body of the parish is the **Corporation**, which comprises two wardens (Nancy Longworth Hamilton and Helen Haslam), four deputy wardens (Laura Hill, George Sklivas, Gladys Randle and Maureen Shields), the rector and the treasurer (Trevor Smith). The Corporation meets twice a month.

The business and activities of the parish fall into five major areas, each with a standing committee, and some sub-groups. If you would like to join one or more of these, you are most welcome.

**Administration — Helen Haslam.** Subcommittees: Communications; Technology; Envelopes.

**Building — Bill Wilson.** Subcommittees: Building Maintenance; Building New Projects; History, Archives and Memorials.

**Outreach — Nancy Longworth Hamilton.** Subcommittees: to parish members; in the neighbourhood; regional and international.

**Social and Fellowship — Gladys Randle.** Event planning, logistics and catering.

**Visioning — Rev'd Grace Burson.** See page 4.

**Worship — Rev'd Grace Burson.** Subcommittees: Altar Guild; liturgy and music; youth; Christian education.

# A Prison Visit

by Roger Carter

What do you imagine it would be like to visit a medium-security prison? Can you visualize how you would feel having to go through tighter security than when flying, after which being buzzed in through tightly controlled security doors into a compound surrounded by high fences topped with razor wire?

Feeling a bit trapped? Well, that's only stage one. From there you must pass through additional controlled check points before you reach the prison chapel which is used as the meeting room. Would you wait with, perhaps, some fear and trepidation for the inmates as depicted in movies and TV to show up?

Well, let me put your mind at rest. Those coming through the doors are largely young to middle-aged men who could be your son, neighbour or the guy who serves you at Home Depot. In one fell swoop, there go your preconceived ideas. These folk look the same as any average man; indeed, in the warm months their clothing matches yours. The only difference in the colder months is they wear the prison-issued green heavy winter jackets for warmth. You would greet each other, shake hands, exchange names (first ones only) and perhaps discuss the happening of the week or some such subject.

While not outlining the type of program used during these visits (this can wait for a later newsletter), it is important to detail a few overall observations. Some of these folk are very intelligent, articulate and easy to converse with. Many participate fully in discussions, while all give their opinion on the weekly question, whatever that may be, and, believe me, these are wide and varied. Their expressed opinion can often be very thought-provoking. Even those whose language is neither French nor English will join the discussion and get their point across with the help of others. At the end of an evening it is not uncommon for someone to come up to you to say some part of the discussion really resonated with them and thank you for coming. It is times like this that make the visit worthwhile.

Perhaps the most pleasant part of the whole process is when one learns that one of the group is being released to their home or halfway house. Such was scheduled for the week of November 26 with a young man named Chris being released to a halfway house in Montreal. Chris was a regular participant who is thoughtful, friendly and blessed with the ability to express his thoughts on paper. He has talent and much potential and it is his wish to further his education. As visitors, we all wish him the very best as he proceeds down his road of life.

# WHAT'S ON

**Next parish meeting:** Sunday, January 20, after the service.

**Choir practice:** Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings starting at 7:30 pm. Please join us!

**Bible Study:** Morning prayer takes place at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, followed by Bible Study at 10:30, based on the lectionary, the readings for that week.

**Messy Church:** Friday, January 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm in the lower hall. [messychurch.pram@gmail.com](mailto:messychurch.pram@gmail.com)

**Advent Retreat:** Sat Dec 1, PRAM church hall, 9 am - 2 pm. Catered lunch; suggested donation \$10. The theme is "Strangers and Exiles: Advent for a Homesick People." For more information, please speak to Rev'd Grace. There is a sign-up on sheet on the front door.

**Advent craft activity:** Stay after 10 o'clock worship on Sunday, Dec. 2, and enjoy time together.

**Meditatio:** Stacey Neale leads a brief, quiet session of meditation in the chapel on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm.

**Coffee with Grace:** The Rev'd Grace Burson welcomes you for a chat on Tuesdays from 3 to 4:30 pm at Victor Rose, 15C Cartier Ave in Pointe Claire, and on Fridays from 10:30 to noon at Non Solo Pane, 455 Lakeshore Blvd in Dorval.

**Visit from the Primate:** The Most Rev'd Fred Hiltz will visit our diocese in December. You are invited to spend some time with him on Tuesday, Dec. 11, from noon to 2 pm in Fulford Hall. Bring your lunch; coffee and tea will be provided.

**PRAM Annual Vestry:** Sunday, February 10, after the 10 o'clock service. Please come, everyone!

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

**Sunday, December 16**

**4 o'clock**

**Followed by sherry and shortbread**

**Choral director: Chris Grocholski**

*The next parish newsletter will be published in Lent, which begins March 6. The editor is Barbara Peden, 514-631-5281, [barbaruss@sympatico.ca](mailto:barbaruss@sympatico.ca).*

## The Anglican Parish of the Resurrection, St Andrew & St Mark

865 Lakeshore Drive Dorval,  
QC H9S 2C7  
(514) 631-3601

<http://www.pramchurch.org/>

### Facebook page

*Parish of the Resurrection St  
Andrew and St Mark.*

Like and share!

### Priest in Charge

The Reverend Grace Burson  
[gburson@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:gburson@montreal.anglican.ca)

### Organist and Choir Director

Chris Grocholski

### Lay Readers

Bob McLachlan  
Yvonne Wakeland  
Mark Weatherley  
Yvonne Bayne

### Wardens

Nancy Longworth Hamilton  
[nancy@hamiltonmail.ca](mailto:nancy@hamiltonmail.ca)

Helen Haslam  
[c.haslam@ieee.org](mailto:c.haslam@ieee.org)

### Parish Administrator

Jennifer Gibb  
[office.pramchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.pramchurch@gmail.com)  
514-631-3601

### Office Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,  
12 to 3 pm

Wednesday,  
9:30 am to 3:30 pm