



The Beacon – The Anglican Church of St. Luke

1513 Dixie Road, Mississauga, ON L5E 2P7

Phone 905-278-1811

Email: stlukes@eol.ca

Volume 55 – Number 9 – October 2011

Now Thank We All Our God

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus.

October is always a busy month; National Thanksgiving, The Feast of Saint Luke, our Patron Saint and this year October includes our celebration of the Feast of All Saints'.

But before we get to those wonderful days of celebration there is our celebration of the harvest.

For centuries Christians have given thanks to God in the autumn, at the time of harvest, for all the bounty of the earth; the apples and corn and pumpkins and gourds and cabbage and carrots and potatoes and cherries and peaches and wheat and so on and so on. People used to be much closer to the land than we are today yet still, at our service of Harvest Thanksgiving, we use these items to remind us that all things come from God. Canon Beatty has told the story that when he was in Oshawa they once used cars parts (Oshawa is the home of General Motors, don't forget) to symbolize the bounty of God's earth and serve as a reminder that all things come from God.

I can't help but wonder what might be some more up to date items that we could use to decorate our urban and suburban churches in today's world. Cell phones are the first thing to come to mind. How about iPods or flat screen TV's (high definition of course!) or Wii or tablet computers like the iPad? Perhaps we should use Nike shoes. The list could go on and on.

The point of it all is really not the item; the item is only a symbol and a symbol always points to something bigger than itself, something beyond itself. For example, our nations flag is not just a piece of cloth with red edges and a leaf in the centre, it is a symbol of our great nation, it is a symbol of a vast and diverse landscape, it is a symbol of all our nation stands for, things like freedom and equality, it is a symbol of all the people, regardless of race, national background or the shade of their skin, who make up our population.

So it is with the fruits of the harvest that we put in our church at this time of year. Even though we are separated from the land, that lone pumpkin or apple or cabbage should, as a symbol, point to the richness of God's grace and to the abundance of God's love for each one of us. We are to remember that all things come from God, and as we see the abundance of God's grace and love our hearts should be drawn to respond in gratefulness.

So my brothers and sisters, in the words of an oldie but a goodie, "Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest-home" remembering that it is not about the items but rather, it is about the grace and love of God to which the items point and our approach to God with true gratitude.

Blessings now and always.

Richard

SENIORS' LUNCHEONS

Seniors' Luncheons are back!! Inviting all seniors to attend our monthly Seniors' Luncheon at Gordon Graydon Secondary School, 1490 Ogden Avenue, in the "Skylight Café. It is held the third Wednesday of every month, where you can enjoy a hot, three course meal, tea and coffee, and good fellowship – all for the price of \$8.00 per person. Our first luncheon is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 19th** at 11:45 – 1:15. To reserve a seat, contact Ellen Shilton at 905-276-7443, or sign up on the list on the back table in the church sanctuary. Please call or sign up **BEFORE Sunday, October 16th**. It's a wonderful opportunity to reach out to your neighbours in the community and invite them along.

OUTREACH WALK



What a day – perfect weather – 5 years in a row! A great afternoon, full of fun, was had by all starting with a paper bag lunch and goodies. Although not as many walkers this year (total 14 plus Ivy Faith – 6 months), they all enjoyed the beautiful scenery and looking for clues for the scavenger hunt. Many thanks to all involved in organizing this event, to the walkers, the lunch makers and to the sponsors. When all the money has been collected we will advise you of the total raised for our Outreach Projects. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!!

OPEN DOOR DINNER – NOVEMBER 10, 2011

Once again it is time to provide dinner for the "Open Door" at Square One. Approximately 40 needy people look forward with great anticipation to the meals our church provides. Please watch



for the "Sign-up Sheet" in the Parish Hall and help by contributing food. Your contribution should be brought to

the church by 12:00 noon on Thursday, November 10th. Cash donations are also appreciated to be sure we have enough food for everyone. For further information contact Grace Harte.

Praying in the Storm

The Bishop's Committee on Prayer invites you to a Quiet Day to reflect on "Praying in the Storm". It will be held at St. John's, Dixie, 719



Dundas St. E., Mississauga on Saturday, October 22nd. Registration at 9 am, the programme begins at 9:30 am, finishing at 2:00 pm. The cost is \$10. Please bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided. Further details are in the flyer on the bulletin board or speak with Lois Marshall. Registrar is Monica John – 905-897-7177.

Personal Ministries

Members of the Parish of St. Luke perform many ministries, some are easily seen and appreciated, others are more personal carried out in a quiet and unseen manner.

I recently learned of the ministry of Mr. Bob Russell, a member of the Parish for over 20 years and in his vocation involved within the Ontario Criminal Justice System.

Since his retirement in 2006 he has been a member of the Church Council on Justice and Corrections, a national faith-based coalition of eleven founding churches (the Anglican Church of Canada being one of the eleven) with their main office located in Ottawa. It is primarily by education, advocacy and community development initiatives that the CCJC tries to foster healthier communities and crime prevention through social responsibility.

To learn more of the mandate and activities of the CCJC you can Google "The Churches Council on Justice and Corrections" or speak with Mr. Russell as I am sure he will be very happy to share the work of this ministry. Ed.

The Ministry of Healing will be available at both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am services on Sunday, October 23rd during our Patronal Festival Services.

CELEBRATION OF THE PATRONAL FESTIVAL OF ST. LUKE

Saturday, October 22nd 6:00 pm Parish Dinner celebrating our Patronal Festival
Adults: \$10.00 - Children under 12: \$5.00
Tickets available from Olga Mathews

Sunday, October 23rd. 8:30 am Celebration of the Eucharist-Ministry of Healing

10:30 am Celebration of the Eucharist-Ministry of Healing

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, Director of Chaplaincy Services, Diocese of Toronto

Dedication of "Common Praise" Hymn Books by our area bishop –The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole



Enjoy the fellowship of the Parish Dinner on Saturday evening and then come on Sunday to welcome our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Philip Poole, and the Rev. Douglas Graydon to St. Luke's as we celebrate our Patronal Festival.

Operation Christmas Child

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" ...a time to share Christ with a needy child by using a simple shoe box. We will have the special boxes and



brochures beginning Oct. 30..please remember that a simple shoe box or plastic box of the same size is very welcome. Start now collecting

school supplies, hygiene items (no toothpaste), toys, socks, sunglasses, flip flops etc. These boxes are distributed to children suffering from the effects of war, famine, natural disasters and disease. Complete details will be on the poster in the parish hall. Boxes should be returned by November 20.

A note from Captain Walter Marshall: I appear to have mislaid a four part video series on the Gospel of Matthew brilliantly portrayed in colour and in NIV text. My problem is that I loaned it to someone and I do not recall who. Should you be the one, please return it to me and I will greatly appreciate it.

Pastoral Visiting.



Our Pastoral Care Group has a number of trained volunteers prepared to visit sick and shut-ins. Would you appreciate such a visit? Or do you know someone who would like a regular visit? If so, please call the Church Office at 905-278-1811, and we will arrange for someone to respond.

Prayer Chain:

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of (Alfred Lord Tennyson in the 'Morte d'Arthur'). Do you require prayers for yourself or for a friend or loved one? We have a Prayer Chain at St. Luke's which will respond to your prayer requests and will uphold you in prayer for as long as needed. If you require Prayer, please contact Canon Don Beatty at 905-274-9776 or e-mail at donbeatty@rogers.com and we will add your request to our prayer list.

If you would like to be part of this Prayer Chain and will commit to pray regularly for these special needs, please let me know.

Fall Events at St. Luke's

Sunday, Oct. 2	8:30 am & 10:30 am	Harvest Festival Services
	7:30 pm	Fall Concert – A Harvest of Music <i>For those who receive the Beacon via email – the concert is this weekend.</i> <i>For those who pick it up Sunday morning YIKES!!! IT IS TODAY!</i> Tickets: Adults \$15. Students \$5. Available at the door.
Tues. Oct. 4	10:30 am 1:30 pm	Teaching and Learning Group Dorcas Group –also Oct. 18
Thurs. Oct, 13	1:30 pm	Threads of Love
Tues. Oct. 18	7:30 pm	Worship Group
Sat. Oct. 22	10:00	Microphone Awareness Session – led by Bob Gibbons Anyone who would like to learn how to correctly use a microphone (and there are special techniques) is welcome to attend and benefit by Bob's expertise.
	6:00 pm	PATRONAL FESTIVAL DINNER – tickets now available Adults: \$10. Children under 12: \$5.00
Sunday Oct. 23	8:30 am & 10:30 am	PATRONAL FESTIVAL SERVICES Special Guests; The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole, Area Bishop The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, Director of Chaplaincy Services-Diocese of Toronto Dedication of "Common Praise" hymn books.
Sunday, Oct. 30	8:30 am & 10:30 am	ALL SAINT'S DAY CELEBRATIONS Parishioners are encouraged to bring photos of the Saints in their lives and place them on the table in the Sanctuary. Also forms will be available to list the names of saints who you wish to have remembered during the worship service. The saints listed can be those who have gone on to greater glory or those who are still with us on this earth.
		
Sunday, Nov. 13	8:30 am & 10:30 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 
Sunday, Nov. 27	8:30 am & 10:30 am	 ADVENT SUNDAY