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From the Rector



When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

[Acts 2:1-6]

I think one of the great things about our city is that it is regarded as the most multicultural city in the world. There are more than 200 languages spoken in Toronto, truly a staggering number. Having this many ethnicities, cultures, and languages in the same place has its advantages (especially if one is a fan of culinary delights!) But it is not without its challenges. We struggle to respect one another's differences, there are clear socio-economic barriers constructed along racial lines, gang violence rises as ethnic groups battle for territory in low-income housing developments, I could go on. I love that our city is so diverse, but diversity comes with enormous challenges.

In *Genesis 11* we hear the story of humanity (post-Flood) striving to work together to build a tower and city towards the heavens. Perhaps they were looking to construct a fortress that could survive another flood, or perhaps they were filled with hubris and believed they were capable of lifting themselves to God's level. In any event, God intervenes:

And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off

continued...

Next publication for Thanksgiving Sunday, October 13, 2019

Please submit items to Kathie Oakden (416) 626-7781 or via email at kathie.oakden@gmail.com on or before

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Editor
Kathie Oakden

Layout / Design
Lisa Tait

From the Rector, continued

to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

[Genesis 11:6-9]

The story is meant to explain how humanity became scattered throughout the earth and given to speak different languages. And it serves as backdrop to the Pentecostal experience recorded in *Acts 2*. Humanity, driven by hubris and self-sufficiency, lost the ability to work together. One of the often-overlooked aspects of Pentecost is the undoing of the curse of Babel. The Holy Spirit gives the followers of Jesus the ability to speak in languages previously unknown so that visitors from around the world are able to hear the gospel proclaimed. At Babel, humanity attempted to ascend to heaven; at Pentecost, heaven came down to bring people together under the banner of the Risen Christ.

I'm very excited about Pentecost Sunday this year. I always enjoy our worship on this day as we pay particular attention to the gift of the Holy Spirit that ties us together into the Body of Christ. But I'm especially excited about the afternoon event we're planning on June 9th where several of our Anglican Churches are coming together at *Christ the King Anglican Church* (Rathburn & West Mall) to celebrate Pentecost with a Confirmation service and party afterwards. Many of our parishes are multicultural, and in our deanery alone, we have the Church of South India, San Lorenzo, and the Ghanaian Anglican Church as part of our Anglican family.

Bishop Jenny is inviting all of us to join her in this exciting event. We'll have a potluck of dishes from around the world, a BBQ, and youth & kids activities following the 4:00 p.m. worship service to help celebrate the gift of the Spirit. Please do plan on participating, and sign up in the Narthex or online. It is my prayer that this exciting event will be an authentic experience of the Pentecost Spirit, poured out upon all of us, from every nation, tribe, and language.

Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit! Thanks be to God!

~Rev. Stephen

Upcoming Events

Advisory Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the church Parlour. The focus of our discussions will be the parish's ministries and planning for the next Ministry Fair scheduled for September 22, 2019. If you know of anyone who would like to attend, please extend the invitation.

Church Picnic – Sunday, June 23, beginning at noon at the home of Susan, Deborah, and Nancy Hurn. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert. Don't forget your swimsuit and a towel!

Men's Group – Saturdays, July 6, August 10, and September 7. We meet at 8:00 a.m. the first Saturday morning of the month for breakfast at Montreal Deli, 2055 Dundas Street East in Mississauga. If the Saturday is part of a holiday weekend where the holiday is on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or Monday then we meet for breakfast on the following weekend. For more information, contact Colin Hall: colinhall1999@gmail.com or 416-234-1376.

St. Anne's Ladies Group – Monday, September 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlour.

Ministry Fair – Sunday, September 22 in the Gym following 10:00 a.m. Worship.

Wardens' Words

As we enter into spring and anticipate better weather we can look back on a number of events that took place in our Parish during the last few months.

- Vestry Sunday – Sunday, February 17
- Rev. Merv Mercer's Book Launch, *Three Score Ten* – Saturday, February 23
- Pancake Supper – Tuesday, March 5
- Lamb Supper – Thursday April 18
- Silent Movie Night and Organ Concert – Saturday, May 4
- Victoria Day Fireworks Block Party – Monday, May 20
- Wednesday Evenings in Lent
- All Worship Services offered by the Clergy including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day.

We give thanks for those who participated and volunteered for these events.

The Lenten/Easter offering was applied to the Pave the Park fund. The parking lot paving expense has been paid in full which is a great accomplishment!

The funds received in the Loonie/Toonie jars will be forwarded to the Toronto Indigenous Ministries.

Thank you for your generosity for these projects.

Further to our commitment at Vestry held on February 17, 2019, we plan to have two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) installed in our facilities by early June.

Our next project will be reviewing the possibilities for a replacement sign for our outdoor church sign.

Early in June, you may notice some changes in the north area of the parking lot. We are thrilled for Kingsley School as their Memorial Play Space is installed. This will allow the children of the school to participate in hours of outdoor learning. Congratulations to everyone involved in this project.

Outlined below is the summary of our financial status as of April 30, 2019.

| Operating Fund: | 2019 Actual | 2018 Actual | Budget |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Income | \$100,312 | \$98,672 | \$92,257 |
| Expenses | \$110,217 | \$111,676 | \$114,291 |
| Net Operations | (\$9,906) | (\$13,004) | (\$22,034) |

Upcoming events include the celebration of Pentecost and Confirmation Service which will take place at Christ the King Anglican Church on Sunday, June 9. A diverse group of churches within the Diocese will be participating in this service. Several people from St. Matthew's will be confirmed by Bishop Jenny on this date.

Our annual church picnic will be held at the home of the Hurns on Sunday, June 23 following our 10:00 a.m. worship service.

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact any of the Wardens.

We wish you all a blessed summer time.

Shantelle Hampton, Karen Lee, and Stuart Watt

Property Report

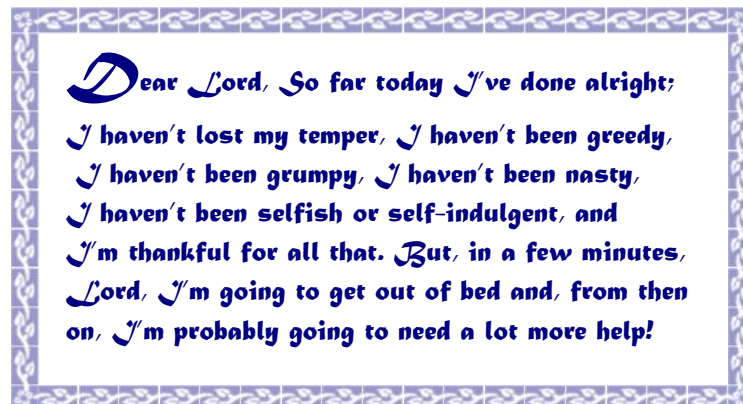
2019 will be a year of many minor projects with nothing on the scale of the parking lot repair. Rather, we have a number of small- and medium-sized projects to be undertaken, which are as follows:

1. Complete the repair of the collapsed fire escape railing which awaits a coat of new paint to spruce it up.
2. The rectory chimneys will need to be rebuilt this spring. There are two chimneys, one for the furnace venting and another for the fireplaces. Unfortunately they both require attention. We are at the quoting stage.
3. The weather stripping on all exterior entrances will need to be replaced. We have had some difficulty receiving the parts but should have them shortly.
4. A new door-set will be installed on the Club Matt Room door to eliminate the possibility that a child might become locked inside the room via deadbolt. The door itself is damaged and may require replacement.
5. The rectory roof came under raccoon attack which created a number of holes in the roof and led to water damage inside. A repair was performed including adding new flashing to problem areas and the sealing of entry points which the raccoons might find attractive. The interior damage to the drywall and ceilings will need to be repaired in the spring.
6. We will be contracting an inspection to get a comprehensive idea of where we are and what we should watch out for around the property.
7. The rainware (eavestroughs and downspouts, etc.) near the Kingsley School doorway will be reconfigured again and a new drainage system installed to prevent debris collecting near the entrance.
8. The dimmer switches in the gym were replaced. We hope that the two remaining original switches will hold up a little longer.
9. A leak developed in the overhead pipes in the hall next to the Fellowship Hall kitchen. The repair required the removal of the insulation surrounding the pipes and this will need to be replaced with a safe alternative.
10. The flush handle in the women's gym washroom was replaced and we will likely replace all the other plastic handles to prevent a future issue.

We look forward to another great year and will strive to improve the facility as much as possible. Feedback and volunteers are always welcome and appreciated.

Al Thompson and William Hampton

Humour from the Hurns



Past Events

★ Messy Church on Saturday, June 1 was themed “*One with Each Other and The Creator.*” It highlighted Indigenous culture and faith. Activities included rock painting, children making their name in Cree Syllabic and an indigenous welcome dance. The meal included fish sticks, wild rice, corn-on-the-cob, and bannock with blueberry sauce for dessert. Watch for more pictures in the next edition of Matt's Media.



Three generations cooking bannock together

★ *Wave of Prayer: Thy Kingdom Come:* May 30 - June 9, ten days from Ascension Day to the Day of Pentecost. We were encouraged to join Anglicans world-wide to pray for others to come to know Jesus.

★ Matthew's Table is a new ministry of St. Matthew's Anglican Church, based on the story of the calling of St. Matthew, the tax collector. It met on Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. for four weeks in May (4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th) exploring key questions about Jesus, essentially a course on Christianity 101.

★ On May 26, our guest preacher and celebrant was Reverend Kenneth Korsah of the Ghanaian Anglican Church of Toronto. Reverend Stephen was on post-Easter Break.

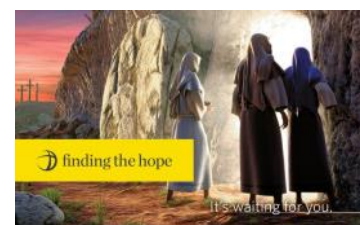


Rev. Korsah

★ Maundy Thursday Supper on April 18 – Thank you, Ann Marie Pupulin, for organizing the supper. Also, thanks to everyone who shopped, chopped, set tables, cooked, stirred, carved, served, ate and cleaned up. We enjoyed lamb, turkey, quiche, hot vegetables, and gravy on hot plates. And dessert!

★ Lenten Series – Held on five Wednesday evenings, our program was *Testimonies from the Wilderness:* a quiet hour of prayer, Taize music and special speakers who shared their faith journey. We were privileged to hear the stories of Shantelle Hampton, Seth Enriquez, Susan Hurn, Reverend Denys Blackmore, and Professor John Bowen from Wycliffe College.

★ St. Matthew's Outreach tried the format of 'Finding the Hope,' a ministry of Every Home for Christ, an international mission organization whose Canadian office is based in Guelph, Ontario. At a modest cost, we mailed to over 12,000 homes in our parish area a beautiful gospel message and an invitation to join us at St. Matthew's for Holy Week. Please pray that these gospel seeds find fertile soil and that the water of God's Spirit will nourish thirsty hearts yearning for the hope we have in Christ!



★ Family of God Service – Beginning March 17, our 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Services were amalgamated into one 10:00 a.m. service which combines features from both.

★ Coffee Hours after Church Services: This weekly event is a popular time of community and sharing. Thank you, Jean Tovey and Jeff Wright, for making the coffee, setting up the Parlour, and encouraging volunteers to host. Let's keep it going! We are always looking for volunteers to sign up to serve and bring cream, milk and small snacks.

May 4 Musical Movie Night

We offer many thanks to Thomas Gonder, our talented organist, for a wonderful evening of music and film on Saturday, May 4. Young and old parishioners were entertained by popular show tunes and also by Thomas' organ accompaniment of the silent film, *The Adventurer*, made only 100 years ago starring Charlie Chaplin! It was a unique presentation of a concert style that has become increasingly popular at other venues, including Roy Thomson Hall when the TSO accompanies various movies.

We had a small but satisfied crowd. As well, three lucky attendees won gift certificates for the Dundas Street Grille and the Swiss Chalet at Shaver and Dundas St. West. Our thanks go to these local restaurants for their support of our parish.

Also, our thanks go to Colin Hall for his computer expertise and to Diana Lewis for assisting in set-up and refreshments (popcorn, chips and pop).

Marguerite Locke

St. Matthew's Victoria Day Block Party

On the Victoria Day long weekend, St. Matthew's organized a fireworks event for our local community complete with hamburgers, glow-sticks, and an amazing array of fireworks set off by our own Colin Hall.

Although we were rained out on Sunday, we regrouped on Monday evening and had a great time! It was chillier and windier than expected, but folks showed up to enjoy the burgers and hot dogs cooked up by Rev. Stephen, and to witness the fireworks in all their explosive glory. But the highlight of the fireworks block party is the evident love of our church community, coming together in the windy cold to be with each other, to celebrate together, to huddle up and share stories, to laugh together and serve each other. This is what we're all about. If you couldn't make it this time around, definitely come out next year!

Seth Enriquez



From top left: The Farrars, Eve Enriquez, the Hamptons, Colin Hall, Emily Crump, Ann Marie Pupulin, Seth Enriquez

Club Matt

This Spring we are nearing the end of our home-brewed three-year curriculum based on the words of *St. Paul to the Corinthians: Faith, Hope, and Love* – the greatest being *Love*.

Our desire to share the love of God with our young ones has been interpreted through three characteristics of followers of Jesus:

Year 1) **Faith** and understanding go together in relationship with God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Year 2) **Hope** is found in remembering that our God securely holds our past, present, and future in His hands.

Year 3) **Love** is not simply doing good but actually deeply delighting in God and delighting in each person whom God has created. This drives us to share Jesus' love.

This has been the framework for serving the children and young families in our home church. I ask that you continue supporting us in prayer, especially our Club Matt teachers, particularly Dawn Mercer who is a creative, dedicated leader of Club Matt. Please pray that we may truly love each member of Club Matt as God would have us love them.

Seth Enriquez

Youth

Our youth have been meeting regularly on Sunday mornings during the service time, and we have had wonderful discussions! Right now we are completing our youth learning series called ***Freedom & Authority***, exploring how the freedom described in our culture actually leads to enslavement to materialism and self-centeredness, but the freedom found in Jesus empowers us to be agents of love and justice in the world. As a context for this important lesson, we are reading the story of Queen Esther and how God used her in the context of her own freedom and authority to save the people of God.

We are also completing our youth confirmation lessons with Lauren Simpson and Vanessa Shao. We are excited to celebrate their confirmation along with confirmands from churches in our area at a combined Pentecost and Confirmation Celebration on June 9 at 4:00 p.m. at *Christ the King Anglican Church*, 475 Rathburn Road. We invite you all to join us in celebrating this important step in the faith formation of our young folks here at St. Matthew's!

Seth Enriquez

St. Anne's Ladies Group

St Anne's continues to be active with fundraising and helping in our community. On March 18 we met to disperse our funds, making donations to *Sistering, Youth without Shelter, Dorothy Ley Hospice, Sleeping Children around the World, Out of the Cold* and the General Fund of St. Matthew's Church.

On April 22, nine members and a guest enjoyed a display by Claudette's Fashions. Spring and Summer styles were presented from which several members were able to update their wardrobe.

Several members met at the Canadiana Restaurant for our closing luncheon on May 14.

We will resume in the fall, meeting on Monday, September 16, at 1:30 p.m. in the parlour. Tea and refreshments will be served. If anyone in the parish or community is willing to participate in the program with this lovely group of ladies, please contact Bertha at 905-270-7086.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Bertha Anstey, President

Growing Healthy Stewards

“We love /give /share because God first loved us.”

St. Matthew's is now well into its second year of the Diocese of Toronto's Growing Healthy Stewards program. This coached program is a stewardship education program that does not leave personal stewardship to chance. Our stewardship is a part of how we live out our discipleship—essentially our call to be fully committed followers of Jesus Christ. As stewards, we commit to a life of generosity in all aspects of our lives with the generous giving of our Talents, Time, and Treasures. The program spans a period of three years and its success is measured by fourteen best practises.

During Lent we launched our Joyful Giving Campaign, 2019. We thank all those who assisted in the preparation of the packages and their distribution. Thanks also go to Dawn Mercer for her contributions to our Narrative Story and to Lisa Tait, our Administrative Assistant, for the production of the document.

The parish's Advisory Board meeting on June 12 will highlight St. Matthew's many ministries. As well, plans will be made for our annual Ministry Fair, which will once again be held on St. Matthew's Day, Sunday, September 22, 2019, following our 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Just a reminder that should you be aware of any visitors attending any of our services or events, please offer them one of our Welcome Packages which can be found in a basket in the Narthex. Thank you.

Should you have any questions about the Growing Healthy Stewards program or if you would like to become involved, please contact Rev. Stephen, Karen Lee, Sandra Wilson, Richard Farrar, Stuart Watt, or Iain Shao.

Let's Keep Growing!

Chancel Guild and Altar Flowers

The Chancel Guild is still in need of new members to set up the Altar for weekly services and for help with laundering the Church linen. If you would like to learn more about what is involved in these duties, please talk to Reverend Stephen or Bridget Farrar (416-622-0417). A few new members would make a huge difference to those who are doing these jobs.

There are still dates available for donations of Altar Flowers. Please check the calendar in the Narthex and choose your special dates. Forms are available by the chart. Please complete, attach your donation, and place in the offering plate.

Out of the Cold Mourns the Death of Jim Saunders

It is with deep regret that I have to pass along the sad news of the death of one of the great champions of *Out of the Cold*. Jim Saunders passed away quietly in his home. Please remember him in your prayers, and we will hold a celebration of his life at an appropriate time for his OOTC friends and family.

Jim Saunders served St. Matthew's *Out of the Cold* program as a co-ordinator from about 2011 until 2017. He was held in high regard by fellow co-ordinators, clients, and volunteers for his calm authority and generous nature. He also ran AA groups at St. Matthew's.

His obituary can be viewed at: <https://hoglefuneralhomes.com/book-of-memories/3865127/Saunders-James/index.php>.

Ted Hampton

St. Matthew's Indigenous Issues Group

The St. Matthew's Indigenous Issues Group (SMIIG) has been meeting monthly to discuss our involvement in local and across-Canada work to assist with indigenous needs as requested by our friends and contacts. During the early part of the year, 50 coats and some supplies were sent to Inuvik in the Diocese of the Arctic. Hats knitted by the women of St. Matthew's and Tapestry Retirement Residence were also sent North.

We were delighted to participate in an exercise with the 30 students and staff from Kingsley School and three visitors from Six Nations Reserve. The children led by reciting the land acknowledgement for the Bloor-Kipling area and they finished by learning a drum song and dance. They made a presentation to our visitors of a framed art piece featuring pictures of beavers created by the students. The students made prayer bags from deer hide led by one of our visitors. It was a grand time all around.

A small number of SMIIG members attended the premiere of the film, *Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts*. This is a challenging, truthful documentary outlining the experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people caused by the Doctrine of Discovery, a devastating decision made by the Pope over 500 years ago which continues to profoundly impact Indigenous and Settler people worldwide. There are plans to show this film at St. Matthew's in the coming months. It can also be viewed online.



Messy Church was held on June 1 at the start of indigenous month in Canada. Its theme was indigenous culture and language.

Everyone is welcome to attend the SMIIG meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. in the Parlour.

Nancy Hurn, SMIIG Coordinator

Church Records



Deaths

Kelly Marie Atyeo
March 5, 2019

Lauretta Annie Parkes
March 22, 2019

Jean Adelaide Giroux
April 5, 2019

Robert Clark
May 21, 2019



ReStore: Habitat for Humanity

"Did You Know?" *Habitat for Humanity* is a charity with a number of retail stores, aptly named ReStore, one of which is located in Etobicoke, at 7 Queen Elizabeth Blvd. (Royal York and The Queensway). ReStore accepts gently used furniture, plumbing supplies, kitchen cabinets or your *entire* kitchen, appliances, windows, doors, electrical fixtures, tools, home decor and more! The store is open seven days/week and proceeds from sales are used to fund construction of new homes for families in the GTA and across the country who need a "hand up."

If you are renovating, downsizing, or decluttering your space, then do consider giving ReStore a call to see if they could use your "cast offs." Items may be dropped off at the store and are subject to inspection.

Arrangements for pick-up of large, multi-items or for demolition of a kitchen can be made by phone at 1-844-482-3668 or online at www.HabitatReStore.ca.

A tax receipt is provided to donors based on the anticipated sale price of the item(s) donated. For more information, Marguerite Locke, who is a volunteer at ReStore, may be contacted at mdlocke@hotmail.com.

Baby & Kid Stuff Sale Etobicoke: June 15

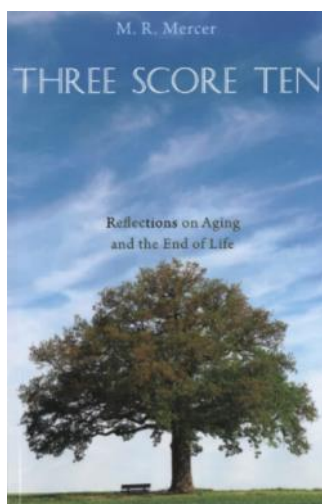
A Giant Garage Sale of gently used baby and children's clothes and toys!

Saturday June 15, 2019
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Royal Canadian Legion
3850 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Toronto ON, M8W 1R3
All Ages | \$2 adult admission
Contact: Robyn, babyandkidstuffsaleetobicoke@gmail.com



Three Score and Ten (Reflections on Aging) by Dr. Merv Mercer



A few copies of Merv's book are still available through the church office or on Sundays by speaking to Karen Lee, Warden.

Cost: \$20.00

Your Church Needs You!

- Furniture movers are needed to arrange and put away chairs & tables for church functions (funeral receptions, coffee hours, entertainment events). Contact Jeff & Jean Wright, 416-620-0586.
- The Chancel Guild would like more members. Many hands make light work. Speak to Bridget Farrar, 416-622-0417.
- Sunday Coffee Hour needs volunteers for the summer. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parlour, or speak to Jeff and Jean, 416-620-0586.

Advertisements



David Matheson
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Jon Harrison

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Email: jon@bharrisonservices.com Website: www.bharrisonservices.com



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Need a ride?

If you or anyone you know needs a ride to get to church please call Mary Gleeson at 416-239-9640 and she will do her best to find a driver for you. If you have an emergency getting to a doctor she will also try to locate a driver for you.

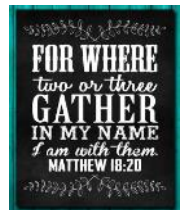


Pastoral Care:

We have a group of parishioners who are willing to make visits to hospitals. If you know someone who is in hospital or recovering at home and would like a visitor, please contact Rev. Gail Marshall at 905-602-4958.

Partners in Prayer: Should you desire prayer for yourself or for another person, please make details known to Bob Holloway at 416-253-4909 or rholloway@sympatico.ca. If necessary, the request can be transmitted through the church office.

Cycle of Prayer: "Beloved, pray for us." This is Paul's way of asking the Thessalonians to pray for him (5:25) and it expresses the genuine need for believers to support one another through prayer. Each Sunday, we will be praying for individuals and families of St. Matthew's in the Prayers of the People. Each week, a few names will be mentioned in our prayers and we will have the opportunity to support one another through prayer. Please take the time to remember these people during the week in your own prayers as well. If you do not wish to be included in our "Cycle of Prayer" please let the office know and we will be sure to keep your name off the list.



Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to need your help! Prayer Shawls are provided to those who need the warmth and comfort of God and St. Matthew's. If you would like to offer to knit a shawl, please contact Rev. Gail Marshall at 905-602-4958.



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The Rev. Stephen Blackmore, Rector
416-231-3060 / stephen.blackmore@me.com

The Rev. Gail Marshall, Deacon
The Rev. Merv Mercer, Honorary Assistant
The Rev. Milton Dorman, Honorary Assistant
Mr. Seth Enriquez, Discipleship Ministry Associate
Mr. Thomas Gonder, Music Director
Lisa Tait, Parish Administrator
Tom Travaglini, Sexton/Verger

Worship Schedule

| | | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | Holy Communion, BCP |
| Sunday | 10:00 a.m. | Holy Communion, Family of God Worship with Music |
| Wednesday | 10:30 a.m. | Holy Communion, BCP |



St. Matthew's & Social Media
Our Sermons are on-line! www.saintmatts.ca
Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMatthewsAnglicanChurch

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