

THE GOOD NEWS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Why Are You Weeping</i>	2
<i>Come Ye Faithful</i>	2
<i>To Preach Christianity</i>	2
<i>Vestry</i>	3
<i>Brian Gilhuly</i>	3
<i>Puppies</i>	3
<i>The Story of Fitzroy Singers</i>	4
<i>Food Support</i>	4
<i>St. Thomas; Authors</i>	5
<i>Protection Guidelines</i>	6
<i>Parish Easter Services</i>	6
<i>Let Us Pray</i>	6



ASTRONOMICAL SPRING

Astronomical Spring is determined by the changing positions of the earth relative to the sun giving us the solstices and equinoxes. Seasons are caused by the tilt of the earth on its axis by 23.5 degrees. The tilt of the earth does not change as it goes around the sun so in the Northern Hemisphere the earth is tilted toward the sun in June and away from the sun in December. When the sun is over the equator you have the equinoxes and when the sun is over the Tropic of Cancer in the most northern position you have the Summer solstice.

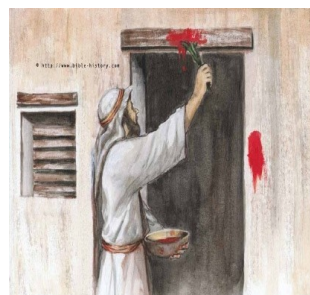
REFLECTION

SUBMITTED BY FATHER JOHN STOPA

The English language fails us. Well, to be sure, it's not so much the language itself as those who designed certain words or invented them. I am reminded of the I LOVE LUCY episode, where Lucy decides that Desi needs elocution lessons, and the teacher gives Desi the words: "bough", "through", and "rough". There is no consistency to the language, and the source or roots for our words are sometimes not what we expect. Take the word: EASTER. Do you know what or where this word comes from? I assure you that it has nothing to do with Passover; not in the least. Other languages make reference to the Passover feast, making Easter the Christian Passover. For instance, in French the term for Easter is "Pâques" and in Italian, it's "Pasqua". These words are rooted in the term Passover from which the origins of Easter lie.

To understand the Easter story, we need to go to the Bible and look at the very beginning, from the time of Creation in the first chapter of Genesis, through to the call of Abraham and Sarah, into the time of the Patriarchs, then the time of slavery in Egypt. We then come to the Covenant at Sinai given by God

through Moses – this is the giving of the law, the 10 Commandments and humanity's entry into a new relationship with God. At this point, let's pull out our magnifying glass to look at the Exodus. The Exodus is for Jewish people God's liberation from slavery to the coming of the promised land. It began with plagues (pandemics?), so as to convince Pharaoh to let God's people go. So that they would be spared the most difficult of the plagues, God told his people through Moses to wipe blood on their doorposts and



lintels so that the Lord would "pass over" their homes. (See Exodus 12:21 – 27). Each year, Jews remember the Passover at the table. It is a time deep in meaning as they recall God's interaction with their ancestors. As Christians, Jesus is our Passover. It is his sacrifice of love that unites God and humanity

together. Think of that, the son of God is our Passover!

This brings me back to my first point: the English language fails us. Ever wonder where we get the term "Easter" from? Let's look at the etymology of the word Easter:

Old English *ēastre*; of Germanic origin and related to German *Ostern* and *east*; perhaps from *Ēastre*, the name of a goddess associated with spring.

So how do we celebrate this great event of the resurrection, our Christian Passover, was a holiday we've named after a direction or a goddess?



I wish you a blessed, and joyous Easter. Remember it is a season not just a day. God bless you and yours!



A Prayer for
Springtime

From *Ash & Starlight: Prayers for the Chaos & Grace of Daily Life*
by Arianne Bralthwaite Lehn

Loving, Creator God,
Spring reminds me it's
never too late to start over.
That there's been quiet
growth over these long months of
winter when I saw nothing.
When I was called to believe
there was growth happening
beneath hard, cold soil.

And now? Glory!

I celebrate the loveliness
of all you've made.
The newness, Lord,
the freshness—
it inspires my soul!

Tulips in the front yard,
buds on the trees,
the voices of birds,
the cleansing of rain,
the comfort of sunshine...
Each gift renews me,
speaking of the promise within
all those months of dormancy
and preparation.

As spring awakens my physical
senses,
I ask, God, for you to awaken my
inner senses.

May my mind open and blossom
to the longings you've placed
within me...
to the steps and path that will
satisfy the desires of my heart...
to the hopes and passions
you've planted in every one of
your children

May I seek what will truly fulfill
them.
May I journey toward their Source.
May I be guided by your gentle
and wise Spirit.
It is never too late to be what you
call me to be.

Even as it takes greatest courage
and deepest humility.
With your help, I will open myself
to what I never expected before,
never experienced before,
and never thought possible.

Amen.

Why are You Weeping? John 20:11–18

EXCERPT FROM "KEEP BELIEVING MINISTRIES" MARCH 31, 2002



The story of Mary Magdalene meeting Jesus at the empty tomb is found only in John's gospel. I think Mary must have told John about it personally. Everything about this little slice of life rings true to human nature as we know it. A weeping woman lingers by an empty tomb, wondering what has happened to the body of the one she loved. When Jesus suddenly appears, she doesn't recognize him. Then she grips his feet so tightly that he has to tell her to let go. The vignette ends with the mourner turned into a missionary, running to tell the others what she has just seen and heard.

When Christ set her free, he liberated her from the evil impulses that had kept her chained figuratively and perhaps literally. She is living proof that those whom the Son sets free are free indeed. Having been liberated from demonic bondage, she said to herself (and perhaps out loud), "I love him for

what he did for me. I will follow him wherever he goes." And so it came to pass that when our Lord hung on the cross, she stood nearby with Mary his mother. When they took his body down from the cross, she was there to see that awful, gory sight. When they placed him in the tomb, she was sitting on a rock ledge, watching it all happen (Matthew 27:61). On Saturday evening, after the Sabbath had concluded, she purchased spices because she hoped to anoint his dead body. (He was hastily buried on Friday in order to finish before sundown, which is why they had not finished preparing his body. Early on Sunday morning, before the sun came up, she and the other women ventured through the darkness to the Garden Tomb, expecting to finish the job of anointing the body of Jesus.

If we piece together the various accounts of Easter Sunday, it seems that Jesus rose from the dead sometime in the pre-dawn hours. There was an earthquake, the seal was broken, the stone rolled away by the angels, and Christ came out of the tomb. The soldiers were knocked unconscious and when they awoke, they fled in fear. When the women found the tomb empty, they were confused and terrified. The angels told them that Christ had risen from

the dead. They returned to tell the disciples who thought they were talking nonsense. John and Peter investigated, and when they saw the linen wrappings exactly where the body had been placed on Friday evening, they believed. They left to tell the others. At that point, Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb. She is confused, bewildered, in shock, frightened, and broken-hearted. It has not yet occurred to her that the empty tomb meant that Jesus had risen from the dead.

It has been often said that Mary Magdalene was "last at the cross and first at the tomb." This is a high honor that can be said of none of the men who followed Jesus. She was the first to see him alive and the first to hear his voice. The irony of the story is that when she saw him, she didn't recognize him. But when the truth hit home, she became the first evangelist in Christian history. Christ bestowed this great honor on her because she loved him so deeply and so devotedly.



Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
Of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel
Into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot
Through the Red Sea waters.

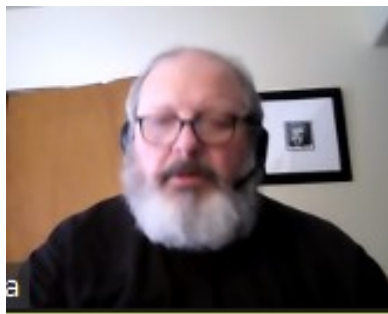
Arthur Sullivan; John Damascene

To preach Christianity meant (to the Apostles) primarily to preach the Resurrection. [...] The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection, and its consequences, were the 'gospel' or good news which the Christians brought.

C. S. Lewis, "Miracles"

VESTRY ST. THOMAS' & ST. GEORGE'S

Submitted by Lorraine Madore



Vestry Meetings

Vestry for both St. George's and St. Thomas' was held online on February 28, 2021. Vestry is our church's annual general meeting, and is a time to celebrate the work of God in our parish, and to look ahead to collectively discern what God is calling us to do. For more information and to view the Vestry Package 2021, please check the Fitzroy Parish [website](#)



Grant, O Lord, that as we are baptized into the death of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continual mortifying our corrupt affections we may be buried with him; and that, through the grave, and gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection; for his merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy Saturday, The Collect, Book of Common Prayer

BRIAN GILHULY: LOCAL HISTORIAN

SUBMITTED BY LORRAIN MADORE

Brian Gilhuly, came to St. Thomas' soon after Father John arrived. He is a transplant from Emmanuel in Arnprior, where he lives. When Father John was Roger Young's curate, Brian met him and developed a regard for him. When Brian learned that Father John had come to Fitzroy Parish, he felt that this was the place to go.

"People have been nice to me," says Brian. "I don't feel that I am not part of St. Thomas'." He finds that St. Thomas' pulls people in as opposed to pushing them out.

Throughout the lockdown and resulting Zoom meetings, Brian has enjoyed getting to meet the larger congregation of St. Thomas' and St. George's. "You see the faces of fellow parishioners now than before." He also enjoys the interactive style of Sunday services, but suspects that has to do with Father John's personality. The downside is

there are people who are unable to make the online services.

Brian is originally from Perth and was raised in a church-going household. He was largely unchurched from his mid-20s to mid-50s, but thanks to his long-time friend Helen Hayes, also well-known here in Fitzroy Parish, he reconnected with the church. Her background is United and his is Presbyterian. So naturally, he walked into Emmanuel Anglican Church in Arnprior in the late 1990s and stayed for 20 years.

Brian has been retired for a decade. He started out in the 1960s, in the era of Lester B. Pearson. He worked with what was then Secretary of State, and then Canadian Heritage. Brian was also seconded to work abroad for six years. When he eventually returned back to Canada, he chose to make Arnprior his home.

Brian is a local history buff and he currently sits on the Arnprior and McNab/Braeside Archives, the only accredited archive in Renfrew County. His special interest is local railways

You can find his book [Tracing the Lines The Railway History and Geography of Eastern Ontario and West Quebec](#), on the [Arnprior and McNab/Braeside Archives website](#).

Tracing the Lines



The Railway History and Geography of Eastern Ontario and West Québec by Brian Gilhuly



Prayer Requests

Do you have a special prayer request, or a concern that needs prayer support? Click [here](#) or call the Parish Office



For the kids

PUPPIES!

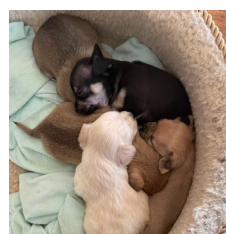
SUBMITTED BY FATHER JOHN



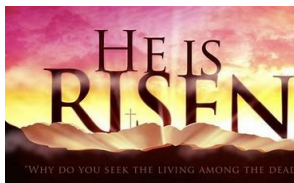
Welcome to Ginger Stopa's young family who has recently been attending services and Bible Study

← Mother—Ginger

5 off-spring →



Adults: Are you interested in working on a craft with other like-minded people? The Fitzroy Parish craft group meets online each Thursday at 1 pm on Zoom. Click [here](#) to attend.



Praise the Lord,
all you servants of the
Lord
Who minister by night in
the House of the Lord.
Lift up your hands in the
sanctuary and praise the
Lord.
May the Lord, the Maker
of heaven and earth,
Bless you from Zion.

Psalms 134



The Parish Cookbook
"Called to the TABLE"
Is available for \$15.00
Contact the Office at
613-623-3882,
Victoria Emerson or
Lorraine Madore if you
are interested in
Purchasing a copy.

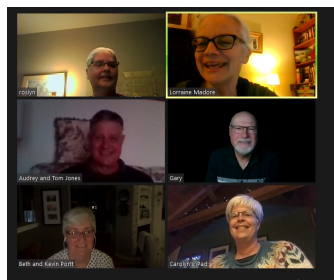
STORY OF THE FITZROY SINGERS

Submitted by Lorraine Madore

Each Sunday morning, during our Zoom church services, we sing two lovely hymns led by what seems to be a full choir. Effectively it is just that! Five or so people, some singing more than one part, are giving us full harmonies and rich voices. This is something we only had on occasion when we met in person!

Think back to the beginning of the lockdown in March 2020, a year ago. We went from no church to a couple of recorded services, then landed on zoom church. Our beloved Morley Paget had just gone on to his reward and Carolyn Beeton bravely took on the job of giving us music.

She started by leading us on her own and that worked quite well. Then she had the quartet sing and posted it to Facebook, which was just lovely. Then came Christmas, with beautiful music from the Fitzroy Choir. Since then, the Fitzroy Singers have led the way celebrating our Jesus in music.

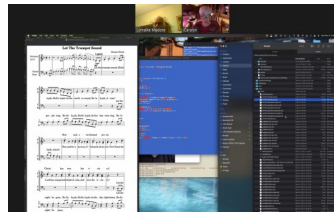


The Fitzroy Singers



How do they do it? Hard work and technical ingenuity.

Using a music type-setting program, meant to write sheet music, Carolyn is able to create a music file of a hymn, that can be played. She then splits the hymn apart into its harmonies each with the identical timing.



How Carolyn Does It

Carolyn sends each member of the choir mp3 files that they can listen to using earphones, while recording their various parts by singing them into their laptops or phones. They send the bits they recorded back to Carolyn and she merges it all into a single file. She estimates she spends about an hour on each song.



Electronic Voices

The mechanism seems complicated for the non-tech layman, as some of the photos in this article will attest. Each of these songs, recorded with full harmonies are saved in a library that could be played through the speakers at St. Thomas' and St. George's in the months and years to come.

"I love it," says Carolyn. "It has been so much fun."

Aside from Carolyn, the choir members providing the voices include Marg Hyland, Tom Jones, Gary Weir and Beth Portt. Many bring a background in music and singing. This includes school choirs, previous and current involvement with church choirs. They also offer their views on this new way of making music.

Tom Jones recalls that everyone missed Morley after he passed away in January 2020. There was a certain dread that they would no longer be singing. It has come as a bit of a relief to have music on Sunday mornings.

Gary Weir describes the new virtual approach as different. But he is actually more comfortable with it, in part because it gives him more time to get through the piece. Beth Portt agrees, especially if she is not familiar with the tune.

Marg Hyland finds it interesting to hear her own part on its own with all the gaps. When she hears it with the rest of the choir it all sounds good.

Unfortunately, the new system has not worked for all the members of the choir who used to meet in person. But for now, the new way of making music is bringing song again at Fitzroy Parish.

As to the future plans of the Fitzroy Singers, and how long they will continue their work, we will have to wait and see what happens. They are enjoying what they are doing. Those of us in the congregation are blessed by what they are sharing with us.

FOOD SUPPORT

The West Carleton Food Access Centre is available if you are experiencing food insecurity. **An appointment is required.** Call 613-832-5685 or email wcfodaid@gmail.com and you will be contacted back. There is also a [Facebook Page](#) for more information or if you would also like to donate. Please call if you would like to donate, do not leave items at the door.

ST. THOMAS' AUTHORS

Submitted by Lorraine Madore;

Here is a great idea to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, and a couple of days off work, in a socially-distanced way: Sit down with the works of two St. Thomas' authors who have taken the courageous step of getting published. Namely, Sharleen McCorrister and Catherine (Nancy) Grove.

Even better, their books are available at or through the Ottawa Public Library.

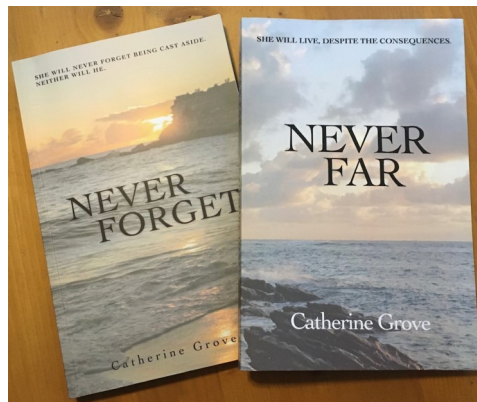
Sharleen McCorrister, *The Tao of Fey* is a lyrical and visual meandering through faerie lore and verse. For the child in all of us. If you have difficulty getting it through the library, please confirm using the ISBN identifier (ISBN 9781772161908)

If People Could Be Flowers

*If people could be flowers then,
I know which you would be.
You would not be a rose with
barbs to hurt and sting,
You would not be a tulip whose
colour fades away,
You would not be a lilac whose
fragrance lasts a day.
You would be a daisy as fresh
as dawns first light,
With snowy petals of ivory
and tuft of pure sunlight.
You would grow where others wither
among fields of countryside.
You would be first to greet
the morning
and the last to say good-bye.*



Catherine (Nancy) Grove, *Never Forget* (2019), *Never Far* (2020), historical fiction. (On the shelves at Carp Branch, Ottawa Public Library) This is a series of books and the next installment will hopefully be available within a few months. Nancy also has a blog: [Catherine Grove](http://CatherineGrove.com) - [Brings Life to Truth through Fiction \(wordpress.com\)](http://BringsLifeToTruththroughFiction.wordpress.com)



Excerpt from *Never Far*:

I looked into those wolf-like eyes that once captivated me, so long ago. "Mrs. Wallace and my ward would appreciate a ride."

"That would be my pleasure!" He helped Nanny and Maddie into the coach as the attendants readied the horses.

When he offered his arm to help me board, I declined with a curt, "I intend to walk."

"And I will see you safely home," he returned promptly, eyes flashing.

The coach set off and we stood face to face. He seized my hand, tucking it within the crook of his elbow and slowly led me up the road to Sedgely Gate. Neither of us spoke. My breath was short, and not from the cold air. Burning with curiosity, I refused to acknowledge my interest of his fate. Why ask of his last two years? He hadn't cared of mine. On the long, frigid trek, I attended his every breath and movement. His steps kept pace with mine. His arm, wedged firmly against mine, brought welcome warmth.

At my gate, he looked down at me, frowned, and pulled a handkerchief from his inner pocket. Deftly, he wiped the tip of my frozen nose. The cold had done its humbling work. I didn't care. Emotion roiled within, leaving my heart unmoored and vulnerable.

cont'd

The Tao of Fey

by S A McCorrister



Excerpt from *Never Far*

(cont'd)

When he returned the handkerchief within his coat, I caught glimpse of the navy blue scarf about his neck; the same one I had given him in Elbema Falls. We continued up the lane towards my home.

"What do you want, James?" I surrendered at the door.

"For you to invite me in," he replied. "This would only be courteous, for I am cold as a corpse." wordpress.com



To all the writers at Fitzroy Parish, God's creativity is in our midst. Some have yet to step forward, with works in process, ideas waiting being birthed to pages, blogs, scripts, journals, articles, newsletters, podcasts, and more. We have good news to share with the world! Let's support each other with encouragement, thoughtful reading and writing reviews.

And submissions to the Fitzroy Parish newsletter are always welcome!

Parish of Fitzroy Harbour

192 Shirreff Street
PO Box 191
Fitzroy Harbour, ON
K0A 1X0

Phone : 613 623 3882

Email: stthomas.stgeorge@outlook.com

www.anglican
fitzroyparish.com

Check out our parish
twitter feed
@AnglicanFitzroy

facebook.com/stthomaswoodlawn

facebook.com/stgeorgesfitzroyharbour



If you know
of or have
any pictures
of events
that you

would like to have included in
the next newsletter please
send them to Cathy or Lor-
raine at church office

613 623 3882



He is not here;
He has risen!

Luke 24:6a



The Parish of Fitzroy Harbour is a community inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit guided through spiritual discernment, to Support, Share and Serve in the World

St. George's and St. Thomas' are strong churches, beautifully warm sanctuaries brimming with history, love and devotion. The sacred religious traditions are carried out by Father John Stopa. The dedicated congregations, actively keep the church-going practices alive.

EASTER

SUBMITTED BY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

If you have been out—Self Isolate

If you have been in contact with anyone who has tested Positive—

Quarantine Yourself

Wear a mask in public to protect others

Stay at least 2 meters (6 feet) distance from others

No conversations longer than 10 minutes

Wash Hands often

If cannot wash hands use sanitizer

Stay Home as much as possible (exceptions Grocery Store, Drug Store or
Doctor Appointments)

Stay in contact with family and friends

Parish of Fitzroy Harbour Easter Service

Maundy Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. Worship remembering the Last Supper, the washing of the feet and the Agony in the Garden: [Join the worship in our parish by clicking here](#). If this link does not work, copy and paste the following into your webbrowser: <http://bit.ly/FHRMaundyThu>

Good Friday, April 2nd at 1:30 p.m. Worship recalling our Lord's crucifixion. Remember, to fully experience an Easter Sunday, you must understand and experience the Good Friday. The service includes a reading of the Lord's Passion and Death from the Gospel of St John, prayers and hymns commemorating that first Good Friday. [Please click here to join the worship](#). If this link does not work, then copy and paste the following link into your webbrowser: <http://bit.ly/FHRGdFri>

Good Friday, April 2nd at 7:30 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS – A meditation using images, scriptures and prayers on Jesus's journey from Pilate's palace to the tomb. [Click here to join us for this worship](#), or copy and paste this link: <http://bit.ly/PFHStns>

Easter Sunday, April 4th at 10:00 a.m. WE CELEBRATE JESUS's RESURRECTION! [Click here to join this worship service](#), or copy and paste this link: <http://bit.ly/PFHAlleluia1>

LET US PRAY

Submitted by Father John Stopa



Jesus, on this grand day you defeated sin and death and rose to new life. In this time of devotion, come to us, minister to our fears and doubts and raise us to new life. May we, and this time, not only seeing about your resurrection victory but come to believe in your tryouts and we not only adore you in our worship but following you forth into the world as we show in our lives and in our words that "We have seen the Lord! He is risen!" Hallelujah! Amen.