



## **THE REVEREND JACK PEARCE**

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, we gathered as a parish community together with the wider diocese, as we celebrated the life and mourned the death of our Honorary Assistant, the Reverend Jack Pearce. Jack made such a quiet and important difference in so many lives, and particularly through his long-standing presence here at the Church of the Nativity. What's more, he didn't just work with parishioners, but with lovers of art and the wider community.

Over the years, he was involved with the Pathfinders' group that meets at the parish. They wanted to join in remembering him and celebrating him, and so one of the flower beds in the back garden has been planted with wild flowers, and a beautiful hand painted sign reads "Jack's Legacy." We blessed this special garden on June 5<sup>th</sup>.



## **BISHOP MICHAEL RECEIVES THE ORDERS OF THE REVEREND AUDRIUS SARKA**

Bishop Michael formally received Audrius's orders on the afternoon of Pentecost (May 15<sup>th</sup>) this year. After a long journey of prayer, preparation, and discernment, he is now a priest of the Anglican Church of Canada. He presided at his first Eucharist with us on the morning of May 29<sup>th</sup>. We have been so happy to be able to support him in his transition.

While we're tremendously happy to celebrate this important milestone with him, the bittersweet part of this news is that it means that the bishop will be helping Audrius to find his way into another parish to serve as its incumbent.

On the morning of July 10<sup>th</sup>, we look forward to offering him our congratulations and wishing him well!



## **FINANCIAL UPS & DOWNS**

We are excited and deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to the flat-roof project. We have now raised the full \$43,000 it cost to replace the roof, and we are deeply grateful for every contribution we received.

At the end of May, our parish revenue is lower than it was at this time last year. Our offertory envelope and PAG (Pre-Authorized Givings) givings are down by \$3,912 year-over-year.

To fully fund our investments in ministry this year, we need to give \$144,000 in 2016. Any shortfall will have to be drawn from our Investment Fund, which we budgeted to use to generate income for us—and as you are aware, the markets have been down this year and so our Investment Fund has shrunk. If we are forced to draw from the capital of the Investment Fund, it will be less able to assist us next year.

We ask you to prayerfully consider your support for this community, and remind you of the advantages of PAG. We are grateful to all who have already responded to this financial news and made adjustments to their givings.

## **THE ROOF HAS BEEN RAISED!**

We sprung some leaks back in the spring of 2014, when our flat roof started to let the water in. After planning and quotes and a special Vestry meeting, we had the flat roof replaced—a project that cost more than \$43 000. At the time, we borrowed the monies from our Memorial Fund and promised ourselves that we'd repay it.

Since then, we've been fund-raising and receiving donations. And while it started to seem like we were stuck around the half-way point of the total amount, we received a large gift at the end of May that brought us to a bit above that amount!

We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed to this project! Taking care of this building lets us all engage in the ministry God's inviting us to be part of here in east Hamilton!



## **TURNING TEN!**

This year marks the tenth birthday of the Church of the Nativity. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, we'll gather to celebrate our anniversary. The first official combined worship of the former parishes of Grace and St. Mary's, as the Nativity began its new ministry, was in September 2006.

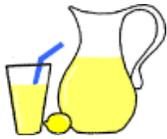
Bishop Michael will be joining us for worship on September 11<sup>th</sup>; the choir is already practising some special pieces; and planning is underway!

Following the service, we will be holding a special luncheon to which all are welcome; we hope you'll join the whole community in celebrating.

If you plan on attending, please contact the church through email – [nativity@cogeco.ca](mailto:nativity@cogeco.ca) or phone – 905-549-4335 or pick up the tickets in person.

## **SUMMER AT CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY**

Our *Wednesday morning services* will not be held during July and August but will resume in September.



*Summer Coffee Hour* will consist of Lemonade and Iced Tea in Bartonville Hall following the 10am service. If you would like to be a Summer Coffee Hour Host/Hostess, **please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex**

*Summer Office Hours* - The Church office will be open every Thursday from 9:30am to 4pm.

## **PHOTO DIRECTORY**

It has been 5 years since our current photo directory was taken and it is time to update it! It would be wonderful to have a complete up to date directory and it is our hope everyone will participate. It is at no cost to you and you will get a lovely 8x10 photo to keep as well. The dates for the shoot are September 26th-28th from 2:30-8:30pm. Keep those dates in mind and look for information in the coming months to sign up for your photo! A big thank you to Barry Lisoweski for coordinating this project.

## **NATIVITY MARKETPLACE & BAKE SALE** **Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**

Please join us on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 2pm for our Nativity Marketplace & Bake Sale. Mark this date on your calendar! This will be the place to get all of your Christmas shopping done as well as buying those baked goods and deli items for your Christmas parties!

We are currently looking for vendors to rent tables at this sale -- only \$25 for one 6ft. table. If you would like to rent a table please call Laura in the Church Office 905-549-4335.

If you are making jams, jellies, pickles or relishes this summer, please make a couple of extra jars for this sale!

Starting four weeks before the sale we will be putting a delicious recipe in the bulletin and asking you to bake for our sale! Containers will be available to take home and fill up (and bring back)!

## **MARK PREECE HOUSE – APPEAL MONTH**

The Mark Preece Family House is a “home away from home” for families of critical care patients who are being treated at Hamilton area hospitals. It is located at 191 Barton Street East, beside the Hamilton General Hospital. The Mark Preece Family House provides affordable and accessible accommodation, hope and healing in a comfortable, homelike environment.

The Bag Ladies visited the Mark Preece House in February and found it to be a wonderful facility. In an effort to help support them, we have been collecting donations throughout the month of June. If you would like to help with this endeavour, there is a basket in the Narthex.

Here is a “Wish List” of items they would appreciate receiving....

- ◆ Gift cards: Food Basics, Canadian Tire, Walmart and Costco
- ◆ Toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, paper napkins
- ◆ K-cups for Keurig coffee maker
- ◆ Granola bars and packaged snacks
- ◆ Laundry detergent and dryer sheets
- ◆ Window and toilet bowl cleaner
- ◆ Postage stamps
- ◆ AA and AAA batteries
- ◆ Green bin waste liners (small)

*Thank  
You!*

## **SUMMER STUDENT**

We are very excited that a grant was funded by the government to hire a summer student to plan lessons for the Sunday School for the upcoming year. We are currently in the process of reviewing applications with the hopes of having someone in the role for the months of July and August. We believe this will be a great addition to our children’s programs here at the Nativity and are looking forward to the development.

## **ORGAN**

The repairs to the organ are already underway and should be finished before the service on June 26<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to the Bag Ladies and Community Lunch Program for making it possible!

## **PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

(with laying on of hands and  
anointing with oil)



Those of you who were at worship on the Second Sunday of Pentecost, May 29<sup>th</sup>, will remember that an opportunity to request and receive Prayers for Healing was introduced into our worship service.

We heard how this ancient Christian practice is rooted in the ministry of Jesus and the disciples, and developed as the early church, following the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, wrestled with how to faithfully follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and continue the ministries begun by Christ. Jesus had clearly healed many people. He often put his hands on those whom he healed. The stories of healing in scripture are all made possible because of the faith of the person requesting healing, either for themselves or for someone else. And this ministry of healing by the laying on of hands that Jesus exercised was one that he expected his followers to continue.

So, on May 29<sup>th</sup> folks were invited, if they desired, to come forward at the end of the service and kneel (or stand if kneeling is difficult) at one of the prayer desks on either side of the altar. There, Matthew or David asked them to indicate their prayer request, either for themselves or for someone else. The priest then prayed with them, laying their hands gently on their hands or head, and where appropriate, signed the cross on their forehead with oil. This anointing, reminiscent of our baptism, is a reminder that we are all children of God, and serves as an outward and visible sign of the inward and spiritual grace that in faith we know to be Christ's unfailing love.

These conversations are quiet and private, and as with all pastoral conversations between laity and clergy, are held in complete confidence. Our intent is to make this ministry available every few months to begin, and perhaps more often as time passes. The next opportunities to avail oneself of Prayers for Healing at the Sunday services will be September 18<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>.