



The

Olave Branch

www.stolaves.ca
Fall 2017
Check out our website!

Reaching out to **ST. OLAVE'S** community
ANGELICAN CHURCH

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WELCOME HOME KATHY, ANDREA AND CODI!

At our Patronal Festival on July 29, we were thrilled to have Kathy Langston, our missionary in Romania, as well as her daughters and several supporters at the service. Read the latest from Kathy's Hosanna Children orphanage on page 2.



You're invited to

Gathering Sunday

September 10, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Join us as we gear up for another season of joyful worship.

- Our choir is in full voice
- Junior Church is back in session
- Blessing of the backpacks (bring your school bag to be blessed)
- BBQ chicken lunch on the lawn

See you there!

For the Love of St. Olave's

Rector's Letter

The Reverend Robert Mitchell

There is much to love about our church. Those who have been here longest and those, like me, who are relatively new to the parish, know why we love this church. Reflecting on this topic, Dr. Versey Wigmore, a former rector, quoted from a John Milton poem, *Il Penseroso*:

*With antique pillars massy proof,
And storied windows richly dight,
Casting a dim religious light.
There let the pealing organ blow,
To the full voiced quire below,
In service high and anthems clear
As may with sweetness, through mine ear
Dissolve me into ecstasies,*

And bring all Heaven before mine eyes.

Indeed, we are the heirs to a beautiful building, a rich musical and liturgical tradition, and an active community. Like generations before us, we come to this place to be nurtured and fed, for friendship and spiritual growth, and to come nearer to the presence of Almighty God.

As it turns out, this year is the 80th anniversary of the dedication of the new St. Olave's church building (March 21, 1937) by Archbishop Owen, then Primate of Canada. We will therefore be celebrating the Feast of the Dedication (BCP, pp. 305-307) on October 1 as is the custom in many Anglican parishes, marking 80 years of worship, service and community at 360 Windermere Avenue. This will also be the official launch date of For the Love of St Olave's, an intensive exploration of the rea-

sons why we love this place and how we can ensure that our common ministry is well-supported financially (please see the letter enclosed with this Branch for more information).

It is often said by others that St. Olave's "punches above its weight," and I couldn't agree more. Our worship offerings, children's ministry, music, educational programmes and outreach all belie a church of our relatively small size.

But the cost of maintaining these things we love is not fully met by our annual revenue. For the Love of St Olave's will challenge us all to think about why we give and how much we give to this place.

I sincerely hope that, for the love of St. Olave's, you will join us on October 1.

Rob +



Second Century Mission Fund helps spread the Gospel

For almost 30 years, St. Olave's has been supporting mission work in Canada and around the world through its Second Century Mission Fund. Recipients have included Christian Children's Fund of Canada (six children currently being sponsored), Sleeping Children Around the World and LOFT Community Housing, to name just a few.

According to Bob Ragsdale, a founding board member, there was a time in the early fifties that St. Olave's was able to devote about 20% of its annual budget to mission work outside our own parish. In more recent years, the investment income generated by the fund has ensured that we have been able to continue to donate to worthy causes.

A long-time beneficiary of the Fund has

been Wycliffe College, one of two seminary schools at the University of Toronto. Founded in 1877, just nine years before St. Olave's, Wycliffe has graduated all of our incumbents:

- Rev. H. H. Sparks, 1906 to 1933
- Rev. Canon Sextus Stiles, 1933-55
- Rev. Dr. Versey Wigmore, 1955-82
- Rev. Reg Rose, 1982-95
- Rev. David Burrows, 1996-2015

Even our new Rector, Rev. Rob Mitchell, is a graduate, so the tradition continues. (St. Olave's has also supplied two non-graduates of Wycliffe – the late Dr. Alan Williams, and the aforementioned Bob Ragsdale – to serve several years as Trustees of the College.)

Wycliffe has always been evangelical in its teaching (focused on spreading the

gospel throughout the world through mission work by its graduates) and so St. Olave's has always been heavily influenced toward mission as well.

In 1994 Second Century established a Student Bursary Fund at Wycliffe in memory of Rev. Wigmore, one of their most remarkable graduates and one of our longest serving rectors (at 27 years, tied with Rev. Sparks). The donations from Second Century, with occasional matching funds from the province, have surpassed \$200,000.

Every nickel given to our Student Bursary Fund at Wycliffe helps promising students in their quest to become ordained Anglican priests, spreading the Christian Gospel throughout Canada and the world. Is there a better use for your donations?



Changing children's lives in Romania

Excerpted from Kathy Langston's address to St. Olave's on July 29, 2017:

Icelebrate this church because you have enabled us to live in Romania for 17 years and show God's love to abandoned babies and abandoned handicapped children and teenagers. Now we have left Romania so I can take care of my aging parents in Calgary. But our work continues. I have a great "right hand" over there, a young woman who has been helping me for years with banking and payroll. Our two women working in the hospital with abandoned babies and our five people working with the abandoned handicapped children and teens are updating me through email. ...

Our women who work in the state group homes get them up out of bed where they would otherwise be left all day. They exercise the children, massage their deformed limbs, play with them, tell them stories and sing to them. They live in an environment of neglect and indifference. How they come alive when they are loved! ...

This orphanage should not exist. Romania's entrance into the EU stated that these places would be shut down. Many were, but not this one, and here up to 80 children who should be in foster families live in rooms along two long halls.

Codi, Andrea and I have been bringing children home to our apartment. We took them out to the parks, swimming and skat-

ing, to church, gave them opportunities to play and be free, the experience of being in a family. It was a real joy for us to see these children learn how to play with dolls and cars, lego and building blocks, they didn't know how, not having toys at the orphanage. ...

This past year God has given us others to love. There is a village about a half hour drive from Oradea that has desperately poor families and an adjoining community of even poorer gypsy families. There are about 50 children in total, some of whom didn't go to school because they had no shoes to wear.

A young couple who we know is determined to break the cycle of poverty by building a Day Centre. They see children as children of God regardless of their unwashed state or their ethnicity. So they have built a Day Centre in this village where these children get a hot meal (their one meal of the day) and get help with learning. ... School abandonment is a serious societal problem, 12 percent of children drop out before Grade 8. We want to help the children stay in school and break the cycle of poverty which leads to despair and baby abandonment.

The Centre opened in June and 30 children are coming for four hours a day. They just love the meal and learning is presented as something interesting and fun. They are having success and this is doing wonders for their behaviour.



Hunger Patrol serves up hope

For the past two years, the Hunger Patrol has continued to run out of St. Olave's every Saturday evening, excluding August and September, under the auspices of the Order of Malta and Swansea resident Dr. Christian Elia. Christian's wife Linda De Santis picked up the job of scheduling soup makers upon David Burrows' retirement, where the late Nancy Shapland left off. The program has been so successful that Christian has announced a redoubling of efforts for the 2017 "campaign" as he calls it. Starting in October, TWO cars will go out every Saturday evening, to serve twice as much soup to twice as many of the city's hungry. If you're interested in volunteering in any capacity, join us at St. Olave's on Saturday, September 23 at 4 p.m. for a kick-off meeting.



Time to head back to Junior Church!



Junior Church will be returning on September 10 at the Gathering Sunday service and we are thrilled to be welcoming Brittany Hudson, our new Child & Youth Minister.

Brittany has been working with children and youth for the past eight years in churches and communities throughout the country. She recently graduated with a B.A. in Religious Studies from Burman University in Alberta and will begin a Masters of Divinity in Clinical Counseling at Tyndale Seminary this fall.

Brittany is passionate about bridging the gap between the community and the church by creating churches that are welcoming, loving and sensitive to the needs of those in their community.

She is planning lots of games and surprises for Gathering Sunday, then on the following Sunday, Junior Church students will continue learning from the Gospel Project curriculum, creating crafts and singing songs. Brittany has exciting ideas for the kids this year. She might even bring her steel pan drum to church!

Please take the opportunity to introduce yourself to Brittany and welcome her to St. Olave's!

Youth Group will be meeting September 17 after church to discuss plans for this year!



BETTE RAGSDALE HONOURED

At the recent Diocesan and National gatherings of the ACW (Anglican Church Women), the late Elizabeth "Bette" Ragsdale was honoured for her contribution to our church life with the following tribute:

Loving wife, mother of three, volunteer and member of St. Olave's Anglican Church, Swansea for 57 years.

Mrs. Ragsdale came to St. Olave's as a young bride and joined the Rose Group, one of the five groups that made up our ACW. She was their "CAPTAIN". She also served as ACW PRESIDENT for many years.

A great cook who used her skills as a SOCIAL CONVENOR for coffee hours, funeral receptions and many, many fundraisers.

She was a SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER. At Christmas she organized the HOLLY BERRY MARKET and held an open house for the Congregation at her home. She organized volunteers for the HUNGER PATROL.

She made CHRISTMAS AND EASTER BANNERS for the Church. She was the

founder of the MITTEN TREE mission, and countless volunteer work for St. Olave's.

LEADER IN TWINNING of St. Olave's with St. James Anglican Church, Roseneath.

OTHER HONOURS included recipient of Certificate of Knowledge from Wycliffe College Lay School of Theology and recipient of Special Recognition Award from West Toronto Meals on Wheels.

Mrs. Ragsdale dedicated her life to St. Olave's. She was a born leader who was full of creative ideas. Many were quite surprised when they found they could do things they had never dreamed of.

We still strive to meet the standards that she set.



Reconciliation resource: Thomas King

The Library Corner

"Those who can read should!"



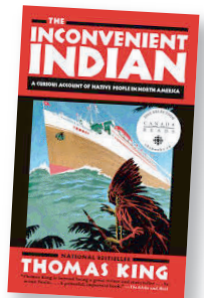
Our library has many books about Indigenous People in Canada. Our librarian, Cathy Hutcheon, will be speaking about them on September 17 during the coffee hour after the 10:30 service, but in the meantime, here's a review of one of the titles: *The Inconvenient Indian: A curious Account of Native People in North America*, by Thomas King.

Some of you may be familiar with King from his CBC radio series, *The Dead Dog Café*. The *Inconvenient Indian* shows some of King's trademark self-deprecating humour as he connects the dots from the ar-

rival of French and then English colonists, to famous warriors and battles, Hollywood stereotypes, the native civil rights movement of the 60s (King was part of an occupation of Alcatraz) and residential schools.

As his historical timeline progresses from what is now almost ancient history to the current issue of reconciliation (though it was published in 2013), his easygoing manner starts to give way to a simmering undercurrent of anger and frustration.

Ultimately I found the book to be thoroughly engaging, enlightening and hopeful. - Janice Douglas



This year's education events mark Reformation 500




This year marks the 500th anniversary of the launch of the Reformation on when on All Hallows Eve in 1517, Martin Luther famously nailed his 95 Theses to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

Our first education event, **Sunday, September 24 at 4 p.m.**, features Clement Carelse's illustrated talk on Music of the Reformation. His focus is on these composers and their works:

- Thomas Tallis (1505-85)
- John Merbecke (1510-85)

• William Byrd (1543–1623)
As Clement will explain and demonstrate, it had a profound effect on the music of the Christian church, putting a much greater emphasis on scriptural texts, ensuring that musical complexity did not obscure the meaning of the words, as well as strongly influencing the use of hymns and carols.

Clement's talk follows a Choral Evensong in which he directs the Choir of St. Peter's, Erindale, for their tenth annual visit to St. Olave's. There will also be a delicious Peach Tea after the service, before the talk.

Then on **Wednesday, November 1 at 6 p.m.** after a service of Holy Communion for All Saints Day, we will hear from Dr. David Neelands, former Dean of Divinity at Trinity College. David will discuss the history and theology of the Reformation and Counter-reformation. A light supper will be served. 



Healing of the Nations

Join us on **Wednesday, October 18 at 6 p.m.** when we welcome Canada's National Indigenous Bishop Mark MacDonald to St. Olave's for the first time. Bishop Mark is sought after as a speaker. His talk on healing and reconciliation is sure to be enlightening and informative. A light supper will be served after the service of Holy Communion for the Feast of St. Luke. Don't miss this important event.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events



Meetings

Tuesday, September 19

10 a.m. - ACW Executive Meeting

2 p.m. - Mary & Martha Group

Tuesday, Sept. 26 - 7:30 p.m.

Advisory Board Meeting
Reports due by Sept. 19

Tuesday, Oct. 17

10 a.m. - ACW Executive Meeting

2 p.m. - Mary & Martha Group

Tuesday, November 21

10 a.m. - ACW Executive Meeting

2 p.m. - Mary & Martha Group

SEPTEMBER

6 (Wednesday) – 2 p.m. - Pilgrim Bible Study with Dr. Schuyler Brown begins (first Wednesday of the month)

7 (Thursday) – 7:30 p.m.
Choir Practice resumes

10 – 10:30 a.m. - Gathering Sunday & Junior Church Rally Sunday followed by Picnic Lunch on the Lawn

13 (Wednesday) - 10 a.m.
Bible Study resumes
11:15 - Mid-week Eucharist resumes

17 – 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer in the Chapel resumes
noon - Library Presentation during Coffee Hour
Youth Group meeting

23 (Saturday) – 4 p.m.
Hunger Patrol Meeting

24 – 4 p.m. - Michaelmas Choral Evensong followed by Peach Tea and Music of the Reformation. **Special Guests: Clement Carelse and the Choir of St. Peter's, Erindale**

OCTOBER

1 – 10:30 a.m. - Feast of the Dedication followed by For the Love of St. Olave's presentation (*please see letter enclosed with this issue of the Branch for more details*)

3 p.m. - Windermere String Quartet Concert

8 – 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Thanksgiving Harvest Services

18 (Wednesday) – 6 p.m. The Feast of St. Luke Holy Communion followed by light supper and "Healing of the Nations". **Special Guest: National Indigenous Bishop Mark MacDonald**

NOVEMBER

1 (Wednesday) – 6 p.m. - All Saints Day Holy Communion followed by Light Supper and "Reformation 500". **Special Guest: Dr. David Neelands**

5 – 4 p.m. All Souls (transferred) Choral Evensong with Memorial followed by Pumpkin Tea and "City Flutes"

12 – 10:30 a.m. - Remembrance Day Service **Special Guests: Guide and Scout Groups**

18 (Saturday) – 10 - 4 p.m.
Christmas Craft Show & Coffee House

26 – 3 p.m. Windermere String Quartet Concert

Prayer Book services in the heart of Bloor West Village

Every Sunday	1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays	2nd, 4th Sundays	Wednesdays
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel	10 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion with Anointing	10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	10 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion