
ST PAUL'S

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA



JOURNAL

HOLY WEEK/EASTER 2002

FROM THE RECTOR

John Newton

A week or so ago the media were filled with stories reminding us that we had passed the half-anniversary of 11 September. Where the 110-storey towers had once stood there is now a gaping hole, as the last of the wreckage is towed away to be used as scrap metal. Two huge searchlights now beam upwards into the night sky, filling with light the space that was until recently glass and steel.

No doubt 11 September 2001 will be one of the defining moments for the next generation, just as 23 November 1963 was for a previous generation, or 3 September 1939 for the one before that. These are the dates for which people remember exactly where they were and what they were doing when they first heard the news. They have become etched in our collective memory.

By contrast, no one knows the date when the most momentous events in history took place—events that were defining moments not only for the next generation but for the next two thousand years. These events were, of course, the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We do not know with any certainty even the year in which they took place. However we do know that Jesus was nailed to a Roman cross on a hill just outside Jerusalem around nine in the morning on the Friday of Passover and that he died six hours later. We know that two mornings after that, just before the dawn sun began to glint over the eastern horizon, some women were surprised to find that the temporary tomb in which his body had been laid was empty—and were greeted with the news that he was alive again.

Services of Holy Week & Easter

MONDAY, 25 MARCH

7:30 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Service
at St Paul's

TUESDAY, 26 MARCH

7:30 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Service
at St Matthew's United

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH

7:30 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Service
at First Baptist Church

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
*"Wheels to Worship" with
light luncheon.*

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 28 MARCH

7:30 a.m. Ecumenical Prayer Service
at St David's Presbyterian

9:00 p.m. 'Gethsemane Watch'
*A one-hour vigil
of intercession & prayer.*

GOOD FRIDAY, 29 MARCH

12:00 noon Service of Contemplation
on the Cross of Christ,
beginning with Gabriel
Fauré's Requiem

EASTER DAY, 31 MARCH

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
in Point Pleasant Park

10:00 a.m. Easter Celebration
of Holy Communion
*with traditional & contempo-
rary music and children's
programme*

While we do not know the precise date, no doubt there were people who would remember exactly where they were when they first heard the news. Nothing would take the memory of that first Easter dawn out of the minds of the women who first set eyes on the empty tomb. Peter and the other disciples would recall with clarity the circumstances when those women had come to them with what they thought was a preposterous delusion: that the Lord had risen indeed. They would also look back to the same evening, when they had gathered in the upper room with the doors locked and suddenly discovered that Jesus was in their midst! Cleopas and his friend would vividly remember how they had walked some distance with a stranger along the road to Emmaus, to discover as they broke bread with him that it was actually Jesus.

Very soon you and I will gather to celebrate those events, which have transformed not just a generation but the whole course of history—and continue to address our own day and age with a power found nowhere else. Of course the power of Jesus' cross and resurrection is not in the fact that they were events with cosmic implications. It is that they reach out to touch and transform the lives of individuals—yours and mine. The forgiveness that Jesus offers through his cross and the new life that he came to bring are as available to you and to me in the twenty-first century as they were to Mary, Peter, John and the others in the first.

Once again Good Friday and Easter come to us with the invitation to open our lives to Jesus—to allow him to come to us in his risen power and his healing love—and to discover that the events that changed history can transform us today.

EASTER COMMUNION

Do you know of any who, for reason of illness or infirmity, are unable to attend the Holy Week and Easter services? Please give the church office a call at 429-2240, and we will be pleased to arrange to celebrate Holy Communion with them in their homes. Thank you!

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St Paul's Church

1749 Argyle Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3K4

Telephone: (902) 429-2240

Facsimile: (902) 429-8230

E-mail: stpauls@chebucto.ns.ca

Web Site: www.stpaulshalifax.org

John Newton, Rector

John Osler, Senior Warden

Patrick Hartling, Junior Warden

Peter Secord, Deputy Warden

Karen Harris

Parish Administrator

Yvonne Messenger

Directors of Children's Ministries

Rob Paddock

Organist & Choir Director

Maggie Duinker

Music Team Leader

Submissions to ST PAUL'S JOURNAL are always welcome. The deadline for the next issue is **30 April, 2002.**

FROM THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Karen Harris

As I write this, my 8-month probation is fast coming to a close. It has been a real learning curve for me. I never dreamed of the complexities that this size church and congregation have. But it has been a very enjoyable time. Everyone is so kind and understanding. Thank you!

During one of my interviews, it was mentioned that there were two slow periods, and with this in mind, during the summer I thought of some projects that I could complete during these slow periods. Perhaps it is because of the learning curve, but I've not had a chance to complete those projects or in some cases, start them. I hope to get started on them soon and completed over the next year or so.

I've not had occasion to work before in the downtown, but so far it is a fascinating place. There is a great deal that happens on the parade ground in the summer and just more happening downtown than at a mall, or an office building, or a business park. And this past week, I've had many visitors to my office and some were of the 4-legged variety. I have to admit though that I'm not very fond of these visitors, usually because they have a penchant to dart quickly from one hidey-hole to the next, and they startle me.



Working with Johnn, Rob, Maggie, Yvonne, and Jack is a great pleasure. They are all so dedicated.

I would also like to thank the ladies who came in to help with getting the different Journals out. It is a big job, and one that I'm glad for the assistance. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work", and your hands definitely got the Journals out a lot faster than I could have alone, and I appreciate it.

If you're around, please stop in and say hello. For those with a sweet tooth, I do keep some candy in the office.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD!
**GOD LOVES TO BRING
 PEOPLE TOGETHER**

John Osler

In the summer of 1999, while our household belongings were being shipped from Italy to Canada, we decided to visit Ireland for a vacation *en route* to Canada. One morning in Dublin, we made a brief stop in a Celtic music store. There I met an old friend and fellow graduate student with whom I had lost contact. She had just finished some post-doctoral work in Switzerland. As an accomplished violinist and budding fiddler, she was on a musical vacation, touring portions of France and Ireland while her container of belongings was on its way to her native New Zealand. A small world indeed!

FRIENDS OF ST PAUL'S

Dot Kelly

Our membership in 'Friends' continues to grow. We now have reached one hundred and seven. Several members have sent greetings expressing their appreciation in receiving the *Journal*. Again, at Christmas and Easter we have enclosed cards and we have received telephone calls to say how much they have added to the contact.

I wish to express my thanks to Mrs Phyllis Redman for her support and to Mrs Karen Harris, Parish Administrator, for all her assistance.

FOR STAR-GAZERS

Gretchen Gillis

For all those who find wonder and awe in a star-filled night sky, the following excerpt from the "Astronomy Calendar 2002" (edited by Terence Dickinson) will be of real interest. It could be fascinating for your children, too!

THE UNIVERSE TRAIN

"Imagine that each star in the known universe were a grain of sand. In this lilliputian cosmos, a thimble would hold all the stars visible on a clear, dark summer night, and a dump truck would contain the Milky Way, the galaxy in which the sun resides. To demonstrate all the stars in the known universe, we need a freight train with hopper cars filled with sand. The train begins to pass in front of us at a level crossing. We count the cars as we wait. The cars roar by, at one per second. The minutes pass, then the hours, then days. We would have to keep count 24 hours a day for three years before the universe train cleared the crossing. Long enough to stretch around the planet 25 times, the universe train would carry all the sand from all the beaches on earth."

FROM THE KIDS' CORNER

Yvonne Messenger

Thank you, thank you to all the kids and the adults who helped to make our Christmas Pageant a great success. I have heard lots of positive comments from people in the congregation who really enjoyed watching all the children.

We began January with a new bunch of teachers in most of our classes and we have been learning about Joshua and how God worked in his life. As we move into Lent the children will be listening to stories that Jesus told to his friends that help us to learn how to live with Jesus as our King. During March we will learn how important the Bible is and how it can help us to know how God wants us to live.

Parents, please remember to join us over at Parish House to see what your children have been up to. They are making their rooms a reflection of themselves and what they are learning with some great artwork. Also, if you have not already done so, please consider signing up to bring snacks one Sunday this spring. The snack roster is posted beside the entrance to Parish House.

I will be looking for teachers for the Sunday School classes between Easter and the middle of June. Please consider joining us and sharing your gifts with the children. If you have already taught this year, and would like to continue, please let me know. Thank you in advance for your support and help.

Again, I really appreciate all the hard work and enthusiasm that all the volunteers give to the Children's Programs. I am thankful that God has provided a great team of adults to work with our kids. Please continue to pray for the leaders, and for the children who join us on Sundays. May God's love fill

us with joy as we seek to worship and know Him.

Please contact me with any comments or concerns.

HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR CHOIR LATELY?

Rob Paddock

We are quickly steaming through Lent towards Easter. There have been recitals at St Paul's at 12:15 p.m. on Thursdays throughout the Lenten season. Enclosed is a poster containing the specifics of these recitals. The choir will be presenting the *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré on Good Friday, March 29 at 12:00 noon here at St Paul's. This will be part of our Good Friday service. As always I extend an invitation to any potential choristers in the congregation to join the choir. If interested, don't hesitate to call me.

MY FATHER AND YOUR FATHER, MY GOD AND YOUR GOD

Denise G. McKay

Many are the ways of worship, rituals and beliefs today,
People kneeling, sitting, standing, prostrate, when they start to pray,
Bodies painted, costumed, prancing, chanting, or subdued,
Some will even walk through fire, cut themselves, or eat no food.
But no matter what the process, satisfaction or result,
Most people in this world have formed some religious group or cult.
We humans have the basic urge to worship someone greater
Than anyone among ourselves, we look up, to a Creator.
Something deep within us makes long to be replete,
It is our soul that longs for God, to make our life complete.
The answer to this longing is God's plan of saving grace,
Through the sacrifice of Jesus for the sins of the human race.
Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, all people have a way
To choose to follow Jesus, and be saved for heaven someday.
Of all the faiths and creeds believed by people under the sun,
The Christian belief of faith and hope, in Christ, is the *only* one
That truly satisfies the soul, gives peace, and joy, and love,
From a heavenly Father who wants to share with us his Son in his realm above.
Jesus told all his followers, Christians who lived on this sod,
"I ascend unto my Father, and your Father, and to my God, and your God."
Easter is the time we rejoice and remember, with thanks, our Saviour and Lord,
His resurrection, our salvation, future hope, and our blessed coming reward.

Written and composed with God's help for Easter 2002.

"...I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, 'I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.'" John 20:17, *King James Version*

FRED CROOK

RECTOR 1971-1979

Roger and Jane Bureau

Last Sunday (March 3rd 2002) Fred died in hospital in England. Fred had not been well for some months and the combination of a heart problem and a fight with cancer proved to be too much for his earthly body to take. A few weeks before Fred's death Jane and I talked to him on the phone and, even at that time, his deep voice resonated with strength and love as we spoke to each other.

This is not a compendium of Fred's earthly achievements which I am sure will be properly documented and echoed in obituaries around the world. His impact on the Anglican community was international. As General Secretary of the Commonwealth & Continental Church Society in England and as a missionary abroad, his broad smile and healthy disciplined lifestyle will be missed by many.

In his pastoral caring Fred had a particularly strong ministry with young people both at St Paul's and also at Little Trinity Church in Toronto. The Sunday school in Halifax and the teenage "Triniteens" in Toronto were both a mark of his concern for the nurturing of the young Christian community.

I came to know and love him as the man who led me to Christ and nurtured my



newfound faith. Without him I would probably be floundering, to this day, in a limbo of "moral rearmament" type activity with no sense of the enormity of God's love and patience for each and every one of us.

Fred taught me that being Christ's messenger is not an easy task. But the rewards of being faithful to him are out of all proportion to what we deserve.

By force of circumstance the Crooks and the Bureaus moved to Toronto at almost the same time. It was no coincidence that our paths continued to be closely linked at this time. Without Joy and Fred's faithful ministry to us at that time the struggle to survive through major illness

and job changes would have been very difficult. It was a mark of their love for each and every one of us as God's children, that they continued, over the years, to ask fondly of so many friends at St Paul's as to their state of health and happiness. Their concern for how each one of us (without exception) fared continues to this day.

To Joy we send our love and share in her grief at her loss. But we also rejoice in the knowledge that Fred is now with the Lord where he has earned a well-deserved rest.

MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE, AND I KNOW THEM

Denise G. McKay

I'm certainly no 'authority', but from what I've seen and read,
Sheep are quite disorganized, and scattered, unless led
By a person, or an animal, to keep them all together,
No matter what the circumstances, or any type of weather.
A shepherd is their leader, but he has a trained dog too,
The sheep dog is remarkable in what he has to do.
The shepherd commands by whistling, and the dog rounds up the sheep,
And later, when they're fenced in, and it is time for sleep,
The shepherd and his dog lie down across the opening to the fold,
In protection of the helpless sheep against predators, who are very bold.
Our Lord used sheep symbolically when he taught the people of his day,
He referred to humans as lost sheep, with no leader, and gone astray.
It's true! People mostly please themselves, break rules, and live it up,
But eventually the crossroad comes, their life's flow spills out o'er the cup,
They've gone too far, they've done too much, they've broken down, a mess,
It's decision time, their soul cries out, it's time for help! confess!
That's when Jesus is our Shepherd, and we, the scattered, helpless sheep,
Our cry for help will bring him, his promise he will keep,
To change our life, and turn it around, forgive our sins, be free,
He'll be our Saviour and our Lord, we're saved for eternity!
That's what Easter's all about, why Jesus paid the price
For sinful man, was crucified, as a living sacrifice;
But praise God! now Christ's risen from the grave, and we can sing,
"Hallelujah! to the Lord of hosts! Our Saviour, Lord and King!"

Written and composed with God's help for Easter 2002.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." John 10:27,28, *King James Version*