

THE CROWN

St. Margaret's in-the-Pines



Spring 2008

My dear people:

'God so loved the world' is the message we hear in Lent and Eastertide; God's love was such that He sent His Son to earth to live, suffer and die so that we might be set free from guilt and from the fear and hatred of ourselves that guilt involves. But there is more, and one aspect of that 'more' might usefully be in the forefront of our minds this Easter.



Jesus rose from the dead. This fact at the heart of our faith is not simply a 'happy ending' or a spectacular proof that God was at work in the life and death of Jesus. It is a vital part of God's love for the world. God brings Jesus back to life in a Resurrection body, not just as an idea in people's minds. God, in other words, loves the material, bodily world. When God gives mercy and salvation to the world, He gives it to the whole person, not just to the mind or feelings; and He gives it to the whole environment. When God's love is at work, something happens to the entire physical person that I am and to the entire material world, as well.

But we have plenty of evidence just now that we don't share God's love for the world in this sense. We are, at one level, very eager to meet our physical needs for stimulus and pleasure, but that's not quite the same thing. We continue our ludicrous abuse of the physical environment. To give but one example, a recent article in The New York Times indicates that, according to the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation, fully three-quarters of the earth's biodiversity in crops has been lost in the past century, owing to vagaries of climate, politics and human error. We expect from our farmers such levels of production, such speed and industrial efficiency, that we can't come to terms with the idea that farming really demands more patience, a slower pace.

The questions here are complex, I know. But we need to be asking how we came to be in such a situation and to be questioning the appetite for cheap food that stokes the fires. It is uncomfortably close to the consuming greed that underlies the wider environmental crisis.

So one subject to think about this Easter might be: 'Do we love the world?' Not just: 'Do we love humanity?' only, but do we have the sort of love for the physical world, the nature we are part of, that God sows in raising Jesus from the dead? That love is surely part of the Good News of Easter: God loves us as we are, mind and body, and loves our whole world. How do we make that Good News a reality in relation to the whole of our threatened environment?

I invite us to think and act upon these things this Easter, as individuals and as a parish community.

*With blessings for a joyous Eastertide,
Your friend and priest,*

(Fr) Ron Scott+

*From the
Pastor* 

EASTER HOME COMMUNIONS

*Fr. Ron plans to administer these on **Wednesday, March 19**. If, owing to illness or infirmity, you or someone you know would like to receive Communion in this way, **PLEASE ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE**, and Fr. Ron will be happy to make the necessary arrangements.*



**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

Maundy Thursday , March 20
10:00 am Holy Eucharist
7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
Good Friday, March 21
10:30 a.m. Solemn Liturgy
Holy Saturday, March 22
7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil, Baptism,
and Holy Eucharist
Easter Day, March 23
9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Holy
Eucharist

BAPTISMAL FESTIVALS FOR THE YEAR 2008

*Those desiring **Holy Baptism**, either for themselves or for their children, are asked to please **contact Father Ron at least one month in advance** in order to arrange the necessary Pre-Baptismal Classes for Parents and Godparents.*

Saturday, March 22 Easter Vigil
Sunday May 11 Pentecost
Sunday, Sept. 14 Holy Cross (transferred)
Sunday, November 2 All Saints' (transferred)

St Margaret's, West Hill 175th Anniversary:

This year we celebrate 175 years of faithful witness by our Parish in this part of our Diocese. We are the oldest Anglican parish east of the Don River in what is today the City of Toronto.

This anniversary year affords us the opportunity both to thank God for His many past blessings and to seek the guidance of His Holy Spirit as we confront the possibilities and challenges of the future.

*Various events are being planned, culminating in a grand celebration on **our Patronal Festival of St Margaret, Sun., 16 November '08**, at which **our Area Bishop, The Right Rev'd Patrick Yu** has been booked to celebrate our 175th Anniversary in the context of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.*

Plan now to be present on 16 Nov. and do keep the year's planning in your prayers.

Stewardship 2008

*This year the Stewardship Committee will be working very closely with the capital campaign committee. As you know, the parish is facing an enormous financial challenge. It will take **commitment** and **willingness** on the part of each individual parishioner to:*



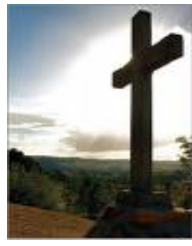
- » significantly increase weekly givings
- » increase volunteer participation in the different church groups

We are about to celebrate 175 years of history at St. Margaret's. As wonderful as this event is, we must also take time to consider where we will be in 10 year's time. We are the caretakers of God's house. Stewardship is an attitude. When we offer our time, talent, and treasure, we are really offering our very selves to God. Please pray and think about this issue very carefully.

*Toni Terbenche,
Chair, Stewardship Committee*

St. Margaret's In-the-Pines

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Pastoral Care Visiting Team

Members of the Pastoral Care Visiting Team telephone and visit parishioners who are unable to attend services.

This Easter Holy Communion will be given to the shut-ins and flowers delivered. Your donations to the flower fund make this possible.

Parishioners who are ill are sent cards of encouragement and prayers. Please inform the office if you know someone who is ill and would like communion or a visit.

Respectfully Submitted Eileen Loftus

St. Margaret's Community Festival

Mark Saturday June 21 on your calendars! Bring friends and family for a fun filled day of music, food, crafts and lots more. Volunteers and ideas for the day are welcomed. Please see Dave Madder to step up your involvement in this exciting event



Pancake Supper

The Annual St. Margaret's Pancake Supper was a sweet success. The approximately 100 people attending ate pancakes and sausages and enjoyed an evening of food and friends.

Many thanks go to all the volunteers. The evening raised \$425.00 to support the ongoing Ministries here at St. Margaret's



Easter Food Drive

Once again this year, in conjunction with Giffen Mack Funeral Home, we are conducting our Easter Food Drive. Your generous contributions will be forwarded to West Hill Community Food Bank, and distributed to those in need in our community. Please bring in your contributions in the original, unopened manufacturer's packaging. Items such as baby formula, Kraft Dinner, canned fruits and vegetables, tuna and salmon are in high demand at the food bank.

Thank you very much for your kindness and generosity to those less fortunate.



Walkathon

This year's walkathon is planned for Saturday June 7. Pull on your walking shoes and join us for a day of fun and fundraising. Pledge forms will be available in early May. Please see Vernon Williams or Dave Madder for further information.



Fall Concert

Mark September 20 on your calendar!
"Bring your family and friends for a night of toe tapping fun, lots of laughs and some good old time tunes."

The Scott Woods Band will provide an evening of old time country and fiddle music here at St. Margaret's. Tickets will be on sale in the late summer.

To learn more about the band go to

www.scottwoods.ca

Thank you !

A hearty thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers. You add so much to our parish and to our community.