

# The Vine



## Welcome to the centennial anniversary edition of the Newsletter!

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first service held in the present church building. The cornerstone was laid in May 1912 but the church was not completed until 1913 with the first service being held in May.



**The laying of the cornerstone, 1912**

The original Parish was established in 1823, and the first Parish Church was completed on Church Street in 1827. This building was extended in the mid-1860's and again in 1877, resulting in the brick and stone building which still stands (and now serves as The County Museum).

By 1904, there were calls for a new church building because of the deteriorating condition of the 1865 church. (Wow, you should see it now!) The plans for a new church on Main Street were completed in 1911, with a

projected cost of \$22,000. The cornerstone was laid on May 10, 1912 on the site of the Parish House (now the Parish Hall) which had been moved to the back of the property using log rollers and horses! The service of dedication was held on Ascension day, May 1, 1913.



**The church on Main Street in early days**

## Some memories of the Past Forty Years at St. Mary Magdalene

Al Capon's book, *A Goodly Heritage*, chronicles the history of our Parish from its beginning until 1980. Since I've been a member at St. Mary Magdalene for the past 40 years, I hope that readers of this Newsletter will enjoy some of my reminiscences from this period.

The Reverend Bob Stewart had been the Rector here for several years when Bill and I arrived here. I vividly recall him once preaching against arrogance and pride on a Sunday when he used as illustration an incident in the building of the then new church. When the tower was ready to receive the bell from the old church, it was transported in a cart down Union Street and up the town hill. Somewhere along the way, the bell fell out and crashed on to the roadway. Some folk who felt strongly about leaving the dear old church in Delhi for the new church in Picton proclaimed loudly at the time that God was expressing his objection to the

move! If so, God soon became resigned to the move and the bell still calls people to worship on Sundays, tolls following a funeral and rings out joyfully as newlyweds leave the church.

On the Reverend David Sinclair's watch, we were visited - at our invitation - by an ecclesiastical architect from the Diocese of Niagara, Gerald Robinson, who had been responsible for some imaginative ideas to make churches more welcoming and more functional. His report contained some interesting suggestions for our church but none which we felt we could afford to do at the time.

Recently, I have revisited the Robinson Report and been surprised by how many of his suggestions, or their derivatives, have since been put into our church as we now experience it. The new glass front doors - an impressive and functional piece of memorial art - would impress him greatly. Together with the ramp, the entire approach to the front entrance of the church had been radically transformed. The rearrangement of the Chapel is almost as he had visualized it. The interior lighting has vastly improved, far better than he imagined. And there is now an accessible washroom in the tower. These changes have all occurred since the time of the Robinson Report, although most occurred later and independently.

We came to St. Mary Magdalene just as the final funds were being collected for the major rebuilding of the Casavant organ. I recall Colin Carter calling on us for a donation almost immediately! A series of recitals of Bach's organ works was planned by the music director, Robert Wright, to commemorate the refurbishment of this wonderful instrument. Unfortunately, only one recital took place before illness intervened - and most of Bach's works remain unperformed here.

Nevertheless, that single event did herald a trend that has developed and grown in the church over the past 40 years. Today, concerts of great variety are held in the church, which has a reputation for the best acoustics between Toronto and Montreal. Musicians love to perform here, and they do. I believe that the music at St. Mary Magdalene, both in worship and in performance, greatly enhances the place of our church in the community. More people are being attracted by what happens here. And we can look forward with confidence to beginning the third century of our Parish in another ten years!

**Sheila Gribble**



## **DOUBT** - a poem by A.I.

If you knelt beside my bed  
And lay your hands upon my head,  
Would I believe it, Lord?

If you called my name and said  
It was for you these hands once bled,  
Would I believe it, Lord?

If I saw the mark of thorn  
The place where once your flesh was torn,  
Would I believe it, Lord?

If you let me touch your side  
To feel the wound by which you died,  
Would I believe it, Lord?

Would I not rather turn in fright  
And blame your presence on the night,  
Forgive my doubting, Lord.



## The Minister's Word

Dear Friends,

It is a great delight for my wife Carmen and me to be involved with the congregation of St. Mary Magdalene, Picton, as your interim pastor. We look forward to our continuing friendship in the days ahead. It is particularly rewarding to be part of the current celebration of 100 years of worship and service in our current building.

Anniversaries are occasions which invite reflection and vision, opportunities to remember great (and not-so-great) moments from our past, and to look ahead with hope, imagination, and prayer. Our visions and intentions for the future of this parish need to be shaped by the eternal truths of the Christian good news, coupled with the resources we possess and the local circumstances which surround us, and energized by God's Holy Spirit.

Some years ago the Anglican Communion developed a mission statement commonly known as The Marks of Mission. In five brief phrases it sums up what Jesus taught and challenged his followers to undertake:

- Tell – Proclaim the Good News of Salvation in the Kingdom of God
- Teach – Instruct, baptize, and nurture new believers
- Tend – Respond to human need by loving service
- Transform – Seek to put right the unjust structures in society
- Treasure – Safeguard the well-being of creation and renew the life of the earth

Now at first glance there appears to be something for everyone in this list. Preachers and evangelists? Number One is for you...Academic theologians or professional educators? Become a teacher...Quiet, humble lay person? Just care for your needy neighbours...Angry and frustrated citizens? Organize a political or protest movement...Worried about the environment? Help us all to go green. Indeed, something for everyone.

But look more closely at these Five Marks of Mission. They are not simply individual or isolated options...pick one or two favourites and leave the rest to others. No, they are a total package, a comprehensive response to Jesus's invitation to follow him. For one thing the first two marks are crucial to the very existence and survival of the church. Without evangelism (proclaiming the Good News), baptism, and teaching the faith to succeeding generations of young and old, there will be no church left to



carry out the remaining three marks. Indeed while we can join with our secular friends and neighbours in supporting the last three marks, we do have a distinctively Christian obligation to tell the Jesus Story in such a compelling and credible way that others hear, understand, believe, and say "Yes" to him.

Historically Anglican Church membership has been sustained by babies being born, baptized, and nurtured into the life of the church. That day of reproductive Christianity has long passed; the majority of young people – and increasingly – the middle-aged (and even extremely middle-aged!) have little memory or experience of the Christian faith and life, through no fault of their own. Our priority must be to find fresh ways to make Christ know again. As we enter another century at St. Mary Magdalene, may the Holy Spirit so enable us.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

***Bishop Peter Mason, Interim Pastor***

## A memorable milestone

### Rev. Stan Whitehouse celebrates 60 years in ministry

On December 16, 2012, a service was held in the church to honour the 60th anniversary of Rev. Stan Whitehouse's ordination. Some 140 people were in attendance, including many parishioners from Frankford and Glen Miller (Stan's last Parish), as well as Bishop Michael Oulton who was the celebrant on the occasion. In recognition of his extraordinary service, Stan was made an honorary canon of St. George's Cathedral.

After the service, the celebration continued with a very crowded pot-luck lunch in the Parish Hall - good food, fellowship and speech-making.

Stan still presides over the Wednesday morning communion service each week, fills in when necessary in other services, and shares freely of himself in thoughtful and friendly conversation.

The new pew cushions in the chapel and the kneelers at the High Altar are in recognition of Stan's remarkable ministry.

We feel blessed to have Stan as a member of our congregation. God Bless you, you are an inspiration to us all.



## Our Centennial Year

After a year of celebrations leading up to the May 5<sup>th</sup> Centennial Anniversary Service, we have renewed hope and optimism for the future of St. Mary Magdalene Church and her congregation. The May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Anniversary Service will be the culmination of a year of celebration and activities which are summarized below.

We started the year with Rev. Ian Martin as our Interim Priest but, in early September he left for a permanent position in youth ministry in the Diocese of Toronto. For a portion of the year, we were without a full-time or part-time priest but were fortunate to have Ven. Rev. Karen Dukes, Rev. Canon Stan Whitehouse, Rev. Bill Kidnew, Rev. Fran Langlois and Lay Reader, Sheila Gribble to lead Sunday services.

During the year we also invited a number of guest clergy to help us celebrate, including former ministers of St. Mary Magdalene, Rev. Canon David Ward, Rev. Canon David Sinclair and Rev. Canon Bob Hales, as well as Archdeacon, Ven. Brad Smith and our Diocesan Bishop Michael Oulton.

### ***Some significant events***

**May** - A service of Rededication of the Cornerstone, and Dedication of the LeHeup Memorial Glass Doors.

**June** - Choral Evensong at the Old St. Mary Magdalene Church.

**July** - Gallery Choir from St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto, gave a Saturday evening concert and joined our choir for the Sunday Eucharist.

**August** - Jazz Mass with Brian Barlow Trio and Tabby Johnson with well over 300 in the congregation.

**October** - Rev. David Ward led the service in commemoration of the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Book of Common Prayer and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canadian Book of Common Prayer.

**November** - Ven. Archdeacon Brad Smith, Padre of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, presided over the Rededication of the Queen's Colour of the Regiment and the installation of additional flags to the memorial wall. Members of the Regiment were in attendance.

**December 9:** A concert of Medieval Advent music by Holly Gwen-Timothy and Friends.

**December 16:** A service and luncheon to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Rev. Stan Whitehouse, presided over by Bishop Michael Oulton who also appointed Stan an Honorary Canon of St. George's Cathedral.

Our Advent and Christmas services were enhanced by the arrival, in December, of Bishop Peter Mason as our interim priest. Under Peter's spiritual guidance and inspiring homilies, services during the Christmas and Easter seasons were moving experiences in our spiritual journey.

In April, Bishop Peter began a five-week study titled "Say Yes to Tomorrow" which is intended to bring a renewal of our own personal faith as we mark the 100th anniversary of our church on Main Street.

For 100 years we have been blessed with a space with exceptional acoustics where sounds of worship and praise have rung out. This quality has been recognized by many in the community to the extent that our Church has become a venue of choice for numerous music performances.

In 2011, it was felt that a grand piano would make wonderful centennial gift to the Church and to the community. A Yamaha C7, Grand Piano was eventually purchased and arrived in January 2012. Michael Goodwin was instrumental in raising the initial funds to purchase the piano and for arranging the musical events and concerts to help pay the remaining balance.

Since Prince Edward County is a growing centre for the arts, it was decided that in our Centennial year there should be included the recognition of spirituality in art and music in our worship, and by extension, in our daily lives. In keeping with the idea of raising spiritual awareness through The Arts, Ven. Rev Karen Dukes and Andrew Innes developed ways to explore creativity and the life of the spirit through workshops and dialogue.

In the fall of 2012, the "Windows of Waiting" workshop was organized to explore the meaning of waiting and of Advent. From this first workshop came personal art pieces which were then displayed in the Church during the Advent Season.

In the spring, a series in the same vein was launched. "With Eyes of the Heart" presented four Monday evening sessions where artists from various disciplines, ceramic art, visual art, poetry, writing and music, shared their spiritual inspiration. The closing event in this series was a Jazz Vespers on April 7.

Throughout the year we have enjoyed many concerts and events; we have five different art classes using the Parish Hall, choir practices, students practicing piano and violin and everyone generally enjoying the uplifting, spiritual environment that is St. Mary Magdalene.

In the lead up to the May 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service, plans are being made to hold a Victorian Tea on the afternoon of Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. A special concert of "Choral Anthems Through the Ages" has been arranged for the evening of May 4<sup>th</sup>. That same afternoon, there will be an Open House with photographs and church memorabilia on display in the Parish Hall. The Church will be open at the same time so that our beautifully kept and historic house of worship can be shared with all.

Finally, there is the May 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service with Bishop Michael Oulton celebrating at 10:30 am. A catered lunch will follow.

### ***The Wardens of the church***



## **In Your Cups.....The Greening of St. Mary Magdalene**

Part of our commitment to God is to be respectful and to take care of His wonderful green Earth. We can do our best to compost and to be careful to buy local, to recycle and not to use chemicals and items that are harmful to the earth, and create as small a footprint as we can.



At St. Mary Magdalene, we are beginning to seek ways and means to be a green congregation, and we are about to get greener! Our coffee hour after church will now use fully compostable cups. In a composter they will take about a month to compost, apparently, but we will have to see. Word is that worms find these cups especially delicious! Please put your cups and paper plates into the blue box near the

goodie table. The paper plates will be recycled and the cups composted. We will be one step nearer to reducing waste and becoming even more responsible stewards of our Earth. (Josie and Michael will check out the composting time and get back to you in an exciting future article!)

In the coming months we will be trying new ideas such as having a composter at the back of the garden, acquiring a rain barrel, and learning about how to be the best custodians of our Mother Earth and her creatures that we can be. Stay tuned for more exciting initiatives at SMM. If you have green ideas for our church please speak to Pauline or Josie.

***Josie Farrar***

### ***Item in a Church Bulletin:***

*Martha Belch, a missionary from Africa will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Martha Belch all the way from Africa.*

## **With Eyes of the Heart**

Something very special happened here at St. Mary Magdalene during the month of March 2013. On three consecutive Monday evenings, the wider community was invited to presentations by 6 artists who displayed their work and took us on a journey as to how their spirituality informed their work.



***Claudia McCabe***

It is one thing to view a person's art in a gallery or read poems in a book or listen to a CD of a piece of music. But, when you view the art and listen to the words of the artists describing their pieces and taking us into their world of discovery and creative process, one is transported and feels a much deeper connection with them and their works. What a deeply felt gift to experience that.

The series culminated with a Jazz Vespers concert performed by Brian Barlow and friends. Brian spoke too, of his journey with jazz. He is very committed to jazz performance in the church and we are so fortunate to have this experienced and committed musician in the County.

Each evening was well attended and the feedback has been very positive. I think people would love to see this happen again next year, a very successful event, thanks to the vision of Andrew Innes and Karen Dukes.

***Anne Howells***



*"The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible."*

*George Burns*

## Read and Rejoice!

We supported the **ROC** (Recreation Outreach Centre) by providing food and money (\$1000) to sponsor children to attend the week-long **summer camp** and regular programs. Almost 90 children attended the camp.

**Our Christmas Bake Sale, Coffee Table etc** raised \$3760. In addition to the usual tables (Jams and Jellies, Candy, White Elephant, Gift Baskets) A Silent Auction was a successful addition. Again many thanks to all those who made it a success.

Another successful **pancake supper** was held on Shrove Tuesday, February 12. Thanks to all those involved who help raise \$312.

April is the month when members of St. Mary Magdalene deliver "**Meals on Wheels**" for PEC Community Care for Seniors. Thanks again to Bob and Joan Mercer for organizing the 14 volunteers.

The Picton **Food Bank** continues to receive large **donations** of non-perishable food and toiletry items collected on Food Bank Sundays. Thanks to John Hughes for delivering the donations.

A drive to "**Fill the Bottle**" with pennies" raised \$166.66 for the Food Bank. Thanks to Sue Rowe for organizing the collection.

Our new **glass doors** are a great addition. They make our wonderful church a more open and welcoming place. The doors, which were donated by Jon LeHeup in memory of his parents, Jack and Marguerite, were dedicated on 27 May 2012.

Our "**Joyful Noise**" singing group (with guitar, banjo-ukelele and harmonica) continues to entertain in the local nursing and retirement homes. In a recent sing-a-long, Bishop Peter, complete with his saxophone, accompanied the usual gang.

The weekly **Coffee Time** continues to be a great addition after the 10.30 Sunday service. Many linger to enjoy the tea/coffee, goodies and the fellowship. Thanks to Nell and Helen for organizing the roster.

We support the **County Kids Read** program by providing sorting and storage space for children's books which are then distributed free of charge to encourage childhood literacy. We are starting a collection of new and gently used children's books in support of this program.

A donation of \$750 was given to **Hospice Prince Edward**.

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Christie and John Briggs** on the occasion of their wedding, February 16 2013.

## Anglican Ministry to Seniors in Prince Edward County

The Senior's ministry continues to thrive under the leadership of The Rev. Dorothy Lancaster. We are blessed to have additional team members who assist on a regular basis; the Rev. Joyce Blackburn from St. Andrew's in Wellington, and Teresa Hilborn who is a licenced lay reader at St. John's, Waupoos. Eleanor Johnston and Ailsa Robinson from Marysburgh Parish also assist regularly at our services. There is also a group from St. Andrew's, Wellington who attend our monthly service at West Lake Nursing Home and others.

The closing of Picton Manor in June 2012 was a very difficult time for the residents and staff for the Senior's ministry. Many of the residents were devastated at the prospect of having to leave their home of many years. With the closing of Picton Manor, our ministry team now conducts eleven services on a monthly basis, except when there are medical outbreaks causing the closure of the home to visitors.

The Senior's service and tea will be held on May 23. This year we are unable to host the event due to the lack of a working elevator but we are fortunate to be welcomed at the Salvation Army. The sanctuary and hall are connected by a large foyer which will make it easy to move the seniors from the sanctuary to the hall for lunch. As in previous years, there will be lots of help from each of the parishes in the County, with set up, providing food, and serving and assisting the seniors.

We give thanks to a loving God who has called us to this special ministry, strengthens us in the work we are called to do and blesses us with the support of the staff at each of the homes and the love, gratitude and welcome we receive from the residents. It is indeed "more blessed to give than to receive".

***Fran Langlois***



### ***We remember:***

**Phyllis Todd**, aged 89, on 16 June 2012.

**Heather Sutton**, aged 69, on 11 August 2012. Memorial Service held on 3 November.

**Bernard Colin "Barney" Hepburn**, aged 83, on 9 October 2012.

**Lillian Cooper**, aged 92, mother of Lynn Grimmon, on 9 January 2013.

**Joan Dorothy Hicks**, aged 79, on 24 March 2013. Graveside service Cherry Valley.

**Alison Turpin**, aged 99, on 24 March 2013.

## St Mary Magdalene Church Hall

335 Main Street, Picton

Come join us for a

# Victorian

# Tea



Celebrating 100 years of our Church on Main Street

**Wednesday 1 May 1.30 to 3.30pm**

Enjoy an assortment of sandwiches and sweets  
served in period costume

**\$7 per person**

For reservations call: 476-7205 or 476-6032

## ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH

335 MAIN STREET PICTON

presents

# Choral Anthems through the Ages

*Celebrating 100 years of the Church  
on Main Street*

Featuring

*The County  
Ecumenical Choir*

Directed by

*Michael Goodwin*

*with Ian Bevell organist*

**Saturday 4 May at 7.30 pm**

Free will offering



### Centennial Events at St. Mary Magdalene, May 2013

**Wednesday, May 1**

Victorian Tea 1:30 - 3.30 pm in the Parish Hall

**Saturday, May 4**

2:00 - 4:00 pm Open House in the Church and Parish Hall

7:30 pm - Choral Anthems Through the Ages

**Sunday, May 5**

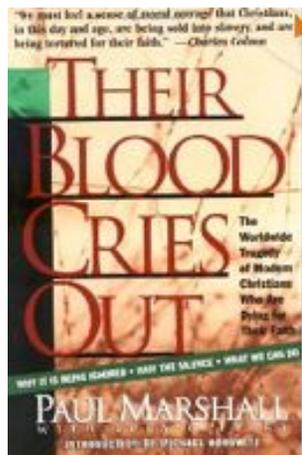
10:30 am - Service to Celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Officiant Bishop Michael Oulton

Luncheon Reception in the Parish Hall following the service

## International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, Article 18, states: **“Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”** Yet, in many countries – even in many of the countries that are member states of the United Nations – Christians find themselves denied their right to freely practise their religion.

Dr. Paul Marshall, PhD, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute in Washington, has spent decades researching, writing about, and



advocating on behalf of these struggling Christians. In his book, *Their Blood Cries Out*, he writes that “in more than 60 countries worldwide Christians are harassed, abused, arrested, tortured, or executed because of their faith.”

Open Doors, a Netherlands-based ministry to the Persecuted Church, estimates that 100 million Christians worldwide suffer interrogation, arrest, and even death for their faith in Christ, with millions more facing discrimination and alienation.

**Voice of the Martyrs** also ministers to suffering Christians. They bring aid to communities that have been affected by terrifying events like church bombings and provide support to families

of imprisoned pastors and other church leaders.

As Christians who are blessed to live in a free land, there are a number of ways in which we can help, such as providing financial assistance through organizations like Open Doors and Voice of the Martyrs. But one of the most powerful ways we can help is through prayer. International Day of Prayer (IDOP) is an annual, interdenominational prayer service dedicated to the Persecuted Church. In November 2012, the Church of St. Mary Magdalene participated by hosting an IDOP service. Christians from across the County, and across denominational lines, joined with Christians around the world, in prayer for our brothers and sisters who face extreme hardships for the practise of their Christian faith.

It is our honour and privilege to bring our petitions before a loving God. Prayer is the least – and also the most – we can do for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

“When one part of the body suffers, we all suffer.” (1 Cor. 12:26)

**Kathy Beekma**

## Worship Services

<b>Sunday</b>	9.00 and 10.30 am
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am
<b>Sunday May 5</b>	Centennial Service 10.30 am
<b>July 21</b>	Festival of St. Mary Magdalene
<b>August 18</b>	Jazz Service 10.30 am

## Upcoming Events

**Victorian Tea:** Wednesday May 1, 1.30 to 3.30 pm. Served in period costume.

**Church Open House:** Saturday May 4

**Choral Anthems through the Ages Concert:** Saturday May 4, 7.30 pm

**Concert with Michael, Josie and Linda Minty:** Friday May 10, 7.30 pm

**Senior’s Service and Lunch:** May 23, 11am at Salvation Army Citadel

**Concert of Baroque and Celtic Music:** May 31, 7.30 pm

**Hospice Fundraiser:** Thursday June 13, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. In the Church

**Strawberry Social and Bake Sale:** Saturday June 22 in the Parish Hall

**“Justus” Concert:** July 22, 7.30 pm. Streetsville Music Corps - a fundraiser for the ROC (Recreation Outreach Centre)

**Music at Port Milford Festival Concerts:** Friday July 19 and 26, August 2 and 9, all at 7.30 pm and Saturday July 27 and August 10, 2 pm student concerts all in the Church

**PEC Music Festival:** September 20 to 28, 7.30 pm in the Church

**Christmas Tea and Bake Sale:** Saturday November 2, Parish Hall

**Men’s Breakfast:** 8.00 am last Friday of the month at The Waring House

**Magdalenas’ Potluck Lunch** for the women of the Parish: 12.00 noon usually last Friday of the month in the Parish Hall

**Food Bank Sunday:** First Sunday of every month. Please donate nonperishable food items

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