

St. Mary Magdalene Church, Picton

# The Vine



*Madonna and Child (1981) by Anne Boyle*

Christmas 2019

# St. Mary Magdalene Milestones

## Baptisms

Oscar Dunkerley Owen Dunkerley  
Layla Mason



*Layla's Family Celebrated her Baptism*

## Birthdays

Barbara Fraser (80)

## Passings

Barbara Ansell Gayle Collison

Peace



## St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

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## Our Rector's Message

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*



Luke's Gospel shares this announcement of the angel to shepherds, emphasizing that the saviour sent by God came not with a conquering army or a cosmic show of force, but as an infant born in Bethlehem. This saviour didn't come to punish, or frighten, or scold, or threaten, or any of the other things that are often attributed to God, but to tell us that we are loved, deeply, truly, and forever.

That message, embodied in the flesh by Jesus, was given first to people the world was pretty sure were not particularly important or, for that matter, loved: no account shepherds, an unwed teenage mom, astrologers practicing a whole different religion. All of this to show that God does not want to leave anyone behind, that God's message of love was and is for everyone, whether the rest of the world thinks you are important or lovable or not. All this to show that the world can be a different kind of place, a place of peace and justice powered by God's love.

We are invited to do what the shepherds did: gather around the manger to marvel at what God has done in Jesus. I look forward to joining you in worship this Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and King.

Yours faithfully,  
Charles



*Madonna and Child  
Anne Boyle, 1980*

# COMING EVENTS

## Christmas Services at St. MM

**Christmas Stories, Songs and Cookies** – Family fun for all ages, 4 – 5:00 p.m., Sunday December 8 (The Polar Express) and Sunday, December 15 (Alfie the Christmas Tree). Free admission. Lots of singing, and of course, cookies! Spread the word and bring a friend!

### **Christmas Eve (December 24) –**

4:00 p.m. - Family Service

7:15 p.m. - Carols

7:30 p.m. – Communion Service

### **Christmas Day (December 25) -**

10:00 a.m. – Communion Service

## ADVENT MUSICAL EVENT @ ST. MM

Command Performance presents *Yuletide Evergreens* concert on Friday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 available at Books and Company. A portion of proceeds will support the Food Bank.

## ☪ Merry Christmas ☪

**Food for Souls & Bodies** is back. It's a fun gathering we started last year, meeting in the Parish Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, for everyone, ages 0 to 99. We nurture our playful side with creative crafts, enjoy a short story-theatre time, and have a meal together. A great team working with our Rector, Charles, organizes all the different aspects of the evening, and everyone has been having a really good time. There is no event in December, but join us Tuesday January 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 for *Food for Souls & Bodies*.



# Remembrance Day Services

The message delivered at the Remembrance Day service at Picton United Church by our Rector Charles was powerful and was met with tears and stunned silence by the multi-denominational congregation. He challenged us “to honour the memories of those who have fallen by living out **their** hope that peace will ultimately prevail, and by doing all in our power to bring it about. We don’t have to change the whole world, he assured us; we just have to live faithfully in our piece of it, trusting in our Lord, by being peace-makers in our corner, and by sharing love, hope and compassion with everyone as though God’s kingdom **will** come, and trusting that it will. By living lives of faith and hope, we honor the sacrifices of those we remember today, and justify their hope that somehow their sacrifice would lead to a better future. In living such lives of faith and hope we bring the world a little closer to the day when nations will no longer go to war, and young people will no longer have to fight and die.”



John Inrig  
Laying a Wreath



Blair Yarranton  
from the Jazz Trio

Later on Remembrance Day, the Brian Barlow Trio provided inspirational jazz music that wove together a rich tapestry of traditional liturgy, wartime prose, poetry and music in a program conceived and directed by **Joan McBride**, and performed by talented members of our church. Joan’s father, FO Robert McBride, was the last prisoner of war to escape through the famous tunnel from Stalag Luft III, Poland. On March 25, 1944, he drew the cartoon below showing him being recaptured.

In remembering the 75th anniversary of The Great Escape at the Jazz Vespers service, we reflected on the sacrifices made by so many in the light of the hope that one day war will be no more...a perfect way to mark Remembrance Day.

We at St. Mary Magdalene are indeed blessed by Charles’ and Joan’s loving and caring devotion to our Church family and greater community.



## Twiddlemuffs – huh?

**Mary Brett is one of a group of up to 15 people who for the past eight years meet weekly in the Wellington Library with an important goal to accomplish!**

With a hearty laugh and genuine enthusiasm, Mary describes twiddle muffs, grippies and the more mundanely-named lap blankets and wrist-warmers that the group knits or crochets. These dedicated volunteers donate the finished projects to hospitals and nursing homes in the County and beyond, as well as to important causes like the Alzheimer Society, Salvation Army and Alternatives for Women.

In case you do not know ... a twiddle muff is a knitted or crocheted tube made of many textures with accessories such as ribbons and buttons sewn both inside and out. They help ease agitation and calm those with dementia as they keep hands and minds occupied. Grippies are small flat objects, stuffed with quilt batting, designed for exercising arthritic hands.



The Lap blankets made by these volunteers are donated to Nursing Homes, along with the Grippies, Twiddle Muffs and wrist warmers, and are occasionally provided to other individuals when needed. This wonderful group sends sweaters, hats and blankets for babies to Belleville Hospital, the Good Samaritan Cupboard (to give away), and to the store for sale by the Auxiliary. Slightly larger blankets are made for the Hospital's Oncology Department. Staff and patients all appreciate the work of this creative group and the comfort and warmth provided by their creations.

It is always a challenge to find materials to use to make these items so if anyone would like to donate any wool to this wonderful cause, please reach out to Mary Brett. ***Someone's hands will thank you!***

## Our Joy to the World Centrefold ...

We are fortunate to have talented people generously provide our Parish with beautiful works of art.

**Frances Stewart**, wife of Rev. Canon Robert Stewart who was the rector of St. Mary Magdalene from 1967 to 1978, created 17 hangings for the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost seasons.

Working in the upper hall of the Rectory, Frances glued and stitched felt cutouts onto a variety of cloth backgrounds.



**Anne Boyle** was born in London Ontario and grew up in Belleville. She studied art at Queen's University. With a strong interest in theology, she researched extensively in Christian symbolism and biblical interpretation. Primarily using machine embroidery techniques, she works in many varied mediums producing vividly coloured hangings, jewelry, sculpture and paintings. In 2015, Anne made a significant donation to St. Mary Magdalene of stunningly beautiful banners, a number of them featuring the Madonna and Child motif.

Banners, selected from the Seasonal Hangings Collection of St. MM, are featured on the next two pages. **Helen Pinkerton** took the photographs of these treasures.

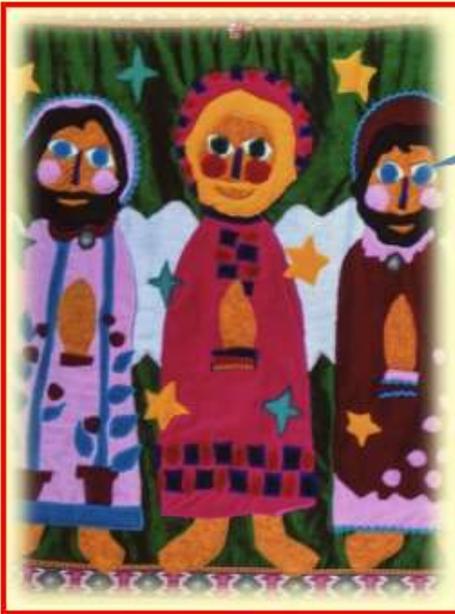
Joy



### A Page from Our History – 1973

An Advent wreath created by Frances Stewart and hung from the rood screen had the first of its four candles lighted on Advent Sunday. On successive Sundays, up until Christmas Day, an additional candle was lighted. This Advent custom of reminding people of the light which Christ brought into the world has been continued each year.

- From *A Goodly Heritage* by A.R. Capon.



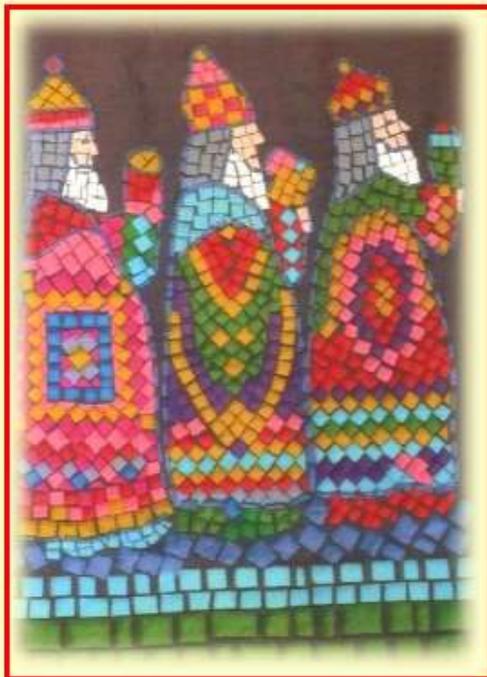
Heavenly Host, 1980, Anne Boyle



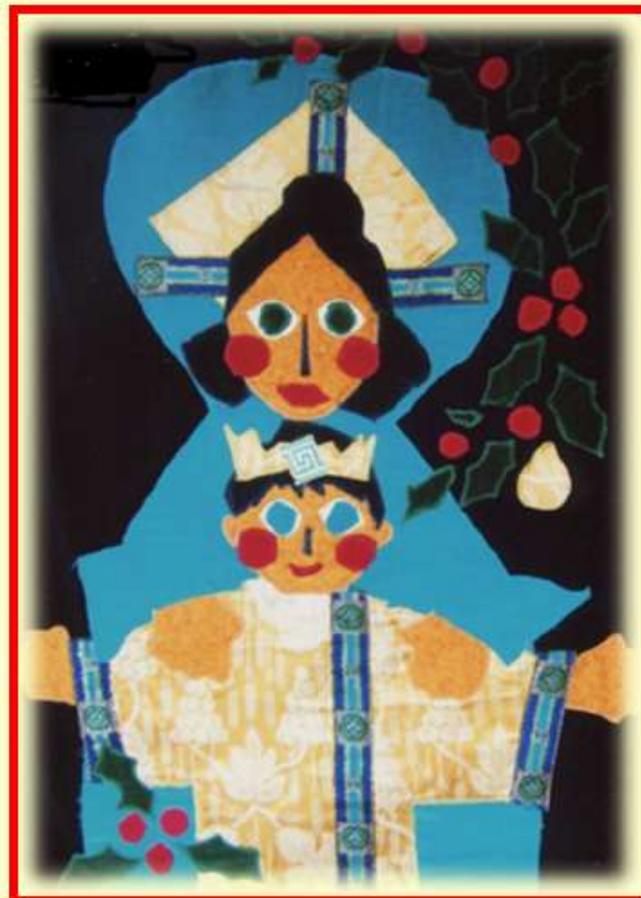
# Joy to the World



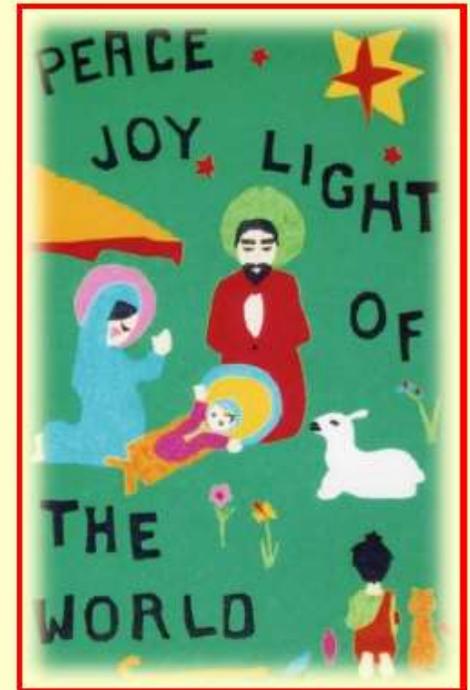
Christmas Angel, 1973, Frances Stewart



Three Kings, undated, Frances Stewart



Madonna and Child, 1980, Anne Boyle



Light of the World, undated, Anne Boyle

## A Page from Our History – 1972

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year [of St. Mary Magdalene] was launched on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> ... The celebrations began on the church's new year, [which was] Advent Sunday ...

... On Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, a Festival of Lessons and Carols was held. The stained glass side windows were lighted from the exterior by portable spotlights which had been lent to the church and installed for the occasion. This may well have been the only time when the congregation was able to sit before the service in almost complete darkness and enjoy the warmly glowing colors of the stained glass pictures without being distracted by interior light.

A pair of pine processional tapers was created by Robert Davis and donated for use in the church. These were exact copies of those used in St. George's Cathedral, Kingston ... These were first carried at this same service.



*December 2018*

Also displayed for the first time was a set of banners hung from the hammer beams of the nave. These colorful banners featured liturgical symbols of Christmas and were executed by Frances Stewart.

- From *A Goodly Heritage* by A.R.Capon

Hope



## St. MM Reaches Out to County Youth

Recently a group of 17 members of St. Mary Magdalene visited the ROC Youth Centre. The enthusiastic staff gave a tour of the facility and outlined the many programs offered to County young people. They spoke of funding challenges and were very grateful to receive a generous cheque,



presented by Pauline Smith and Nell Kottick on behalf of the women of the Parish from funds raised at November's annual Christmas Tea and Bake Sale.

# From the St. MM Bulletin Board

## *Thinking of You* Greeting Card Ministry

**Barbara Mowbray** heads up the **Greeting Card Ministry**. She counts on all of us to keep her informed of parishioners who are ill, bereaved, or celebrating significant birthdays or anniversaries. Greeting cards remind them that they are in our thoughts and prayers. Please submit names to Barb at 613-393-2776.



### **Need a Ride to Church?**

If you need a ride to church, or can give someone a drive, please contact Angela Adams at 613-391-9661.

*Helen Pinkerton requests that you save used postage stamps and place them in her church mailbox. She collects them for Oxfam.*

### **Like Our New Logo?**



You may have noticed a change to our cover logo in the last edition of *The Vine*. It is a refresh to our previous logo but gives us more flexibility to make changes as needed. Thank you to **Natalie Piper** at **Inkfly PEC** for donating her time to assist us.

Thanks for using your mug at coffee time!

**DON'T LET YOUR CUP GO TO WASTE**



Re-used 1,000 times



Used only 1 time

Thanks St. MM camera buffs for sharing your pictures!

# Another Success at St. MM

Our Rector Charles warmly welcomed and chatted with the many guests at our annual **Christmas Tea, Bake Sale and More.** Later he described the event as being *'lots of fun with a great spirit in the room.'* And all of us who were there - either working behind the scenes or staffing the tables laden with donations from preserves to tasty baking to gently-used treasures or enjoying the tea served by our handsome waiters – enthusiastically agreed.



Our dedicated, enthusiastic leaders **Nell Kottick** and **Pauline Smith** reported that *'our Tea, Bake Sale and More was a **financial as well as social success.** Although our attendance number was somewhat lower this year, many who could not attend or assist made generous donations which helped to bring our total to **\$5008.30.** A large number of our congregation worked so hard and we want you to know how much we appreciate the efforts of everyone. Thank you for your hard work and generosity.'*



*Thank you!*

# The Alice Report



I'm having tea at Granny's church. I don't usually have lots of sugar in my tea but Mummy let me this time. I loved the egg salad sandwiches and I loved the cookie in the shape of a bell with a cherry for a ringer.

Lots of people were at the tea and they had a wonderful time 'cause the tea was so delicious. I think they loved it.



I didn't get to the bake table but if I could've, I would have got a cake all for myself. Yum!



I only got to two tables – a jewelry table and another table that I don't know what it was called. I had \$5. I got a necklace for \$2 and a nice, nice lady told me how much the Christmas decorations cost so I got all the stuff I wanted.



**Five year old Alice's rating for the 2019 Tea (based on a 5-star rating):**



Alice's  
DAYS

## Teatime Treasures



Little Alice wasn't the only one who enjoyed the attractive plates of sandwiches and sweets at the **Christmas Tea, Bake Sale and More**. Many visitors to the event praised the delicious squares and cookies and even requested recipes! So often, bakers' finest contributions are old recipes handed down through generations, but **Marie Connor's Shortbread Cookies** that caught Alice's attention have a

slightly different twist to the story behind the recipe.

Marie writes: *'I really don't have a family story to go with cookies. My mother used to make cookies that looked similar – but she was always on a diet, so the cookies became more and more like crackers every year as she reduced the butter and sugar. When I was working at my first full job at Simpson's in Toronto, a co-worker named Trudy Cohen gave me her family recipe. So these are a hybrid – the Cohen Shortbread with Mummy's shapes and cherries.'*

### Shortbread Cookies

2 cups butter  
1 cup icing sugar  
¼ teaspoon vanilla  
4 cups flour (sifted)



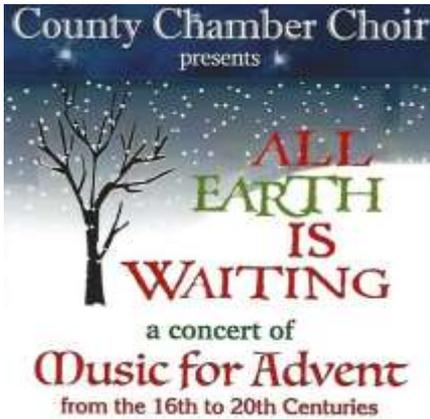
Cream butter. Add sugar. Blend thoroughly. Add vanilla. Add flour in 4 portions, mixing well each time. Use your hands. Roll dough to ¼ " thick, cut shapes and decorate with glacé cherries. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 – 20 minutes. *Marie Connor*

### A Page from Our History – 1878

An unusual feature [was] staged by the Young Ladies' Aid Society of the Church of England in Picton. The affair was held in Picton's Town Hall and there was offered many items suitable for Christmas presents. A refreshment table provided oysters, tea, coffee, cake, fruits, etc. An amusing pantomime was an evening feature. Admission 10 cents.

- From 'A Goodly Heritage' by A.R. Capon

## Advent Arrives at St. MM



A large and enthusiastic audience gave a standing ovation to the eighteen voice County Chamber Choir as they ushered in the Advent Season with their now-annual concert. Under the direction of our own Michael Goodwin, the choir delighted us with their talented performance of music from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Following intermission, Jane McGall conducted three compositions written for double choirs. The choir members rearranged themselves on either side of the conductor in equal-numbered groups singing a total of eight parts. The audience thrilled to the wonderful effects of this arrangement of voices and were awed by the ability of the guest conductor to accomplish such a feat.

The proceeds from the concert will go to the ROC, Prince Edward County's Youth Centre supported by St. Mary Magdalene as one of our Outreach Programs (See the Autumn 2019 edition of *The Vine* for details about the ROC's programs). Michael Smith, a member of the Board of Directors for the ROC gave a heartwarming account of how the programs at the ROC truly make a difference in the lives of the youth of our community.

Love



### A Page from Our History – 1976

An **Advent Service of Carols and Lessons** was held at 4 p.m. on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 1976. This appears to be the first time that such a service was held in the parish. The choirs were under the leadership of William C. Maddox.

- From *A Goodly Heritage* by A.R. Capon

## Worship Services

Sunday 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.  
Tuesday 3:30 p.m. Meditation and Silent Prayer  
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. followed by Bible Study (resumes Jan.8)

## Coming Events (See more details inside)

### **Christmas Stories, Songs and Cookies –**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m., Sundays December 8 and 15.

***Yuletide Evergreens Concert*** - December 20, 7:30 p.m.

**Christmas Eve** - 4:00 p.m. - Family Service

7:15. – Carols 7:30 p.m. – Communion Service

**Christmas Day (December 25) -**

10:00 a.m. – Communion Service

## Ongoing Events

**Men's Prayer Breakfast:** 8:00 a.m. last Friday of the month

**Magdalenas' Potluck Lunch:** Parish women meet at 12 noon in  
Parish Hall for a potluck lunch, last Friday of the month

**Food Bank Sunday:** First Sunday of the month; non-perishable  
food items including pet food, and/or toiletries

Happy New Year



## The Vine) Newsletter

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