

Saint Mary's Anglican Church

1872 – 2012

Incumbent: The Rev. Mark Kinghan
Assistant Curate: The Rev. Ruthanne Ward
Honorary Assistants: The Rev. Don Downer,
The Rev. Wendy Lywood
Organist and Music Director: Murray Baer
Parish Nursing: Susan Rodgers, Elizabeth Lane
Office Administrator: John Martin

10030 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 1T8
905-884-2227 • office@saintmaryschurch.ca
<http://saintmaryschurch.ca/>



Vestry Report, 2011

Vestry Meeting, Sunday, February 12, 2012

Vestry Sunday

Sunday, February 12, 2012

Agenda

1. Eucharist (beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the main church)
2. Procession to Wrixon Hall with symbols of our faith
3. Prayers
4. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
5. Reading and signing of the Declaration re: Vestry
6. Acknowledgement of the Pastoral Letters from Archbishop Johnson and Bishop Elliott (p. 4–7, blue)
7. Acceptance of Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Sunday, February 20, 2011 and the Minutes of the Special Vestry on Sunday, October 30, 2011 (p. 8–13, blue)
“That the reading of the minutes be dispensed with, and that the minutes of the meeting of Vestry on Sunday, February 20, 2011 and the minutes of the Special Vestry on Sunday, October 30, 2011 be adopted and confirmed.”
8. Presentation and vote on the changes to the Heritage Fund (the Heritage Fund Resolution is on p. 14).
9. Acceptance of committee reports (p. 15–29, white)
“That the reading of the reports to Vestry be dispensed with, and that they be accepted as presented in the written Vestry report.”
10. Table Discussions
11. Lunch
12. Prayer for St. Mary’s finances
13. Presentation and acceptance of churchwardens’ financial report for 2011 (yellow)
14. Doxology
15. Presentation and acceptance of proposed budget for 2012 (goldenrod)
16. Acknowledgements and thanks
17. Prayer for the election of Parish Board
18. Incumbent’s appointments to Parish Board
19. Presentation of nominations for elections to Parish Board
20. Election of officers and committee chairs
21. Banking Resolution
“That the signing officers of the church accounts for the year 2011 be any two the following: Ken Wightman, Colin Webb, Maggie Veltheer, and two warden yet to be appointed.”
“That the signing officers of the Heritage Fund accounts for the year 2011 be any two of the following: Ken Wightman, Colin Webb, and two wardens yet to be appointed.”
22. Appointment of Auditors for 2011
“That the auditors for the financial records of St. Mary’s Anglican Church for the fiscal year 2012 be the firm of Hurren, Sinclair, McIntyre, Chartered Accountants, of Pickering, Ontario.”
23. New Business
 -
 -
 -
 -
24. Motion to Adjourn
25. Closing Prayer, Doxology, Blessing, and Dismissal

Archbishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2012

To the Clergy, Churchwardens and Parishioners

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Name of our Holy God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

As you gather for your annual vestry meeting, the Area Bishops and I offer you our prayers and good wishes for the year ahead. We are profoundly thankful for your faithfulness and commitment to worship, work and witness to the Christian faith as members of the Anglican Church in Canada.

We are grateful for the witness you give daily in your parish, particularly in reaching out to the marginalized and vulnerable in your community. We cherish your prayers offered week by week in the 250+ churches of the diocese that sustain and encourage us in our ministry

As we move forward into a year fraught with uncertainty but also rich with hope, let us keep focused on whose we are and whom we serve. Christ is very present in our daily lives through the power of the Holy Spirit, and God invites us to trust that in walking daily with Him as our companion and guide, we have no need for unnecessary fear and anxiety. In the baptismal covenant, as a people “marked as Christ’s own forever,” we promise to “continue in the Apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers; to persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever we fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord; to proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ; to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving neighbour as self; and to strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being.” (BAS, pp. 158-9) Every day, by God’s grace we are invited to live more fully into this covenant even in the face of difficulty and challenge.

The recent ‘Occupy Toronto’ movement which pitched camp next door to our Cathedral Church and Diocesan Centre (and similar events across the world) was a stark reminder and challenge to all of us, both in church and beyond, that all is not well in our communities. Disparities abound. We cannot ignore the needs and concerns (whether spiritual, physical, economic, social) of so many who are our neighbours. What is our mission, if it is not that of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s fa-

our.” Luke 4: 18. We thank the many of you who individually and collectively bring hope and grace in the most practical ways to the lives of others in the name of Christ. You have provided almost \$1.4 million to support FaithWorks ministries this year. In your own parishes, from food banks and shelters, to counseling and healing, from prayer and Bible study, to advocacy and community engagement, you make a difference.

I am deeply appreciative and encouraged by all the parishes that have responded enthusiastically and sacrificially to the *Our Faith—Our Hope: Re-imagine Church* campaign. Your response has been extraordinarily generous, including a wonderful pledge of \$1 a month from a young girl’s allowance! Many parishes have exceeded their goal and we are well on the way to meet our \$50 million objective. Already funds raised for the parish share of the campaign are beginning to be returned for parish-identified projects, and a process is being developed to allocate funds from the diocesan portion beginning in the Fall. In June we plan to host a service to celebrate and give thanks for the successful accomplishment of the campaign.

Because of your generosity in Faith and Hope we look forward with excitement to what we will be able to do as a church over the next five years to invest creatively in the work entrusted to us by our Lord Jesus Christ. I thank those, both clergy and laity, who have been taking the lead in this, for your dedication and exemplary leadership. It has been hard work and deeply life-giving!

Here are a few significant events that I encourage you to pray for and attend that are taking place in our Diocese in 2012:

- a training event for churchwardens new and experienced in early Spring offered in each of the areas.
- the annual Vital Church Planting Conference to be held February 2—4 at St. Paul’s, Bloor Street, Toronto. This conference for laity and clergy has grown tremendously over the past five years and is a wonderful learning opportunity for parishes looking for new, innovative and inspirational ways to live out their ministry today while also revitalizing the rich inheritance we have received.
- the biennial clergy conference will be held **May 14—16** at Brock University and I look forward to seeing all the clergy there.
- a financial Synod will be held on **June 16**.
- Justice Camp will be hosted by the Diocese of Toronto **August 19—24**. It will take place at Trent University and registration can be done online. Visit <http://www.justicecamp.ca/>

for more information. I especially encourage young people in your parish to attend what will be a fun-filled, challenging, learning experience.

- Back to Church Sunday, on **September 30**.
- and the annual Outreach Conference to be held **October 20**.

Please visit our Diocesan website to see what else is happening in our Diocese and to find an incredible array of resources for your information and use: <http://www.toronto.anglican.ca/>

Once more, on behalf of the College of Bishops, I express our profound thanks and appreciation to the clergy of our Diocese, and to the churchwardens and lay leaders of our parishes for the work that you do so faithfully and tirelessly for Christ's beloved Church.

I wish each and every one of you every blessing in the year before us.

Yours faithfully,
The Most Reverend Colin R. Johnson
Archbishop of Toronto

Bishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2012

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and wish you God's continued blessings in the ministry we share together here in York-Simcoe.

I want to begin by thanking you for your prayerful support following my hip replacement surgery on August 5th. I am delighted to say that the terrible pain I had been experiencing is gone and I am well on my way to a full recovery. I took two months off for my rehab before returning to work part-time in October. I am back to full-time now, but still following an exercise programme and doing pool therapy twice a week. Your prayers, cards, and calls meant a great deal. Thank you.

Area Council continues to support many ministry ventures in York-Simcoe. Our Area Youth Coordinator, the Rev. Dawn Leger, has been networking with youth leaders. Last Spring a very successful Youth Retreat was held. Another is planned for February 10–12. You can find all the details at www.toronto.anglican.ca under the Parish Life tab/Youth.

This year's request for Ministry Development Grants totaled

\$186,000 with only \$92,000 available to disburse. In the end 2 new grants were issued along with 4 second and 5 third year grants. These grants support Music ministries, Fresh Expressions ventures, an Associate Priest, University Chaplaincy in Orillia, a Lunch & Learn programme, a Visibility Campaign, and support for two parishes in the midst of transition to being a sustainable, stand alone congregations. One of these is the joint Lutheran/Anglican congregation of St. David's, Orillia. In addition three of the applications which were seeking more significant funding are being directed to the Diocesan Ministry Allocation Fund. All these applications are an indication of many new and exciting projects unfolding in the area.

Area Council also supported a number of other projects. We helped St. Paul's, Newmarket in sponsoring a very successful Natural Church Development (NCD) workshop last September. We continue to use Area FaithWorks funds to support the Summer Chaplaincy programme at Sibbald's Point Provincial Park. The Area clergy enjoyed their annual Area Conference last October with the Rev. Gary Nicolosi as our guest speaker. Last June we had another enjoyable Clergy Family BBQ at St. George's, Alandale and the retired clergy, their spouses, and clergy widows gathered at St. George's, Utopia with Archbishop Johnson for their annual luncheon last May. I once again sent Easter Lilies and Christmas Poinsettias to all the clergy widows. It is very heartwarming to read how much they appreciate being remembered. I have enjoyed participating in Deanery ACW days in Tecumseth and Huronia again this past year.

Two special events are planned this spring. The first is our annual training day for wardens and treasurers. It will take place on a Saturday in March. This is an opportunity for our diocesan staff to go over administrative and policy information. I do hope all wardens and treasurers will make it a priority to attend. Details will be sent to all the wardens soon.

The second event is our Area Ministry Day which will be held again at Holy Trinity School in Richmond Hill on a Saturday in April. Details will be sent out soon.

I want to say a word about *Justice Camp*, an opportunity for persons of all ages to share in a week of activities. *Justice Camp* is about learning through immersion with local justice partners. This is a National event that is taking place in Peterborough this year. For all the details and registration information go to <http://www.justicecamp.ca/>.

Two Mission Intro courses took place in the Area last year. With the church facing many challenges around how to reconnect to the world around it, this course provides food for thought on how to be a missional congregation. This spring I will be leading this course. Details will be available soon.

I continue to serve on the Communications and Information Resources committee of the National Church with special responsibilities for oversight of the Anglican Journal. It has been an interesting year as the Journal has been un-incorporated and is now back as part of the National Church structure. I'm still on the Canadian House of Bishops' Standing Committee on Religious Orders and I continue to serve on the Board of Directors of the David Busby Centre in Barrie. The Busby Centre is one of our Area FaithWorks supported ministry.

Although I had no clergy retire this year, I did attend the retirement of Astrid Wilcox in October. She founded Samaritan House in Barrie, another FaithWorks supported ministry. Astrid retired as the Executive Director. I wish her all God's blessings and good health in the years ahead.

I want to thank you for your continuing support of FaithWorks. The Diocesan *Our Faith—Our Hope* Campaign has been a major focus for most parishes. Despite that FaithWorks still raised over \$1.3 million in 2011. In an atmosphere where cut backs are happening all the time, your support of FaithWorks has meant the ministries it supports have been able to make a difference in the lives of others across the diocese. Thank you.

Our Faith-Our hope continues to unfold, with the total funds raised to date over \$3 million. Parishes who participated in the first two phase are already receiving part of their 40% or more rebates. My thanks to all of you who have managed this campaign in your parish and to all of you who have contributed generously to the future ministry of our Diocese.

Finally, let me offer a word of thanks to a number of folk who have contributed to the life and ministry of our Area over the past year. First and foremost, I want to thank all of you. Your faithfulness and commitment supports the ministry and mission of your congregation in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. In particular I want to thank those of you who have served this past year as wardens. Thank you.

Thanks to the Regional Deans for their on-going support, and especially to Kathleen Greidanus who stepped down this year as Regional Dean of Nottawasaga. Thanks to the members of Area Council, especially to Rose Dungleinson and Richard Paul who retired from the Council this year. I also want to thank Jennipher Kean, my Area Office Admin Assistant, for all she does to keep my life and the Area in order.

I look forward to the year ahead and pray that God will continue to bless us and encourage us in the ministry we share together here in York-Simcoe.

Yours faithfully,
The Rt. Rev. George Elliott
Suffragan Bishop, Area of York-Simcoe

Members of the Parish Family who died in 2011

Lloyd Henry Avery

Robert Peter Veltheer

George Minter

John Douglas Fraser

Len Harper

Joyce Albertha Woodhead

Martha Crawford Miller

Rozena May Noel

Dorothy Susan Parker

Colin Henderson Crawford

Norma Hazel Greenfield

John Dewar

St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill

Minutes of Vestry Meeting

Sunday, February 20, 2011

Present: The Rev. Mark Kinghan, the Rev. Ruthanne Ward, Wardens: Sharon Hanns, Michael Dodsworth, Margaret Baldassarre. 76 members signed in.

Continuation of Worship: Prayers of the People led by the Rev. Ruthanne Ward.

Prayers for the Ministries of St. Mary's: Outreach (Sally White), Chapel Restoration (Marlene Gardiner), Parish Board (Karl Lashley), Sunday School Volunteers (Becky Potter), Small Groups (John Martin) and Altar Guild (Sharon Hanns).

Opening: Time: 11:40 a.m. The Rev. Ruthanne Ward opened with prayer. The Rev. Mark Kinghan acknowledged the work of Dorothy Parker, Pam Voyce and Helen Evans who send cards, etc., to shut-ins and ill or hospitalized parishioners, and thanked them for this service to St. Mary's.

2. Appointment of Vestry Clerk: Lorraine Kisch was appointed Vestry Clerk by the wardens.

Vote: Carried unanimously

3. Reading and Signing of the Declaration Re Vestry: Ruthanne Ward read the Declaration Re: Vestry and asked those parishioners who were eligible to sign in.

4. Break for Coffee: Time: 11:50 a.m.

5. Reconvene: Time: 12:03 p.m.

6. Acknowledgement of the Pastoral letters from Bishops Johnson and Elliott:

Mark acknowledged the receipt of letters and assumed that the congregation had read them.

Motion: Peggy Vidoczy

Seconded: Pat King

Vote Carried Unanimously

7. Acceptance of Minutes of Vestry of February 14, 2010:

"That the reading of the minutes be dispensed with, and that the minutes of the meeting of Vestry on Sunday, February 14, 2010 be adopted and confirmed."

Moved: John Martin

Seconded: Jenny Rogers

Vote: Carried unanimously

8. Report on Asbestos in our Buildings:

Sharon Hanns reported that Envirocure Environmental Consultants Inc. took tile and air samplings from 3 locations (Wrixon Hall, west basement and main church basement) in March 2010. Asbestos containing tiles were found in 3 areas (the west room, one centre room and the main church basement). The final report received in July 2010 indicated all air samples were within the acceptable ranges. The report is available in the office if anyone would like further details. The report contains recommendations for remediation and these have begun on a priority basis. First to be dealt with was the West Room flooring that needed to be recovered. Priority was given to it because of the daycare that uses that room. Over the Christmas break new flooring was installed. The next step is encapsulating the pipe in Wrixon Hall. Quotes are being sought from companies able to do this type of work. It is expected to be a costly endeavour. After receipt of all the quotes, the wardens will decide which to accept and a work schedule will be set up.

Question: Tony Wallis pointed out that friable asbestos is exposed in a pipe near the kitchen pass through window. He is concerned that, if Wrixon Hall is being used for basketball games, etc., a ball hitting this pipe might shake loose some asbestos fibres thereby changing the normal level that now exists.

Answer: Sharon Hanns replied that Wrixon is not being used for basketball, etc. The only use is by small children playing (Top of the Hill Nursery). The basketball hoops in the corner of Wrixon are not in use any more.

9. Acceptance of reports to Vestry.

"That the Committee Reports be received, as presented in the Vestry Report 2010."

Change: Pg. 27: Outreach report should read *"Respectfully submitted by Bob Veltheer"*.

Moved: Jan Mills

Seconded: Flora Dogbe

Vote: Carried unanimously

10. Table Discussions: Based on our baptismal covenants, what core values do we desire to be included in our St. Mary's Community Covenant outlining how we will faithfully relate to one another?

The meeting divided into small groups of 6 or 7 people for this discussion. Ruthanne handed out sheets and asked for Vestry members to find words and phrases to define the values that we are going to affirm and uphold. Ten minutes were allotted for this exercise. The sheets were collected and Jeff and Becky Potter collated the information in them. Results to be discussed at the end of Vestry.

Note: Due to time constrictions, we were not able to get back to the results of this discussion. They will, however, be discussed at a later date in the year. The five main points raised were:

- Respect;
- Seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with each other;
- Love and serve each other, remembering those who serve us;
- Live out the Good News of Christ in our interactions with each other; and
- Seek to create a warm and caring environment in which we all genuinely enjoy being together and support each other.

11. Comments from the Missional Transformation Working Group:

Lyne Webb reported that St. Mary's is participating (along with 6 other parishes in the Toronto Dioceses) in this process to help parishes determine "what God is up to in and around our community and how we, as a parish, can become part of this". The first set of interviews with a group of parishioners was completed at Christmas and feedback from this exercise will be coming within the next month. The other members of this team are Beth Kinghan, Ken Wightman and Sharon Hanns, supported by Ruthanne and Mark.

Question: Gwen Halliday asked how many people were interviewed.

Answer: Ruthanne said approximately 30 people were interviewed. She added that the entire parish will be participating through online interviews later on, with hard copies available for those who do not have internet access.

12. Health and Wellness Reflection: The role and impact of Parish Nursing at St. Mary's. This reflection hopes to aid in the decision of choosing a budget with or without a nurse.

Ruth Wilton spoke of the role of our parish nurse, Susan Rodgers. Ruth urged everyone to read the information sheets in the Vestry report which outline the responsibilities and benefits of this position. Ruth shared her own experiences with Susan and those of her mother, Janet Harper. Susan's medical training means she can offer advice and support and, through her Christian beliefs, she helps us to be mindful of God's presence and support in our lives during challenging times. Ruth spoke of Susan's work with our senior parishioners, many of whom are shut-ins or just unable to coming to church each Sunday. Her phone calls are a link to St. Mary's and a source of help, knowledge and comfort to many.

Ruthanne Ward mentioned we often don't see the ways Susan Rodgers is involved in our church community. She administers to shut-ins, folks in hospital and does a tremendous amount of work advocating with nurses and doctors, etc. on behalf of parishioners. She works 1 day a week and spends much of this time on the telephone, talking to and advocating for many.

Ruthanne noted that our parish is more than just the people we see every Sunday and that we need to remember our members that cannot make it to Church each week. She urged us to keep this in our minds as we make the decision on which budget to accept.

13. Lunch 12:35 p.m. Grace led by Ruthanne Ward.

The Rev. Mark Kinghan was feeling unwell during the church service. During the lunch break, he left Wrixon Hall to lie down in his office. Still feeling unwell, he went home shortly after. Fortunately, he has now fully recovered.

The Rev. Ruthanne Ward chaired the meeting when it reconvened after lunch.

14. Vestry resumes at 1:10 p.m.

Hymn: *Lift High the Cross*. Murray Baer played the piano.

15. Prayer for St. Mary's Finances: The Rev. Ruthanne Ward.

16. Presentation and acceptance of Churchwardens Financial Report for 2010 with comments from Finance Advisory Committee (yellow sheets).

Financial Statements for 2010 are included in the Vestry Report. Michael Dodsworth made a presentation and gave an explanation of the financial statements of Fund Balances, Operations and Changes in Fund Balances, Changes in Other Externally Restricted Funds and Operating Fund Expenses.

It was noted that Committee expenses decreased because special expenses incurred in 2009 were no longer applicable in 2010.

Ken Wightman noted that there might be a final adjustment to Receivables for HST Recovery at year end.

Motion to accept financial statements.

Moved: Tieg Dawe

Seconded: John Martin

Vote: Passed unanimously

17. Doxology

18. Presentation of Engineers' Report on our Buildings

Michael Dodsworth reported it is mandated that once every ten years we have a detailed inspection of the buildings. This was done in 2010. The report is in the office if anyone would like to read it. We received a passing grade. Michael thanked all those who have been in charge of maintenance of HVAC, etc. over the years and the conscientious job they have done to keep the systems working.

The report did recommend some repairs — in particular replacement of boilers, piping and valve repairs, etc. and addressed the issue of heat lost. In respect to this report, the buildings are divided in 3 sections – the 1956 Wrixon Hall building, the 1964 Main church and the original section. It is estimated the cost will be \$279,450 for repairs over the next 5 years (2010 to 2015). The things that do not impact on health and safety have been put forward to a date to be determined later.

There is not enough money in the Heritage Fund to do all these repairs.

Question: Dave Hunt asked if all items are “must do”. Could the wardens meet with the engineers to get a list of just what has to be done?

Answer: Michael replied that the engineer has recommended that these are all “must do’s” and should be done over the next 5 years. However, a big part of the costs pertain to the parking lot . . . where we might be able to just have a patching job and not a complete repaving.

Question: Janet BartramThomas asked if we shouldn’t address this sooner as opposed to later so we are not passing this on to the future.

Answer: Michael said that if we have the money, then we can do it.

19. Presentation and acceptance of proposed budget for 2011 led by Michael Dodsworth

Michael Dodsworth presented two budgets:

Budget Option 1 – Staff as is (Parish Nurse)

Budget Option 2 – Reduced Staff (No Parish Nurse)

Michael outlined our income and expenses, looking from 2011 through 2013. Income has been going up from 1997 to 2010. A conservative estimate is that 67% of our income comes from offerings. Last year, we projected a givings increase of 2½%, but the reality is that goal was not met. We are not keeping pace with the cost of inflation.

As to staffing, it is generally accepted that the church should have 1 full time staff person for every 100 parishioners. He also noted that a healthy church should spend 10% on committees, whereas we are spending only 3%.

Michael then moved on to the **Budget with a Parish Nurse, Option #1**. He explained the budgeted Revenue and Expenses for this budget. He noted a new line “Capital Contingency” which is to cover the engineer recommendations noted early in Item #18 of these minutes. Though we are striving to save every dollar and we did have a small surplus from 2010, it is projected that we will have a deficit of \$12,939. We really need a Marketing Committee to fundraise. He also pointed out the parishioner “Invoice” shows a lower “Total Due in 2011” because the number of envelope givers has gone up. However, if the average monthly donation is \$100 (rounded up from the \$98 shown on the invoice), then just a 5% increase (to \$105) would result in a

big increase in our revenue over the number of givers.

Question: Tony Wallis questioned the math used to state that 50% of the annual income is born by 11% of the donors. He suggested that using a median rather than mean measure would be fairer . . . resulting in the figures being 30% lower.

Answer: Michael Dodsworth agreed with Tony that median is another valid way to look at these figures. There are pros and cons to both methods. Ruthanne pointed out that these numbers are for illustration purposes only as to how much the functional costs of running the church are per head. Kola Deru noted that because of confidentiality, we don't know exactly how much each person gives. That these numbers are not meant to be offensive . . . just for illustration purposes.

Michael then moved on to **Budget Without a Parish Nurse, Option #2**

Most stays the same e.g. revenue, expenses other than staffing. It was noted that in Revenue the "Other" category was had \$1,700 in Budget #1 and \$0 in Budget #2. Michael said the amount shown in Budget #3 is combined in "Fundraising".

Question: Dave Hunt asked which budget the wardens were recommending to Vestry?

Answer: Michael replied that the wardens are recommending Budget #1 – With a Parish Nurse.

Question: Judy McAdam wanted a fuller explanation of what the nurse does.

Answer: Margaret Baldassarre replied that Susan will work 1 day a week. Sharon Hanns added that this is same as last year and that the cost is approximately \$11,000 per annum. Geoff Chandler added that the number of hours for the nurse is the same as the last 2 years.

Question: Dave Hunt noted that in each of the budget there is a withdrawal from Heritage to cover the Engineer's Report. Is that in the Budget?

Answer: No.

Question: Dave asked if the Heritage Fund will be drawn to zero if we follow the recommendations from the Engineer's Report.

Answer: Michael replied that the Heritage Fund is the only funding available to cover these expenses. The Heritage Fund shouldn't go below \$100,000 . . . but it is now. We have rented the basement, reduced our expenses and are trying to increase our income in other ways.

Question: Judy McAdam asked what the plans to cover the closing deficits are.

Answer: Michael replied that if nothing changes between now and next year, we might have to eliminate the nursing position. We do not want to deplete the Heritage Fund . . . that would be irresponsible.

Question: Judy asked why in Revenue, Miscellaneous Income dropped from \$11,000 in 2011 to \$3000 in 2012?

Answer: Michael explained that is was the HST rebate.

Motion:

Be it resolved that Vestry accept the 2011 Budget as presented. (Budget Option #1 with Nurse)

Moved:Kathryn Knowlton

Seconded: Nancy Dodsworth

Vote: Carried

Yays: 42

Nays: 12

20. Acknowledgements and Thanks:

Sharon Hanns thanked Alice Pegg as outgoing chair of Parish Board for her leadership.

Sharon also thanked members of the Chapel Renovation Committee: Diane Robertson, Chair, Lorna Giles, Julie Hastie, Flavia Redelmeier, Rhelda Stockall, Norman McMullen, Chas Mills and Jack Walker for their dedication and hard work over the last six years. A wonderful service of rededication of the Chapel was held on Sunday, November 21.

Michael Dodsworth thanked the Financial Advisory Committee: Ken Wightman, Jeff Chandler, Bob Veltheer, Chris Potter for their advice and dedication.

Margaret Baldassarre thanked Sharon Hanns for her 3 years of service as Warden. Her history of mission and dedication to St. Mary's are admired by all. Sharon thanked Margaret for her kind words and said that she is grateful that Ken and James have

Appointments by Wardens

Maggie Veltheer – Treasurer

Lucy Quintero – Envelope secretary

Election of Heritage Fund Administrators

Maggie Veltheer, Karl Lashley, David Stockhall, Kola Deru

Mark Kinghan (*ex-officio*)

Motion to ratify:

Moved: Jenny Rogers

Seconded: Elizabeth Lane

Vote: Carried unanimously

24. Banking resolution:

“That the signing officers of the church accounts for the year 2011 be any two of the following: Margaret Baldassarre, Ken Wightman, James Van Lierop, Maggie Veltheer and a warden yet to be appointed.”

Moved: Jeannie Barber

Seconded: Victoria Pegg

Vote: Carried unanimously

“That the signing officers of the Heritage Fund accounts for the year 2011 be any one of the following: Margaret Baldassarre, Ken Wightman, James Van Lierop and a warden yet to be appointed, and any one of Kola Deru, Karl Lashley, David Stockall, Rick Sulker and Maggie Veltheer.”

Moved: Michael Dodsworth

Seconded: John Martin

Vote: Carried unanimously

25. Appointment of Auditors:

26. *“That the auditors for the financial records of St. Mary’s Anglican Church for the fiscal year 2011 be the firm of Hurren, Sinclair, McIntyre, Chartered Accountants, of Pickering, Ontario.”*

Moved: Jack Walker

Seconded: Ken Wightman

Vote: Carried unanimously

26. New Business

Presentation and acceptance of St. Mary’s Community Covenant - to be presented at a later date.

Diocesan ‘Healthy Food Supplement Motion’

“The Vestry of St. Mary’s Anglican Church, Richmond Hill urges the Government of Ontario to immediately introduce a \$100 per month Healthy Food Supplement for all adults on social assistance so that they can afford more nutritious food and live a life of greater dignity.”

Moved: Flora Dogbe

Seconded: Pat King

Vote: Carried Unanimously

Norman McMullen spoke on behalf of the Archives Committee regarding **Doors Open 2011**. Last year was the first time that St. Mary’s participated in Doors Open and, even though the weather didn’t co-operate, we still welcomed 219 guests to our buildings. We have been invited to participate again this year and a Working Group meeting is planned for this March. Interested parishioners are invited to join this group.

Norman also presented a newly refurbished and framed architectural drawing of the Chapel in honour of the re-dedication of the chapel.

Closing Prayer and Doxology: The Rev. Ruthanne Ward

Closing Hymn: Omitted

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Pat King

Seconded: Kathryn Knowlton

Vote: Carried unanimously

The Peace: The Rev. Ruthanne Ward

Adjournment: 2:45 p.m.

St. Mary's Anglican Church

Special Vestry Meeting

Sunday, October 30, 2011

Present: Incumbent, the Rev. Mark Kinghan, Wardens: Margaret Baldassarre, James van Lierop, Ken Wightman, 75 members of the parish signed in.

1. The Rev. Mark Kinghan opened the meeting with prayer at 11:38 a.m. at the conclusion of the regular 10:30 a.m. service.
2. Mark read the Declaration to the congregation. The congregation was asked to sign in.
3. Barb Amadori was accepted as vestry clerk.
4. Ken Wightman advised since the information meeting of a week ago a provision had been added to the motion to allow for an investment advisory board of two people to be appointed annually at Vestry.
5. Ken iterated the support for the resolution.
6. Ken moved that the Heritage Fund Resolution be approved.
7. Mark opened the meeting to discussion and limited it to 10 minutes in all and 2 minutes per questioner.
8. There were comments and questions for clarification which were heard and responded to by Ken Wightman
9. Motion:

"That the resolution be amended to delete clause 1 renaming the fund."

Simple majority required.

Moved: Lyne Webb

Seconded: Tony Wallis.

Vote: 46 for, carried.

10. Motion:

"That the resolution as amended be accepted."

Two-thirds majority required.

Moved: Ken Wightman

Seconded: Margaret Baldassarre

Vote: 55 for, carried.

11. Mark concluded the meeting with the Doxology at 11:55 a.m.

Heritage Fund Resolution

February 12, 2012

“That the Amendment approved by Special Vestry on February 20, 2000 and March 18, 2001 concerning changes to the Heritage Fund be revoked in its entirety, and

“That an Amendment dated October 30, 2011 concerning changes to the Heritage Fund be approved by Special Vestry, as follows:”

WHEREAS by agreement of its Vestry in 1991 the Parish of St. Mary’s Anglican Church in the Town of Richmond Hill established a capital trust fund into which all general purpose inter vivos gifts and payments, and bequests by will, and proceeds of life insurance could from time to time be paid;

AND WHEREAS the agreement governing the St. Mary’s Anglican Heritage Fund was amended in its entirety and approved by Special Vestry on February 20, 2000 and March 18, 2001;

NOW THEREFORE the agreement governing the St. Mary’s Anglican Heritage Fund is hereby amended in its entirety and replaced by the following:

The capital fund established in 1991 and amended in 2000 and 2001 is hereby continued on the following terms, covenants and conditions, namely:

- I. The Wardens (hereinafter “the Wardens”) of the Parish of St. Mary’s Anglican Church (hereinafter “the Parish”) shall open and maintain an account or accounts with such bank or trust company in Richmond Hill as the Wardens shall determine from time to time.
- II. A. All general bequests, inter vivos and capital gifts and proceeds of life insurance policies and other capital payments and receipts, other than specially designated funds shall, in the sole discretion of the Wardens, be deposited into the said account, as and when received and;
B. The Wardens shall have discretion as to the receipt of any such gifts.
- III. The Wardens shall invest and reinvest the accumulated capital of the Fund at their discretion. In exercising their powers and performing their responsibilities hereunder, the Wardens shall act honestly and in good faith and shall exercise the degree of care and diligence that a person of ordinary prudence would exercise in dealing with the property of another person.
- IV. As long as the Wardens invest in such securities in good faith, they shall not be individually or collectively liable to the Parish for any losses occasioned thereby.

- V. The Incumbent will appoint a Fund Advisory Committee of at least two people from the Parish to advise them on investing Fund monies. This Committee will be appointed at the time of Annual Vestry each year.
- VI. The Wardens may disburse any portion of the monies in the Fund in their sole discretion in order to further, and only to further, the fulfillment of the purpose and mission of the Parish subject to the following:
 - A. If the Wardens intend to make individual disbursements of \$25,000 or more from the Fund, they shall so advise the Parish Board beforehand
 - B. If the Wardens intend to make individual disbursements of \$50,000 or more from the Fund, they shall do so only after Vestry approves such disbursements.
- VII. The object and purpose of the Fund shall be to repair and renovate parish buildings and more generally to perpetuate the Parish and its mission in the Town of Richmond Hill and outreach mission beyond so long as said Parish exists as a viable and ongoing one.
- VIII. Amendments may be made from time to time to this document as may be proposed by the Wardens and approved by 2/3 votes of those present at two successive properly constituted vestry meetings of the Parish.
- IX. If the Parish shall cease to exist, then the accumulated capital of the Fund shall devolve upon and become vested in the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto.

Note on the Authority of Wardens to initiate Heritage Fund changes

Canon 15, section 4, sub-section 4:

“The Churchwardens shall have custody and shall keep full and accurate accounts of all assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements of the church in the books belonging to the Churchwardens and may deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name or to the credit of the church in such chartered bank or trust company, or in the case of securities, in such registered dealer in securities as may be designated by vestry or the Executive Board from time to time. The Churchwardens may disburse the funds of the church as may be directed by proper authority taking proper vouchers for such disbursements and shall render to the members of the vestry at annual meetings, or whenever the members may require it, an accounting of all transactions and a statement of the financial position.”

Incumbent's Report

*God of the humble and expectant,
you bless those who believe when you promise;
help us, like Mary,
simply to delight in the good things you prepare for us,
and to respond to your call
with boldness and confidence saying
"Yes! Let us be servants of the Lord!"
Amen!*

As I was beginning to write this report, I found this collect prayer for the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth in the New Zealand Prayer Book. It was a gift when I came upon it and I offer it to us as a starting point for reflection as we think back on 2011 and anticipate the year ahead in our life together.

As I reflect, one of the things that I truly believe is that we are the healthiest we have been in my 10 years as incumbent. There have been valleys and low points, but equally some profound mountain top high points too. As we come to the end of another year, there are poignant signs of health and well being that we need to acknowledge and give thanks for.

As the collect prayer above reminds us, though, we are called, like Mary, to be humble in accepting the blessings God has so wondrously bestowed upon us. We are blessed, and to be sure those blessings are a gift from God. I've seen it again and again in my years of ministry that when we are faithfully going about the mission and ministry God is calling us to do, the resources necessary are there. Now, that doesn't mean we don't have to work for them or seek them out or ask specifically for them. But whether we are talking about people or finances or skills, we are abundantly blessed and in humility we need to be reminded that this abundance is from God.

We, like Mary, are called to simply delight in the good things God has prepared for us. It's true that we may not know exactly what they are; there is an element of mystery in exactly how the future will unfold in our ministry here at St. Mary's. Every faith community is addressing that same question in one form or another — what does our future hold for us. But be sure, also like Mary, I hear in that a calling to be expectant. God has wonderful things in store for us and what God will accomplish through us. Let's delight in that; let's rejoice and celebrate as we give honor, glory and praise to God who is the source of who we are and all that we have and ultimately what we will become

As we acknowledge the health of our parish, and delight and celebrate too, we need to remember that we can't become complacent and rest on our laurels. We can and should enjoy this moment. However, to think of this as a plateau might well mean we miss out on what is to come along next. There will be opportunities; there will be challenges. Let's embrace the future with a conviction that God is intimately involved in where

we have come to and where we are going.

As I reflect back on 2011, one of the things that strikes me is the list of parishioners who have have died. Late in the year, in one month alone we had four parish funerals. To experience such a loss leads to significant grief. These individuals walked a difficult journey through diagnosis, illness, treatments, side effects and palliative care. One of the blessings of community is that we all walked that journey with them, some more intimately than others, but each of us was in some way touched by their example in the midst of illness and suffering.

For myself, I can say that it was a privilege to walk with each of them and witness their courage, their faith and their trust; they each taught me something about life, death and faithfulness. We have commended them to God's care; we have celebrated and given thanks for their lives, their faith, their witness and their ministries. And even though we grieve, we don't sorrow as those without hope. We entrust them to God believing ourselves in the hope of the resurrection and the promise of eternal life. May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

There was sadness and disappointment when the wardens made the difficult decision to end the parish nursing ministry in June. Due to a lack of financial resources at the time, this decision was inevitable and was made with thoughtful prayer and consideration. This left a void in our pastoral ministry that required volunteer visitors to assist in covering. Thankfully, 6-8 parishioners came forward and most of them have been trained and screened to enter into this important work. I want to thank them for hearing the need and for responding with caring hearts and spirits.

By year end, however, our financial statement showed a vast improvement. This was due to the diligence of our wardens in keeping expenses to a minimum. This was not an easy task; there was work to be done, both with our properties and our ministries. Yet, they were committed to not spending more than the resources we had at our disposal. This is one of the important functions we elect and appoint wardens for — to exercise due diligence when it comes to all of our resources, and even our lack there of. Thank you to Margaret, James and Ken for holding us to the reality that we needed to tow the line and live and minister within our means.

Because we ended the year with a positive financial picture, and with forecasting the same for the foreseeable future, the wardens committed the parish to resuming a health and wellness ministry. It was wonderful to announce that Susan Rodgers would return to St. Mary's two days a month (approx 16 hours) and that Elizabeth Lane would also work as parish nurse for an additional two days a month (approx 16 hours). This brings the ministry of parish nursing back to the point it was earlier in the year, one day a week. Many of you have expressed delight in this development. It means that ministries

that were overlooked will now become priorities again. Susan and Elizabeth will be working with the volunteers and assigning them to shut ins who would appreciate regular contact and support from parishioners. I look forward to looking with both Susan and Elizabeth as a vital part of our ministry team.

One of our priorities in 2011 was to participate in the Diocesan program “Missional Transformation”. It has been a delight for me to see how we have embraced the potential of what this conversation might do for our life and ministry here at St. Mary’s. The process is deliberately vague as we move through it to allow for the Holy Spirit to work at inspiring and challenging us in the opportunities that lie ahead of us. God is active here in our community already. Missional Transformation will assist us in engaging in what God is already doing. We don’t have to re-invent projects; we can join in things that already exist. And who knows the impact we might have in the experiments we try. God might just surprise us in ways that we can’t begin to imagine, but that we can definitely anticipate.

I would suggest too, that we as a parish are already dabbling in the fundamentals of Missional Transformation. The pub nights, the book studies at Covernotes, Doors Open, Heritage Day programs and the choir’s participation in the community concert are some immediate examples of a commitment to mission that goes beyond ourselves. What the process will continue to invite us to do is reflect on how these and other experiments are working; what we have learned; how we might do things better or more effectively. This is a learning process for all of us, lay and clergy alike. I believe it’s an exciting sign of things to come!

Thank you to the guiding team who have been small in number, but abounding in commitment and dedication to this process and to St. Mary’s. Lyne Webb, Sharon Hanns and Beth Kinghan have formed the nucleus that has guided us along to this point. At times I know they were frustrated with the uncertainty of what was going on, but they never gave up on the conviction that this is what we need to be doing to discern our way forward. Thank you also to those who took the time to fill out the 360 review last summer. To have almost 100 people actively involved in that process was encouraging and definitely a sign of hope and our health and well being. There is more to come in this process, which I will reflect on in a moment.

In 2011 we saw the beginning of our liturgical dance ministry. It has been a delight to watch this intergenerational group, and especially the young people gain confidence as they have participated in liturgies throughout the year. This has allowed them to feel they have a place and a ministry that has value. I particularly enjoyed their presentation as part of the 4:30 service on Christmas Eve. Thank you to Elain Daviau and Marilyn Bardeau for their leadership, and for others who have

assisted too. And especially to the dancers themselves. It takes a lot to be vulnerable enough to step out of what is the norm and present something different. I look forward to the blessing of future opportunities you have to participate in the coming year.

Throughout 2011, the Land Use Committee found themselves at odds around the feasibility of possible development options for St. Mary’s at this particular time. A reality to contend with is that our parking lot is land locked and this is likely the primary area such development might be supported. Through some conversations there is some clarity that at the present moment there would likely be little if any interest from land developers in what we have to offer. This issue will not disappear entirely, though; it remains on the table for some point in the future. When that is not known; how we will respond is also a mystery. However, I pray that we will continue to be attentive to the guiding of the Holy Spirit. Our land is a tremendous resource, as are all of our buildings, as complex and inefficient as they are. How we use them into the future is an issue of stewardship. My hope is that we will remain faithful stewards of the blessing God has bestowed upon us.

In the fall, the wardens called a special vestry to change the parameters of the Heritage Fund and how it is administered. Through lively discussion, the motion presented passed by more than the required two-thirds majority. This motion will come to a second vestry as part of this meeting’s agenda. I encourage you to support the motion allowing the wardens the canonical right to access these funds for the work and ministry of St. Mary’s. Thank you especially to Ken Wightman who has put much work into putting this material together, and to Neil Mann for his legal advice. In addition, thank you to those who have served over the years to monitor and administer these funds. Your expertise and experience have been most valuable.

Finally, throughout 2011 the Diocese of Toronto sponsored the campaign *Our Faith—Our Hope* to raise funds for mission and ministry at the parish, diocesan, national and international levels of the church. The calculated goal for St. Mary’s seemed unattainable, \$370,000. However, as usual, the people of St. Mary’s came through when they were asked for pledges of support. We raised in the neighborhood of \$322,000 or over 82% of our assigned goal. That is tremendous and again I believe a tangible sign of the health of St. Mary’s. I would like to thank the committee who worked diligently with me to oversee the *Our Faith—Our Hope* campaign at St. Mary’s: Michael Dodsworth, Karl Lashley, Dawn McEwen, Trevor Kimpton, Rhelda Stocakall and Rick Sulker. Also a word of thanks to Des McCartney and Sharon Hanns who assisted with a number of our contacts and visits and to the individuals who participated in the telephone campaign. The involvement of so many certainly contributed to the success of this important initiative. St.

Mary's will receive approximately \$22,000 a year for the next five years towards the costs of ministry and capital projects that have been on hold. Thank you to everyone who participated by making a pledge, from the smallest donation to the largest. Together we have accomplished more than many of us ever expected was possible.

Now looking forward to the year ahead. From a financial point of view, as I have already said, we're in a very good position heading into the coming year. The addition of our share of the *Our Faith—Our Hope* campaign is an added bonus for the purpose of budgeting. The 2012 budget being presented by the wardens is a good budget and a good projection forward for the next three years. It comes to you with the unanimous support of the parish board. Thank you to Geoff Chandler for his involvement in this budget process. You are a tremendous asset to the wardens. We appreciate your help and support.

As I said earlier, our finances are very good. However, as I also said, we can't rest on our laurels. The wardens are asking for a modest increase in offerings. I believe this is attainable and that by working collectively we will continue to have the finances at our disposal to do the work and ministry we are called by God to do. Always, we need to praise God from whom all of our blessings flow!

Missional Transformation will now begin to move into a more active phase as the Missional Action team is established and carries this program forward. A number of key people have already agreed to be part of this endeavor. I look forward to the experiments for mission that will be discerned and tried. I encourage all of us to pray for the guidance, direction and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, that we may risk moving outside what is comfortable simply to do the mission of the gospel with no other expectations. Yes, there is anxiety; but there is also hopeful anticipation too!

We have a couple of tremendous opportunities to be involved and interacting with the wider community around us. We have been invited to participate in a weekly networking group of individuals who are involved in the life of Richmond Hill. I have gone once so far and made some good contacts. Ruthanne and I are each committed to attending these gatherings once a month to promote things going on here, to listen to what others are doing and to report back on ways we might be able to partner with others.

In addition, there is a position on the Richmond Hill BIA for a faith representative. This is an incredible opportunity. Trevor Kimpton has volunteered to take on this position. Again, we will be positioned to be an integral part of our neighborhood and community. Being present, visible, active and involved beyond our walls is the gospel in action. Thank you Trevor for agreeing to do this ministry. It will be a delight to see what doors and opportunities this opens before us.

It has been a few years since we participated in the Natural Church Development process. We learned valuable insights through the surveys and reflecting on the results. It is my hope that we will enter into this process again in the coming year. We need to remember that one process/program, does not replace a previous one; Missional transformation does not replace NCD. Each of these opportunities serves a different purpose and we have much to gain from participating in both.

NCD will provide us with a snap shot of a particular moment in time at St. Mary's based on the key indicators of health and well being for church communities. The survey results will help us access where we are strong in our life together, and the area where attention may be needed to improve. The parish board has supported this as part of our future priorities for the coming year. I look forward to seeing the results and to reflecting on them together that we may grow in our understanding of who we are and who we might have the potential to become.

One Sunday this past summer we worshipped outside on the front lawn. There were some glitches that need to be worked out. However, people found it to be inspirational and enjoyed the experience. I would like to see us do so again in the coming year, preferably 3-4 times. This will require volunteers for set up and cleaning up afterwards. However, what a statement to the community driving along Yonge Street or walking along the sidewalk. Our visible presence in the community makes a difference, especially as we are worshipping together.

None of what happens in our parish life would be possible without those who make up St. Mary's and who offer their time, their talents and their treasure to the ministry we share together. Thank you to each of you. That is what the church is about — not a building, as beautiful as it may be. It's about the people; St. Mary's is about each of you. Thank you for who you are and all you do!

I would be remiss if I did not thank a few people by name. First, the wardens. Ken, you have brought to the position of warden a wealth of knowledge and experience from your financial background. Your keen insights have helped us make difficult decisions resulting in the end in a healthier financial picture. I value your support and encouragement personally as incumbent and look forward to continuing in our relationship in the coming year.

James, thank you too for your involvement as a warden over the past year. I know there were times when it was difficult to juggle the various pieces of your life, especially as your work became more demanding. You took your responsibility seriously. You also had an awareness of the issues at hand and an understanding of how to resolve them. It was with regret that I accepted your resignation at the end of the year. I enjoyed working with you, and hope that under different circumstances down the road we might work together again.

Margaret, it has been a joy working with you over the past two years. I remember how hesitant you were when you accepted the nomination. You have proved over and over again that you were and remain an excellent candidate for the position. Your dedication and commitment have often been above and beyond. I will miss working with you in this capacity, but trust that you will find a niche doing other ministry in our life together.

Finally to the ministry team. First to Wendy Lywood, honorary assistant. I and others too truly enjoy when you preside at the Eucharistic table. Your quiet presence is very reassuring and inviting to an encounter with God in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you as part of our ministry team.

Second, to Don Downer, also honorary assistant. Don, I appreciate your listening ear and attentive spirit to what happens here at St. Mary's. Your care for many of our shut ins has been most appreciated by me, and I know by them too. Thank you and I look forward to our continued relationship in the coming year.

Thanks to Susan Rodgers and Elizabeth Lane, our parish nurses. In the re-establishing of this ministry, I'm sure it won't be exactly the same as it was. However, we know it is a vital part of what it means to be a community together — to care for people needs in a way that they experience a spirit of healing and wholeness in who they are as children of God. It's exciting to have you both as part of the ministry team!

Thank you to Murray Baer, our organist and choir director. Music is an integral part of our worship as Anglicans. I value the relationship we have together and the ease with which we work with one another. Music is important to you and music within the worship done well is equally a priority for you. Thank you and I look forward to the ministry we share in the worship life of St. Mary's.

John Martin, our Office Administrator, holds a key position of ministry as part of our team. John is the friendly voice on the telephone, the one who greets those who may drop in during the week, he fields the calls from those who lease our space, these all in addition to the formal responsibilities of his job description. What I value most is the evangelism John does with each person on the phone or in person as he ends his conversations, each and every one, with "God Bless!" What a statement that makes. Thank you John and I look forward to the year ahead.

Finally, to Ruthanne, our Associate Priest. Ruthanne negotiated with the wardens to drop to ½ time for the latter part of the year. That may seem like a small shift in her schedule. However, I felt it and missed the time she wasn't in the parish. I value our conversations, theological discussions, her enthusiasm, her hopeful anticipation, our quiet times of prayer and

simply the opportunity to be in team ministry with someone with whom I work so well. Thank you Ruthanne, and especially for returning to two-thirds time. I will continue to value ministering with someone who looks to the future of the church in the same way as I do.

God is so gracious! God is a God of abundance! I truly do delight in being the priest and pastor here at St. Mary's. It is a privilege to be in a relationship with you. Together, we are listening, and responding with faith, hope and trust to the movement of the Holy Spirit. May we continue to recognize ourselves as abundantly blessed, and believe that God through us can and will do more than we can ask or imagine.

Let's remember and honor those who have gone before us in this place and who have left us this legacy; let's celebrate and give thanks for who we are today and the many blessings we enjoy together; let's pray for the guidance and wisdom God offers as we move into another year seeking to do the will of God in our mission and ministry together. Amen!

Mark Kinghan, Incumbent

Wardens' Report

Blessings and Thanks be to God for a wonderful year 2011 at Saint Mary's. We welcomed some new parishioners to our congregation, and are excited to see some of you become involved in the good works being done here.

We experienced a wonderful opportunity to host a multi-faith symposium for women in the early summer of 2011. Three faiths were represented, Islam, Judaism, and our own Ruthanne Ward spoke about Christianity. The symposium was well attended by women in all these faiths, and a reception lunch afterwards completed the festivities. What a great "first" for Richmond Hill and Saint Mary's!

We had some setbacks in finalizing the chapel. Some structural damage was found and the chapel had to be closed for most of the summer and fall in order to complete repairs. Many thanks to Craig Wellington for getting this done. In 2012, the floor is being sanded and refinished, thanks to the hard work of Chas Mills and Colin Webb. We will soon be able to resume use of this beautiful worship space, with the enhancement of a new organ to be install when floor work is completed.

Regrettably, the wardens had some tough decisions to make over 2011, the most significant of which was to discontinue the contract with Susan, our Parish Nurse. This was due to financial constraints. We have since been able to restore this ministry to Saint Mary's, effective January 2012. Thanks to Susan Rodgers, who will be in two days a month, and Elizabeth Lane, who will be available the alternate two days each month.

Our Missional Transformation team has been active collecting and summarizing the surveys completed by the congrega-

tion, and have guided us through our Listening Meetings during Advent. We will now be forming a Missional Transformation Committee to pull together some ideas for experiments we can sponsor within the community. We are already engaged in some missional work, without even knowing it, and these experiments will build on what is happening at Saint Mary's. Many thanks to the Guiding Team and the new committee in their ongoing mission.

We have completed *Our Faith—Our Hope* campaign in November 2011. Saint Mary's excelled in giving to this worthy campaign. Our pledges and receipts have exceeded \$305,000 to be collected over the next five years. A resounding Well Done! And Thank You to everyone at Saint Mary's. Our portion of these givings will enable us to build on our ministry and the wardens look forward to dealing with some major capital expenditures in regards to building maintenance and also take care of much needed repairs and upgrades to the rectory.

Saint Mary's website has been renewed and is looking fabulous. Thanks to Jonathan Wilkinson, John Martin, Bob Veltheer, and Ken Wightman for this makeover. Look for weekly posts. We think you will be pleasantly surprised.

No Warden's Report would be complete without giving thanks to our Clergy team, Ruthanne Ward and especially to Mark Kinghan for his unwavering support and guidance to the wardens throughout the year, John Martin, Office Administrator, who constantly goes above and beyond the call of duty, Parish Board, and all the teams, committees and volunteers that make Saint Mary's the vibrant worship centre that it is, right here in Richmond Hill. Many thanks to Murray Baer, our Choir Director, especially for the consummate music for Christmas services in December.

Personally, I wish to thank past wardens Sharon Hanns and Michael Dodsworth, and this year, James Van Leirop and Ken Wightman. You have my enduring respect and gratitude for all your work and support of this year's wardens team. My best wishes to the present and new wardens for a rewarding term in 2012.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Wardens,
Margaret Baldassarre

Associate Priest

I can certainly say that the past year began with a rather memorable experience of being thrown in to chair Vestry 2011. I learned that day that votes cannot be taken by clapping one's hands. Needless to say, in preparation for this year's Vestry, I am reviewing *Robert's Rules of Order* . . . just in case.

Another year has passed, and I write this on the anniversary of my ordination. I have been a priest now for three years and each year, as I get to know you better, becomes better. Thank you for your continued warmth towards me, your willingness

to adventure in ministry and liturgy with me, and for your care for me.

As I look broadly over the past year two things stand out. Firstly our Missional Transformation experiences, and secondly, a year in which we said good by to many of our parishioners, all of whom played an important part in the life of St. Mary's.

With the loss of our parish nurse come summertime, Mark and I found ourselves during the second half of the year spending the majority of our time with pastoral concerns. On the positive side, this allowed us the privilege of connecting and journeying with all sorts of wonderful people. On the difficult side, we were not as able to put time and energy into other areas of ministry. However, I always believe that God has provided for us the materials and resources needed for the very ministry we are called to. Whether it was in hospital, in the palliative care unit or during the rituals around burial, I was honoured to journey with those of our saints that have moved into the next life.

Missional Transformation was another aspect of my time that took up a lot of time – all of it quite valuable. From listening conversations, to the 360 survey, to seminars as clergy and with our lay teams, through to the Advent conversations and board retreat – we have journeyed far together. The ambiguity at times has been challenging and the challenge of moving from our concerns and complaints to our dreams and hopes hasn't always been easy. However, we have done spectacularly well and each of you should feel proud of that. What it means (all that hard work you've done, even when it didn't seem to be getting us anywhere) is that you are open, curious, listening, seeking and willing to be challenged. Each of these aspects is key to St. Mary's continuing to grow and flourish as a part of God's work in Richmond Hill. Good for you!

A few other things to mention: Joan Temple Porter has taken over the Sunday School co-ordination and has done a great job this past year – thank you Joan! The Sunday school continues, and people like Elain who organized our Christmas gala (Thanks Elain!), allow our kids to have a fuller experience of church for themselves. We are blessed in this.

It has also become apparent that you (the parishioners) enjoy talking and drinking – be it beer or tea! Our pub nights continue to be a hit, with the women starting their own this year. And the book group that met in the spring up at Covernotes also proved to be a success – so much so, I already have over 10 people interested in the next one. Keep up your curiosity, your love of community and your desire to be a presence in the town of Richmond Hill. In these ways, we have already been very missionally transformative.

This was also a year during which we took time to focus on the issue of mental illness. Dr. Derek Davidson preached on

the feast of St. Luke, and out of that conversation and others we started a Mental Health Support Group for those who live with mental health issues and for those who are close to people who do. This topic continues to get more time in the popular media, and as a community we need to continue to seek ways to care for one another in regard to this issue.

On a personal note . . . The past year was a good one for me that most significantly involved a move to a new house. I appreciated being able to take an extra month off from work in June (which was of financial benefit to the parish) as well as decreasing my hours to part-time in the fall. However, having said all that, I am thrilled to be back to two-thirds time which allows me to be more fully involved in the ministry that I love and that you and God have called me to.

May our year of 2012 be one of continued creative challenges and growth and the warmth of healthy and nourishing fellowship.

Respectively Submitted,
Ruthanne Ward

Future Planning

From a small starting point in October 2008 Future Planning has worked with the congregation, the Parish Board, Mark and the Wardens for over three years to ensure we have Goals and Objectives to keep St. Mary's a viable, living parish.

Although we did not complete all our 2011 Objectives we did successfully achieve many of them. Some of the more significant examples are:

- Supported and completed Diocesan Campaign, *Our Faith—Our Hope*
- Completed Chapel renovation (except for finalizing floor improvement)
- Started and completed first three phases of *Missional Transformation*
- Obtained e-mail addresses of many parishioners to advertise events and reduce paper
- Completed a significant improvement to St. Mary's web site

Over the next 2 months we will finalize Objectives for 2012, 2013 and possibly beyond.

Your continued support and involvement in helping make these goals successful are always appreciated.

Trevor Kimpton—Chair, Future Planning

Our Faith—Our Hope Campaign Summary

Archbishop Johnson initiated a plan for the Diocese of Toronto's 210 parishes to collect pledges of \$50 million.

Diocesan Plan

Pledges would be used for the following:

1. Strengthening the local parishes;
2. Building the churches of tomorrow;
3. Revitalizing our inheritance;
4. Giving to others-(churches in the far north communities and abroad).

St. Mary's Plan

St. Mary would be expected to raise \$370,000 of which 40% or \$148,000 would be returned to the parish over 5 years.

Pledges will be used for the following:

1. Covering the majority of cost for 2 ordained priests;
2. Covering cost of enormous expenses for our aging buildings;
3. Reducing and or eliminating accumulated deficit.

In order to make a commitment to this campaign, St. Mary's selected a Campaign Executive Committee (CEC) of 7 volunteers to take charge and be responsible for managing all activities of the campaign under the leadership and supervision of Tiffany Williams of the Diocese.

The Diocese provided all training materials, brochures, letters of intent, posters and flyers for this project.

Before starting up the project, the 7 CEC members and Tiffany Williams met several weeks for training and for commitment to the campaign.

The campaign was divided into several different phases:

Phase 1

Approximately 68 parishioners were randomly selected to submit their pledges. This initial start was done in order to give the CEC members an opportunity to fully understand and monitor the program.

Phase 2

Involved pledges from the remainder of the approximately 250 parishioners. This was not an easy task, but with adequate training and pray, and the support from volunteers, the results were outstanding.

St. Mary's Phone Bank — On November 9 and 16, 18 volunteers used their personnel cell phones in the narthex and lobby of the church to contact all the remaining parishioners. Use of the phone bank system was a success.

Phase 3

On *Commitment Sunday*, all parishioners present were asked to fill out pledge cards and to make a decision about their pledges.

The families were categorized as follows:

1. Already made a pledge
2. Needed more time to prayerfully consider
3. Wish to make a pledge
4. Cannot make a pledge

Commitment Sunday was a success.

Conclusion

The *Our Faith—Our Hope* Campaign was a total success. St. Mary's total commitment to the project was \$370,000 and through prayer, dedication, and commitment from all our parishioners, \$305,480 (82.5%) was pledged of which \$122,180 (40%) will be returned to the parish over the next 5 years.

Finally, thanks to the following CEC volunteers for their time and commitment: Mark Kinghan, Rick Sulker, Trevor Kimpton, Rhelda Stockall, Mike Dodsworth, Dawn McEwen, and Karl Lashley, in addition, let's not forget the 18 volunteers who managed the Phone Bank.

Respectfully submitted by
Karl Lashley

Missional Transformation

This past year we've been right in the middle of the Missional Transformation process. As a congregation you participated in the 360 survey and in the listening conversations we held during Advent. Your parish board members participated last month in a retreat during which they reflected on what you had to say and began the process of exploring concrete ideas that would take us as a community out into the community of Richmond Hill.

The process has been, at times, ambiguous, unclear and intellectually challenging. As the grandchildren of the modern era, we are much more comfortable with goals, targets, clearly defined process and an hierarchically driven authority. The world we live in is now known as "post-modern" and the new reality that we all face, whether in business, in relationships or in the church, is challenging, ever-changing and full of new experiences. Missional Transformation has this very reality in mind and is developed around the idea that the church of God always has a role in the world – as the world changes, that role changes.

In the months to come we will be engaging in experimental ministries. The idea is to be, truly, the church in the world – recognizing that a very tiny fraction of the world ever enters the doors of a church anymore. Yet, we are still God's body on earth and need to keep our hands, hearts and minds busy with God's work. My hope and prayer for all of us as we continue this process is that we would be open to the challenges, allow the ambiguity, be willing to grow when we fail, and ultimately

allow God's Spirit to shape us into the community He intends us to be.

I want to conclude with a special thank you to the missional transformation team who have given many hours of their energy and time along with their prayers and passion to this process. To the chair of that team, Lyne Webb, and to fellow members Sharon Hans and Beth Kinghan. Ken Wightman was also able to offer his support for a part of the year and has continued to participate in each conversation that arises. Thank you to each of you for faithfulness and commitment – even in the face of ambiguity and uncertainty.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruthanne Ward

St. Mary's Space Usage

I'm please to report that we are at full capacity in rental of our space weekly & most evenings. Discovery Academy, the downstairs tenant, has renovated the area considerably. Our weekly tenants are Top O' The Hill, Step by Step, Weight Watchers, Axel Molema Yoga, Sunlilyoga, AA & Alanon groups. These tenants have been with us for a number of years. We are now giving them 2 year contracts, with a rental raise each year. There are some evenings when we can still accommodate a group if requested. Sharing our worship space with the *Blessed Community Church* continues to be a very co-operative successful one. In February we look forward to having Healthy Steps to Wellness Group, who will meet every other month in the Chapel.

Betty Romanchuk, Property Rental Chair

Counters' Report

St. Mary's has a core group of twelve dedicated parishioners who gather in groups of 3 or 4 to count the collection each week. We have three counting teams that each count once every three weeks. Counting usually takes between 1 and 1½ hours and is a time of work and fellowship.

Thank you to our counters who include: Garry Bettridge, Sally White, Elsie Coulter and Des McCartney (our Monday team); Dave Hunt, Christine Shorrocks, Lorna Giles and Ron Smit (Sunday team who count after the 10:30 a.m. service); Margaret Baldassarre, Kola Deru, Betty Romanchuk and Geoff Chandler (second Sunday team).

Being part of a counting team is a great way to get involved in the life of the church, meet new people or spend time with ones you already know. New counters are welcome and training is provided. Please contact Geoff Chandler or John Martin in the church office if you are interested in joining us.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Counters by
Geoff Chandler

Worship Committee

At the heart of Anglicanism is our life of corporate worship and prayer. St. Mary's has and continues to have a strong and vibrant worship tradition. We take our worship life seriously, being sure that all we do is done well and to the honor and glory of God. As well, a priority for us is to have active lay involvement in our worship.

Over the past year, our various ministries that fall under worship have been renewed with individuals taking on the various roles. Thanks to Sharon Hanns who facilitated the recruiting of sub-deacons and lay administrators, and to the individuals who have come forward to exercise these vital ministries in our liturgical life.

We have experimented over the past year with liturgical dance, in particular involving our young people in this expression of spirituality and faith. Their participation has been well received and has enhanced our experience of liturgy. Thank you to Elain Daviau and Marilyn Bardeau for their leadership, and to those who have assisted them. Thank you especially to the youth and children of the parish who have offered this ministry.

Our worship space has been slightly modified to accommodate the needs of young families and children. A play space has been created at the back of the church with toys and games that can amuse our youngest church members. It's important to provide space that accommodates the needs of everyone and shows hospitality to everyone no matter how young they may be.

Our Advent and Lenten candlelight Eucharists continue to be inspirational. A variety of music styles has enhanced the reflective nature of this worship experience.

Thank you to everyone who has a part to play in the worship life here at St. Mary's. Worship is the work of the people and together we contribute to an active and rich liturgical tradition at St. Mary's. Thank you to the choir, sidespeople, greeters, altar guild, sub deacons, readers, intercessors and lay administrators. If I have missed any worship related ministry, I do apologize.

Psalm 29 reminds us to: "worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness." In everything we do as a church community, may our worship be at the core of who we are as we hear God's word and are nurtured and fed at the Eucharistic table. May our worship continue to inspire and challenge us, and especially may all we do be done to the honor and glory of God!

Faithfully submitted by

The Rev. Mark Kinghan, Chair of Worship Committee

Music at St. Mary's

This past year started off with a bang for our choir. We were asked to participate in a Choral Extravaganza at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts on January 30, 2011. There were 6 choirs involved in the concert. We sang 3 of our anthems and joined in the massed choir finale. It was great fun! But more importantly it was a wonderful community event that gave St. Mary's some exposure within our community. I think we could certainly call that "outreach". And we raised over \$200 from tickets sales to be used for new choir music. Thank you to Jenny Rogers for all your effort surrounding this event. I know it's a lot of work.

In 2011, one of our newer members, Larena Case, moved away with her husband to Brampton, and later in the year she sent pictures of her new baby boy. She misses all of us at St. Mary's. And although it was for a relatively short time, we were very happy to have her with us in the choir. Congratulations on the new addition to your family!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Potter who played the trumpet at Easter. Good job Mark, it's always great to have you play with us.

As always, our choir, although smaller in numbers, continues to do a wonderful job. Thank you so much to the choir for your dedication and all your efforts in the ministry of music at St. Mary's, and for your ongoing support.

In the fall, as I began to plan the music for the Christmas season, I had an idea that it might be nice to invite some extra singers to come and participate with us on Christmas Eve. I know that a full time commitment to choir is difficult for some people due to their busy schedules. But a part time commitment allows people to participate for a short period of time – in this case 4 rehearsals. So it's a win, win situation! As it turns out, it was a great success with 8 additional singers joining us for the late service on Christmas Eve! I'd like to thank Barry Shorrocks, Mark Potter, Glenn Dawe, Tieg Dawe, Garry Bettridge, Deanna Shorrocks, Adrienne Perry and Mary Jane van de Hoef for helping us swell the ranks as "seasonal members". Thank you also to Dayna van de Hoef for playing the violin so beautifully on Christmas Eve, and to Jennifer Briggs for your wonderful solo. I'm hoping that our "seasonal members" will be able to join us for Easter in 2012. That would be fantastic!

Christmas 2011 marked 29 years for me at St. Mary's. It's hard to believe! Where does the time go? Over the years I have kept track of every anthem that we have sung and when we sang each one. This was all done with pencil and paper since that's all I had at my disposal 29 years ago! I recently reorganized my list which was getting a little out of control, and discovered that we have over 235 choir anthems in our repertoire,

many of which we have sung several times. It sometimes amazes me that we can pull out an anthem that we haven't sung for 10 years, and have it ready in just a few rehearsals. We are blessed with some very talented choir members – that's for sure!

Thank you all for your words of encouragement over the years. May God bless us all as we continue to worship together and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Murray Baer

Sidespeople

There are six teams of Sidespeople each with a team captain. The captain is responsible for calling his/her team members prior to each scheduled Sunday to remind them that it is their turn for sidespeople duty.

During 2011, 6 members resigned due to personal reasons. Thanks to these volunteers: John and Dalene Smeets; Colin and Karen McGregor; Norma and Clarence Greenfield. Sadly, we lost Norma in November.

Although 6 members resigned, 8 new members were recruited: John Pellettier and Julia Zhu, Peter and Janet Lang, Joan Smith, Paul Thomas, Dawn McEwen, and Miriam Atoro.

Thanks to the dedicated team captains and members who perform their duties with a smile.

Karl Lashley
Chair of Sidespeople

Altar Guild

Over the past year, the Altar Guild has once again undergone some changes in its membership. I would like to extend my thanks to Vera Churton and Iva White who have retired from this ministry, for their years of service. At the same time we welcome two new members to our teams: Janet Lang and Jennifer Knowlton, a second generation member as she joins her mother Kathryn on team 2, although Jennifer has been an "unofficial" member for some time now.

I would also like to acknowledge Dorothy Parker's dedicated service to this organization over many years. We were all greatly saddened by her death this past November. I personally have missed her as a friend, confidant, and spiritual advisor. The Altar Guild gave a floral tribute in memory of her for which her family was grateful.

It is interesting to note that there are still seven members of the Altar Guild who have devoted twenty or more years each of service to this important ministry as we continue to set up for services and care for the linen. I hasten to add that for anyone wishing to join us it is not a lifetime commitment!

We are hoping to possibly buy at least one additional cruet to add to our supply as breakages do occur and we are trying to retain as many matched sets as possible.

I wish to thank Doris Moore for her care of the altar cloths, Barb Mann for her work on the candles and Joan Connolly as our wedding coordinator and treasurer.

We have two meetings a year and our next one will be on Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. at the church to make palms. I invite anyone who would like to learn to do this or those who are not members of the Guild but have come out in previous years, to join us for this occasion.

Respectfully submitted by

Sharon Hanns

Chair of Altar Guild

Sunday School

Sunday School has continued throughout the past year (except for regular school holidays) thanks to the dedication of our four pairs of volunteer teachers.

Attendance by the children has varied from 5 to 13, and one family with 3 children moved at Christmas time (although I was assured they would be back in the summer to attend our Arts Bible Camp!). We are optimistic that our numbers will grow.

Our goals are for the children to learn of God's love through the Bible stories, prayers, singing and other creative activities in an atmosphere of joy and fun. (Some of the children's drawings did decorate the December edition of *The Message*.)

Thanks to Jenny Rogers in the spring, the children learned about planting seeds and the Sunday School garden was established.

Hats off to Elain Daviau: some of our Sunday School children have also taken part in other activities throughout the year such as the Liturgical Dances, and all were in the Christmas Gala.

We "lost" one of our teachers, Paulina Agyeman, to university out-of-town in September, but we have gained Gloria Nicholas. Janet Bartram-Thomas and Bill Bartram are now unable to be regularly scheduled, but whenever they are at Church with us, will continue to bring music (Janet's guitar) and singing to begin Sunday School lessons. Miriam Atoro and her daughter Chantelle Atoro are now coming on board on the regular schedule.

Many thanks to you all named above as well as Lorraine Kisch, Beth Kinghan, Patrick Kinghan, Claudette Ntakirutimana, and Sarah Cole.

Joan Temple Porter, Sunday School Co-ordinator

St. Mary's at YCH

On the fourth Sunday of the month a small group of dedicated parishioners offer an Anglican worship service to patients in the long term wing of York Central Hospital. Other Sundays are covered by different denominations.

A Matins service is led by John Emmanuel with assistance from Jan and Chas Mills, and Jenny and Bruce Rogers. The assistance involves wheeling in the residents from the different floors; handing out the service books and hymn sheets and singing along with the welcome accompaniment of Chas at the piano. John gives a homily. John also stays to offer communion.

Many in this congregation close their eyes and listen to the familiar words, some fall asleep, some are restless or in pain; all receive grace and love during this time together.

This last year has seen an increase in the attendance. We regularly have a gathering of at least twenty-four people.

This is a rewarding and worthwhile ministry with warm smiles and waves of recognition between the residents and the visiting team from St. Mary's.

Sincerely,
Jenny Rogers

Prayer Support Group

Our group of dedicated parishioners have been praying for the needs of people over the last 10 years. Requests are given by personal contact, telephone, or note. Each request is prayed by the seven members for a week, or longer if necessary. Our list is by first names only. Some on our list are also on the Sunday bulletin prayer list. Confidentiality is very important to us, and to some of those who ask for prayer. God knows who they are and their deepest needs; we are only the messengers.

For the last 3 years we've had a member available for individual prayer after the 10:30 a.m. service. Prayer is held in the Prayer Corner in the church. This service has been used by a number of people who have found this helpful. It would be great if we could also offer it after the 8:00 a.m. service.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. –Proverbs 3:5.

It is our relationship with God that is important.

Respectfully submitted by
Barb Mann

Ministry for the Elderly Outside

St. Mary's

Throughout the year in the last week of the month, a ministry team from St. Mary's visits three nursing/retirement homes in Richmond Hill (the Marianne, Hilltop and Brookside) for a service which includes Holy Communion with the residents who choose to attend. This Ministry, much appreciated by the worshippers and with a long history, is presently conducted by Mark or Ruthanne who alternate services. Janet Bartram-Thomas selects and chooses hymns, and plays the piano while Bill Bartram lends his fine voice. Additional singers are always welcome with or without notice! (The Marianne service begins at 2:00 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month, and Hilltop and Brookside begin at 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. respectively on the last Thursday of each month.)

Janet Bartram-Thomas

St. Mary's ACW

January 30, 2011: Our 1st meeting of 2011 was held in Wrixon Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service and started with a lovely lunch supplied by Delmanor Retirement Residence. After lunch, Patricia Duke gave a presentation of her recent 2 week trip through the Arctic with Quark Expeditions on board the Russian icebreaker, Kapitan Khlebnikob. The trip started at Resolute on Cornwallis Island and finished at Quttinipaaq National Park. Patricia showed many amazing photos and shared many interesting facts and stories of our amazing north.

March 4: St. Mary's ACW members attended and participated in the annual WICC World Day of Prayer Service at Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church, and the reception that followed. That evening, Christians in 170 countries and in 2000 communities in Canada gathered to pray in solidarity with the people of the year's chosen country – Chile.

April 17: St. Mary's ACW organized a Parish Fellowship Luncheon after the Palm Sunday Service. We gathered in Wrixon Hall to share food and fellowship. The menu was quiche/salad/rolls/coffee/tea and ice cream sundaes.

May 1: St. Mary's ACW held a Royal Tea for all parishioners in celebration of the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton. Tea and scones with cream/jam were served and an array of Royal wedding photos were displayed.

May 25: Our Annual Pot Luck Supper was held in Wrixon Hall. After the meal, members of St. Mary's Gardening Committee shared news of their recent and proposed improvements to the many gardens surrounding the chapel and main church.

November 12: St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar. This ACW event was a big success again this year. Instead of a luncheon, we

had a café serving tea/coffee and baked goods. Due to the hard work and creativity of our members and fellow parishioners, we raised \$4000.

December 4: ACW Corporate Breakfast was held at 9:00 a.m. After a lovely breakfast (served by 5 of the gentlemen of the parish), we voted on the disbursements of the ACW funds. This year, we donated to the Richmond Hill Food Bank, Gardening Committee of St. Mary's, St. Mary's Archives Committee and the Toronto ACW. It was proposed, seconded and passed that the majority of the funds be kept in our account in order to, hopefully, be able to contribute to an electronic sign to replace the current outdated one on Yonge Street.

We look forward to 2012 and more opportunities to gather together for times of faith, fellowship and fundraising.

Ruth Wilton, Lorraine Kisch
Co-presidents, ACW

Social Justice and Community Outreach Committee

Mission Statement

The role of the Social Justice and Community Outreach Committee of St. Mary's Anglican Church is to provide a framework to enable the Church and its members to carry out Christian mission including providing assistance and support to the vulnerable in our community and working to bring about infrastructure changes that will contribute to social justice. Our mission statement reflects this role.

The Committee is committed to assisting the Church and its parishioners in Christian Outreach Activities at the local, national and international levels. This assistance includes initiating, promoting and supporting activities and projects that contribute to social justice and human dignity.

Past Year's Activities

We continued with "loony muffin Sundays", which includes providing parishioners of St. Mary's and other area churches with the opportunity to purchase "fair trade" organic shade coffee, tea and chocolates. The sale of these fair trade products not only enables parishioners to purchase the highest quality at a fair price but aids independent small farmers in third world countries. Gwen Halliday is continuing to administer this program. We are planning to hold a coffee tasting session in the near future.

Profits from the sales of loony muffins are used to support our outreach programs. The loony muffin program is conducted by Dionne Robertson and Flora Dogbe with the very kind contributions of the muffin bakers.

We continued to support our two foster children, Fernando Costillo Yandri in Equador and Puma Bahadur Chrlu in Nepal through Plan Canada, with the help of donations at our Sunday

coffee hour.

The Committee continued to collect/accept eyeglasses which go to third world countries through the Lion's Club; toiletries for the Krasman Centre, Loft and the Home Base Drop-in Centre; donations for the Richmond Hill Food Bank each month and used postage stamps for the Leprosy Mission. We also continued to sell "grandmothers to grandmothers" pins in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

Norman McMullen continues as our very competent and conscientious committee secretary. He sold Christmas "West Indian" fruit cakes again this year. This service is provided for the benefit of those parishioners of refined taste who may wish to enjoy the cakes themselves or to give them as gifts. All profits went to our outreach projects.

The committee created a working group (web masters) to develop a new web site for the church. The group comprised Jonathan Wilkinson, John Martin and Bob Veltheer. The real work was done by Jonathan and John. Bob, who knows nothing about web site development, just goaded them. The web site is now up and running but will continue to be a work-in-process.

Prior to Christmas we conducted our annual campaign to raise money for gifts to our Christmas Families. The Christmas Families fund activities for the year ended December 31, 2011 was as follows:

Opening Balance	\$1,837
Donations	3,369
Spent	(4,000)
Balance	1,206

The amount spent was used to purchase vouchers from Wal-Mart and No Frills for 30 needy families including 40 children. The balance does not include the vouchers still on hand.

We are continuing to advocate in connection with homelessness which remains a serious problem in York Region.

We were instrumental in incorporating a not-for-profit corporation, Home on the Hill Supportive Housing. The objects of the corporation are to provide persons with disabilities with:

- Residential housing and a stable living environment,
- Life management counseling and other supportive services to assist in becoming more independent in the community,
- Training for, and to assist in, the placement in employment,
- Support and encouragement by offering programs in individual development and integration into the community,
- Relief by developing and implementing recreation, education and social integration programs.

A board of directors has been formed. The corporation has received approval for a grant and forgivable loan of \$20,000,

from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, to prepare a needs assessment and feasibility study. A local firm of management consultant, specializing in social housing, has been engaged to assist with the study.

The board is currently engaged in visits to other social housing and support projects and has conducted a focus group session with families and caregivers of persons with mental illness.

Updates on Previous Outreach Programs

Refugee Families

Several years ago the Committee sponsored several families of refugees. These sponsorships were made possible by the very generous contributions of several members of the church. We have maintained contact with the last two families and report that they are doing well and have integrated well into Canadian society.

Hands of Hope Mission

Hands of Hope Mission is a medical support mission to the mountain Mayans of Guatemala. The mission was created thirteen years ago in response to the dreadful damage created by Hurricane Mitch. At that time Saint Mary's financed the shipment of a 40-foot container of relief supplies. Individual parishioners made donations to the mission during its formative years. The mission began with a nurse, one doctor and one bus driver assistant. There is now a staff of twelve people.

The mission continues to provide critical medical support, healthcare services and much needed nutrition and training to 10,000 Mayans in three mountain villages. Its annual Christmas blanket project provides 500 to 1,000 blankets to the villagers living in corn stock hovels with dirt floors. The temperature often reaches close to freezing at 7,400 feet elevation. The mission is planning to build a community centre in one of the village

Plans for This Year

Our involvement and support of Home on the Hill will continue into the foreseeable future. In conjunction with Home on the Hill, we will continue to develop a data base of contacts at other religious organizations and social service organizations within our community to enable us to share information on social justice issues of common interest and to provide a broad base of advocacy and support.

We will continue our "loony muffin Sundays" including the sale of fair trade coffee.

We will be conducting campaigns for Primate's World Relief and Faithworks again this year.

We plan to conduct an assessment of the needs of persons who come to our church for help and will consider how we can respond to those needs. We will consider ways in which the

Committee can obtain the financial resources to respond to those needs.

We wish to thank those parishioners who have been generous in supporting programs during the past year.

Pax vobiscum.

Bob Veltheer,

Chair, Social Justice and Community Outreach Committee

Archives Committee

I am pleased to report that this has been an interesting and a rewarding year for our small Committee. As in the past, I must begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to Joan Connolly, Jessie Hutchinson and Dave Hunt for their dedication and encouragement. They make my duties as Chair so much easier.

On behalf of our Committee I also wish to thank the ACW for supporting us through another Grant this year. This amount, together with budget funds, allowed us to pursue preservation projects, to renew memberships and to purchase additional conservation materials. We are grateful for your generous assistance.

Two interesting projects were undertaken this year. A reproduction of the 1881 broadside, seeking tenders for construction of the Chapel steeple was mounted and "plaqued" by Ken's Art & Frame. The result is most attractive and, we believe, of interest to parishioners at St. Mary's. Reproductions of the original owned at the Archives of Ontario were printed by Richmond Hill Public Library's Local History Librarian, Cameron Knight, and donated to St. Mary's as part of our 2007 National Heritage Day event. Several copies of the broadside remain in the Archives and we will be making these available for purchase at our 2012 National Heritage Day event.

In addition, we were also able to arrange for the transfer of a magnetic tape of bell-ringing that for many years had been part of a loud-speaker sound system in the steeple of the Chapel. This recording was often played following weddings in the Parish. Craig and Jared Wellington un-earthed this magnetic tape during the Chapel restorations and happily our 2011 funding allowed for the transfer to a CD format, thus allowing it to be safely preserved.

A summary of our activities and projects in 2011 follows. I am sure you will agree that we have had a busy and a productive year.

In January our Committee was invited to attend Parish Board meetings. We are pleased to have this opportunity to improve communications and to be able to share details our Committee's work in this forum.

Our annual "Work Day" was held in February, focusing on rearranging the Archives Room in order to accommodate two

large filing cabinets that were kindly donated and delivered by Bob Veltheer. Our collection continues to expand and we want to sincerely thank all who have donated materials this year. I am also personally grateful to Dave for his keen eye for furniture placement and his often brilliant suggestions for the best use of our limited space.

Early in May I received a telephone call from Matthew Somerville, the newly-appointed Heritage and Urban Design Planner for the Town of Richmond Hill regarding the fate of the building at 10,027 Yonge Street, also known as Dr. Duncumb's Hall. In his preparation of background material about the Hall, Mr. Somerville was requesting images of the building from our Archives inclusion in a report to Council. He was well aware of the connections between St. Mary's and the Hall and I was pleased that we could provide three photographs to compliment his document.

I attended the May 24th Town Council meeting on behalf of the Committee. Following a marathon session, it was decided that the Town would pursue "heritage designation" for Dr. Duncumb's Hall, thereby valiantly trying to protect one of Richmond Hill's oldest and most significant historic buildings. As a follow-up, we were delighted to welcome Matthew Somerville for an extensive tour of our buildings later in the summer.

Hopefully you will recall that Archives Moments were arranged throughout the year. Without a doubt our "Married at St. Mary's" was the most popular. Many thanks to Joan for all her work in organizing and displaying so many wedding photographs and to Jessie for agreeing to share her beautiful wedding dress.

Memberships with the Richmond Hill Historical Society and Heritage Canada have been renewed. In addition we have joined the Ontario Heritage Trust this year. As members of the Trust, we will receive their newsletter, *Heritage Matters*, and will be kept informed of events and issues of concern across the Province. The Membership Secretary was happy to learn that St. Mary's will be participating in Doors Open, 2012 which is organized under the umbrella of the Trust.

The architectural drawing of the Chapel, removed during the restorations, has been refurbished and was presented to the Parish at Vestry last year in honour of the rededication of the Chapel. The drawing now hangs adjacent to the newly re-framed Arnold Family collage in the Plot area.

We participated in the Volunteer Fair by organizing a small display of items related to the Arnold Family and later we arranged a sales table together with a small display of Christmas items at the annual Bazaar. We are always happy to be a part of these in-house events.

It was gratifying to be invited to participate in the recent field trip for new Ordinands within the Diocese. Organized by

David Robinson, the session involved telling the story of St. Mary's through tours of the buildings. The whole process was most interesting, as some of the questions and comments allowed the tour guides to see the history of St. Mary's from quite a different perspective. A small display from our Archives collection was very well received by our guests – especially the autographed letter from Gordon Lightfoot and the story behind it.

In late November we welcomed 30 high school history teachers to St. Mary's as part of a walking tour of the Village Core for a professional development day arranged by the York Region District School Board. It was a bright and beautiful day that even allowed us to explore the exterior of the Chapel – in late November! The event was a great success and I made a point of inviting the teachers to return for a more detailed tour or to arrange class visits for their students.

We were happy to welcome Marj Andre to our November Committee meeting. Her obvious interest in the history of St. Mary's was greatly appreciated. As you probably know, Marj is the founder of the community information website OnRichmondHill.com. As a result of our meeting we agreed to provide historical information about the Parish for the website and to submit an occasional short article that might be of interest. She has also kindly invited us to participate in her regular "Connecting the Community" events at the Performing Arts Centre. This venue will provide an excellent opportunity for us to promote St. Mary's in the community and the work of our Committee.

As you can imagine, a great deal of advance planning has already gone into our 2012 National Heritage Day celebration. I sincerely hope that you will plan to attend our fourth such community event. The date is Sunday, **February 19, 2012**. Our speaker will be Matthew Somerville and the theme is "Heritage Matters!". Please join us in celebrating the restoration of our beautiful Chapel and recognizing the hard work and dedication that have made its completion a reality.

Diane Robertson has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate an afternoon tea and, as in the past, this event promises to be an informal and enjoyable way for us to join together in recognizing Canada's National Heritage Day.

I shall close with the prayer that has opened each Archives Committee meeting since 2001;

"Lord we thank you for the goodly heritage you have given us and we rejoice in the new things you do in us. Help us so to build on the inheritance of our forebears that, empowered by your Spirit, we may live your Gospel and serve your Kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen."

Norman McMullen
Chair, The Archives Committee

The Green Team

The Green Team continues in this our fourth year, to meet approximately once a month to share updated news about our environment, look at ways we can help make St. Mary's a greener parish and to discuss what we can all do as individuals to continue the shift towards a sustainable way of living on our planet, our part of God's created world. We have initiated a satellite group of individuals who are interested in environmental ideas and the work of the Green Team but who don't have the time to commit to regular meetings.

This year the Green Team continued our efforts by showing an informative DVD as we do each year, participating in the bazaar with a green table, putting green 'nuggets' in the bulletin from time to time, sending a group to the *Green Awakening Network* conference, celebrating *Earth Day*, being part of on-going efforts to link the Sunday School with the church's gardening program and spearheading recycling efforts at St. Mary's. We also took the important step of establishing a benchmark to measure St. Mary's individual environmental footprints and the collective average for our parish and writing green objectives for our Church which we presented to Parish Board. At one of our meetings Sharon Hans shared with us the information received at this year's Synod which had the environment as its major theme.

We appreciate the cooperation of so many of our fellow parishioners in pursuing the difficult but important goal of becoming a 'green' Church.

Janet Bartram-Thomas
for the Green Team at St. Mary's

Greeting Card Ministry

The Greeting Card Ministry sends sympathy and 'thinking of you' cards to members of the parish who are grieving, ill, or otherwise troubled. While the staff try to be mindful of all who might appreciate a card they are always open to suggestions or reminders from the parish. A small budget for this ministry exists. Cards are chosen, written, and sent out by Helen Evans for whose ministry we are very grateful.

John Martin

The Message

The Message is the quarterly newsletter of the people of St. Mary's: issues appear just before Easter, just before the summer holidays, the Sunday after Labour Day, and just before Christmas.

Joan Chandler, Editor of *The Message* from Vol. 17, No. 4, stepped down after Vol. 22, No. 1. My thanks to her for all of the hard work she put into *The Message* in the eighteen issues she oversaw.

Our new Editor, Erica Mayhew started with Vol. 22, No. 3, the Fall issue. She is the fifth editor I've worked with. I'm sure that, like all the rest, she will be unique, will put her own stamp on our newsletter, and will have her own views on Oxford Commas and other vexatious point of English grammar. Welcome aboard Erica.

Our Summer issue last year was a single sheet and was not mailed. There were special circumstances last year but we may continue the pattern as it traditionally has the least content of the four issues. We currently print about 430 copies of the other issues, some 15-25 are left for pick-up by visitors and newcomers, and a dozen are mailed to friends of St. Mary's. We mail all that are not picked up.

Mailing costs are always a concern. Even though we can mail an issue for the price of a regular stamp that's still some 180 copies per issue. If anyone is willing to take on an aggressive distribution program, please speak with me. We would also love to increase our advertising revenue. Again, speak with me if this is something you'd be willing to take on.

A big thank you to the current team: my two editors in 2011, all our wonderful writers, and the growing list of post-printing helpers.

John Martin
Publisher, *The Message*
themessage@saintmaryschurch.ca

Web Site

St. Mary's has had a web site since about 1996 in the time of Bob Leckey (incumbent) and Ann Edwards (office admin.). The original link was <http://interlog.com/~stmarys>. Just before Ann's retirement, Daniel Kekez and I brought high-speed Internet access and networking to all the computers at St. Mary's. A little later we moved our web site to phpWebHosting where it remains to this day. The site was updated weekly during all this time though this wasn't always noticed as the changes were to the Notices page, not the home page. The years passed and it became more and more obvious that the site needed a major facelift as I pointed out myself on many occasions.

As related elsewhere, the web site has now received that facelift. More than that it has a whole new infrastructure. It uses *Wordpress*, and a theme, called *Church*, by Christopher Molitor. The structure—the organization of the content—was worked out last summer. The new site finally went live just before Christmas.

From my perspective as ongoing maintainer, the new site is a pleasure to work with. It is web-based so I can work on it from anywhere. It takes care of all the links so moving and adding posts and pages are worry-free. From the user's perspective, the whole site is much easier to navigate.

I encourage you to explore the site in its entirety. If you feel we have mis-, or under-represented your corner of St. Mary's let us know! We would still very much like to see more pictures. These should look well in landscape mode and reflect the church through the season's—both liturgical and meteorological. Send everything to our special e-mail address (below)!

My thanks to Naomi Dodsworth for her input on content structure, Jonathan Wilkinson for his Wordpress expertise and ongoing help, Bob Veltheer for 'encouraging' us all and championing the work with Parish Board, and to everyone who sent in content.

John Martin—webmaster@saintmaryschurch.ca

Envelope Secretary

DONATION, the Dan Cooperstock software we use for recording offerings continues to serve us well.

Distribution of envelopes at the beginning of each year is labour-intensive. Next year we will distribute only the letter and the sticky labels and ask parishioners to pick up as many or as few of our generic envelopes as they actually need.

Statistics

PAP Users	62
Active Donors	317

With regards to distribution of donation below chart shows current distribution:

Fund	Total	Percent	Donors	Donations
Building	\$1,470.00	0.6%	7	18
Christmas Families	\$1,770.00	0.7%	14	18
Christmas	\$5,960.00	2.3%	78	94
Easter	\$3,392.00	1.3%	74	82
Faithworks	\$3,546.00	1.4%	33	62
Flowers	\$565.00	0.2%	10	13
Foodbank	\$675.00	0.3%	5	18
Help Catastrophies	\$120.00	0.0%	3	3
Memorial	\$1085.00	0.4%	12	15
General	\$242161.98	92.8%	317	3254
Thanksgiving	\$840.00	0.3%	7	7
	\$261,019.98			3571

I want to thank all of you for your kind support during this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Quintero

Envelopes Secretary

envelopes@saintmaryschurch.ca

Vestry Notes