



# Canterbury Tales

To be a supportive Christian community allowing the Holy Spirit to grow within us so that we may become a living symbol fo Christ's presence.



Commemorative  
Issue



**St. Theodore of Canterbury  
Anglican Church**

111 Cactus Avenue  
North York, Ontario  
M2R 2V1

**Telephone:** 416-222-2461  
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1959

St. Theodore of Canterbury

2009





**Diocese of Toronto**  
Anglican Church of Canada

The Rt. Rev Colin R. Johnson  
Bishop of Toronto

The Incorporated Synod  
of the Diocese of Toronto

135 Adelaide Street East,  
Toronto, ON M5C 1L8  
Telephone: 416-363-6021  
Toll-free: 1-800-668-8932  
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*The Clergy and People of the Parish of St Theodore of Canterbury*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I greet you in the name of our Living Saviour, who redeems and sustains us all. Thanks be to God!

In this your anniversary year, celebrating 50 years of ministry in the name of Christ Jesus, I want to assure you of my prayers and thanksgiving for the life of your parish. It is a testimony to the faithfulness and dedication of all of the members of your parish, past and present, that you have come to this point.

While a half-century is a significant milestone, it is merely the first of many for this vibrant and faith-filled community. As you move forward into the future, my prayer is that God will continue to richly bless you as we work together for the building up of God's Church.

Yours faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Colin R. Johnson  
Bishop of Toronto



**Mission:**  
To worship God and proclaim  
Jesus Christ in the power of the  
Holy Spirit and to embody  
—in word and action—  
God's reconciling love, justice,  
compassion and liberation—  
through which knowledge of  
God's reign is extended.



**Diocese of Toronto**  
Anglican Church of Canada

The Right Reverend Patrick Yu  
Area Bishop of York-Scarborough

The Incorporated Synod  
of the Diocese of Toronto

May 20, 2009

135 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1L8  
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The Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer  
St. Theodore of Canterbury  
111 Cactus Ave.,  
North York, ON M2R 2V1

My dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure to send you this greeting on the occasion of your 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. My family and I have such wonderful memories of our time with you.

St. Theodore's has gone through a time of transition in the past few years with the loss of so many of your dedicated members. There is also reason for looking forward to what the Holy Spirit is guiding you to. Your mission of reaching out to the Russian Community is one that appears to be able to bare abundant fruit.

I pray that you will continue to be a beacon of light in your community for many years to come.

Yours faithfully,

The Right Reverend Patrick Yu  
Suffragan Bishop, Diocese of Toronto  
York-Scarborough Area



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## Greetings from the Incumbent Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer



*"I greet you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"*

From 2001-2002, I spent time here as a Wycliffe Student under the supervision of the former Rector, Dean Mercer, and when I was to be placed in a parish and this one came up, I did not hesitate to allow my name to stand.

The warmth of the people and the incredible cultural diversity - at the last count over 30 different countries of origin - made me feel very much at home being

someone who is often confused about my own cultural identity.

I have become very fond of St. Theodore's and it is a privilege to serve here.

Since coming in 2005 as Rector, life has been somewhat of a whirlwind. We have taken the time, as a congregation, to look at the neighbourhood around us and discern where God is calling us. There has been an incredible change of demographics in the area and around the church and it has become evident that we cannot be here just for the British and the Anglicans. We are realizing that we have become more and more irrelevant to the many around us who have no Anglican or even Christian memory. My background in different cultures has been very helpful in many areas but our surprise call to work with and among the Russian speaking community came as quite a shock and we continue to struggle with the direction of this call. We also see our finances struggling as we rely more and more on rentals to maintain the building and a new approach to mission is needed. New people with different needs have to be reached for the Lord. Because of this we have also made some change in our liturgy. A contemporary service with Power Point and band has been introduced once a month and is run mainly by our young people. We now have one service a month where there is simultaneous translation of the liturgy into Russian. We continue to grow and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit - fifty years are just the beginning!

Blessings, Rev. Claire +



## ST. THEODORE'S CHURCH

A PARISH IN THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF CALGARY

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St. Theodore of Canterbury Anglican Church

111 Cactus Avenue,

North York, Ontario

M2R 2V1

People of St. Theodore of Canterbury

Greetings from the Parish of St. Theodore in Taber, Alberta.

On behalf of the people of St. Theodore's Church, we would like to offer our best wishes as you celebrate your 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ministry in North York. Our prayers go with you as you continue to minister in these challenging and changing times. Having recently celebrated our own 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we recognize the work and commitment it takes to minister over such a long period of time. We hope that you will continue to share the life transforming message of Christ's love to each other and to your community until He comes again.

Yours in Christ

The Reverend Wil Stonehill  
Incumbent

Carmen Bodnarek  
Rector's Warden

Bonnie Hart  
People's Warden

*Serving Christ since 1907*

## In the beginning...



On a bright September morning in 1959, 37 people came together at Pleasant School to celebrate the first service of St. Theodore of Canterbury. One week later, Church School was established. By Christmas, the first services were being held in the portable Church that had been erected on the Church site on Cactus Avenue.

It was the culmination of generosity and hard work. A gift of land at Finch and Bathurst had been given by Robert and Andrew Caines in memory of their mother, Hannah Caines. With permission from the Caines family, this piece of land was sold and the proceeds used to purchase a piece of land on Cactus Avenue extending south to St. Pascal Court and east to the present right of way between our property and the school.

Things began to happen. Membership grew suddenly; the men of the Church raised enough money to provide the backbone for our church building campaign and operating expenses; a building committee was formed; and various organizations went to work.

On March 23, 1960 Bishop Wilkinson, Lord Bishop of Toronto, conducted our first

confirmation service in the tiny, cramped portable. Over 150 members were present for this service where 38 persons were confirmed. By May that year, the building committee presented their proposal and design for the new church at vestry. The estimated cost was \$90,000.

The Venerable Archdeacon T.P. Crosthwaite, Archdeacon of York, oversaw the official turning of the sod on September 18, 1960.

The Reverend B.W. Fraser was the first clergyman. Bishop Wilkinson chose the name for our church, using the saint's day closest to the first service held at the church, the Feast of St. Theodore of Canterbury.

At St. Theodore's today, we recognize that it took many people armed with strong faith to carry out the work of building our church. More importantly we know that it takes many more to help carry on the task of maintaining not just the status quo, but of moving ahead in our changing community.

The St. Theodore's we know today is a place of comfort, of encouragement, and of peace. Above all, it remains the House of the Living God.

## **Bruce W. Fraser, 1959 – 1967**



Rev. Fraser our first minister, came to us from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. His incumbency embraced all the firsts that a newly established parish prides. The first sod for the new building was turned by the Venerable Archdeacon T.P. Crosthwaite, Archdeacon of York, opened in April, 1961 and dedicated May 24 by the Right Reverend Wilkinson, Lord Bishop of Toronto. The first regular services were held at 9:00 a.m. Sundays, and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays.



### **Laying the Cornerstone 1960**

The first edition of a parish newsletter (the forerunner of Canterbury Tales) was sent out to keep our members informed about the activities, special events and life in general of our Parish. The first Loyalty Dinner is held, and the 18<sup>th</sup> Willowdale Scout Troop met for the first time. Frank Lee, a Trinity College student,

was our first divinity student, and on Passion Sunday a re-enactment of the Jewish Passover Meal, the Seder, was instituted. As we look back on these events we can only offer gratitude to Bruce and the foresight he brought to our newly minted parish. All these "firsts" continue to be the backbone of our current life together.



### **The Seder Meal 1964**

#### **Greetings from The Reverend Bruce Fraser**

*My Dear friends and members of St. Theodore's,*

*I greet you on the 50th Anniversary of your church. When we started to hold Services and build a Church in the empty field where you now worship, we had a vision of bringing the Good News of the Gospel into the community of Newtonbrook. How rewarding it has been to see vision become reality. I have many memories of the early days of your Parish, especially of the dedicated families who sacrificed to support the Church. Today I thank God for His Blessings upon us and pray that in the future we will continue to glorify God in His house as He pours out His Love on each of us,*

*Bruce W. Fraser: First Incumbent of St. Theodore's Parish.*

**Reverend L.W. (Bill) Smyth,**  
**1967– 1970.**



The three years of Bill's incumbency cemented the uniqueness of St. Theodore's. During the three short years of his work in the parish, Monks' Cell became a reality and the parish gained a reputation for the quality of its musical life. The purchase of a new electronic organ brought organist Jim Mitchell to the Theodore family. The "Coffin" coffee house opened up to teens in the church basement as a drop in centre on Friday nights. A celebration of the 1300 Anniversary of the Consecration of Theodore, as Archbishop of Canterbury, March 26th 668 AD, led to the institution of Monks' Cell, with profits going to Outreach.



**Celebrating the 1300th anniversary of Theodore's elevation to the See of Canterbury (Sept. 22, 1968)**

The 10th Anniversary, Holy Communion was celebrated with Rev. Bruce Fraser, beginning a tradition that lasts until this day. This year our celebrant is also a former incumbent, The Right Reverend Doctor Patrick Yu, Suffragan Bishop of York Scarborough.



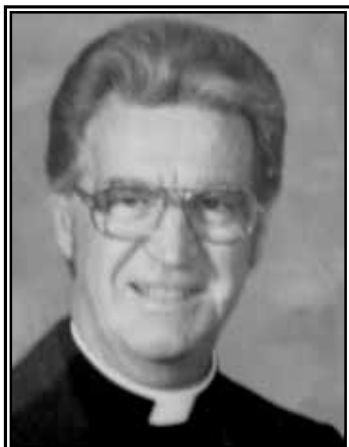
**Barbecued pig at the first Monks' cell**

"The Cummer Valley Concert Band", a group of 85 teenage music students together with parents and friends fly to Japan. This group had been working together on the production of a musical repertoire, which was produced at "Expo 67", and performed in Osaka, Japan. While in Japan, our parishioners meet our new Rector, Rev. Bruce Mutch and Mrs. Mutch. Father William Harper (retired) was interim minister in August between the departure of Rev. Smyth and the arrival of Rev. Mutch.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

*The church's foundation stone is made of granite 1' - 9 3/4" long and 1' - 1 5/8" high, with a thickness of 4". On it is the date 1960. A copper box is placed in the wall behind the stone, containing the Church bulletin of that week, the front pages of the daily papers for that day, copies of the Church school lessons for the week, pictures and copies of documents giving a brief history of our church.*

**Reverend Bruce Mutch,**  
**1970 – 1980**



Rev. Mutch arrived from Nagoya, Japan, bringing his missionary zeal and his considerable mediation skills. During his incumbency children were invited to the Eucharistic table, the Book of Alternative Services was introduced and the southern part of the church property that now is St. Pascal Court was sold to discharge the parish debt and finally open the door to consecration which was conducted by the Right Reverend Lewis Garnsworthy, Diocesan Bishop of Toronto on September 19, 1976. Less controversial but significant was the registration of "The Monks' Cell" as a registered trademark, the housing of 150 scouts visiting for the 1973 Jamboree and a host of parish events speaking of an active and involved parish.



**Confirmation**

The Rev. Charles Ledger and family joined us to assist Rev. Mutch and the cultural and spiritual openness that is so much a part of who we are found its expression in participation in the Christian and Jewish Dialogue at the Pride of Israel Temple. The gallery was refurbished opening it for choir and committee meetings.

**A Letter from Reverend Canon  
Bruce Mutch**

*Congratulations on 50 creative years. For me and my family, 1970 to 1980 was a happy, formative time of our lives. It was a privilege for us to be with you in work and worship. Together we offered prayers for our local community; participated in the 10 Days for World Development programmes; and joined in support of the Partners in Mission Outreach to the wider Church here in Canada and abroad. May you continue to be blessed in the days ahead.*

*In Domino,*

*(The Rev. Canon) Bruce Mutch*

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

**A Memorial Plaque hangs in the Narthex in memory of Hannah Cairns.**

The original piece of land donated for the church was situated at the northwest corner of Finch Avenue and Ancona Street. It was given by the Cairns family in memory of their mother, Hannah Cairns. This site was not considered suitable by the Extension Board so, with the permission of the Cairns family, the land was sold and our present site purchased.

## **The Reverend S. Alan Kirk,** **1980 – 1986**



The Reverend Allan Kirk's incumbency was a period of parish discernment. The winds of change blew strongly, particularly in the cultural make up of the parish. In response to these shifts Allan instituted a "Vitalization in Ministry and Mission" team is created to look at the work of the church and help people take control of their lives, and to share in the decision-making in the church.

The commissioning of lay readers eased the liturgical demands on the incumbent as Allan guided the church through more inclusive participation in the pastoral aspects of parish life. A service for the Blessing of Homes was held and The Advisory Board was renamed the Advisory Council and the number of its members reduced. Our first tenant church The Korean Presbyterian congregation with Pastor Kim began worship and The Froebel Garden Bilingual School began its tenancy putting St. Theodore's on a firmer financial footing.

The twenty-fifth Anniversary Patronal Festival was celebrated with the Most Rev. Ted Scott, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The cupboard on the Epistle side of the Sanctuary holding the consecrated bread was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mitchell.

### **A Letter from the Reverend Allan Kirk**

*It is a privilege to wish all of you God's richest blessings as you celebrate this important anniversary. Janet and I look back on our time at St. Theodore's with the greatest of affection for a wonderfully welcoming congregation that truly were and are our brothers and sisters in Christ.*

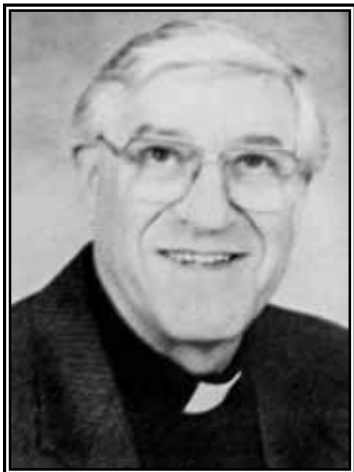
*You began with a vision that included a much different look, yet over the years you have changed and grown, always attempting to meet the needs of constant change, and always with the deeply held conviction that you are a committed congregation who came together to nurture and be nurtured, to receive and give and to share Christ's message.*

*We have fond memories of the gifted wardens with whom I worked over the years and who served with such care and commitment; thinking of them brings back a flood of memories. St. Theodore's had a reputation for good music, and a choir that, although small, still produced a quality of music one would expect from a much larger ensemble.*

*It was also a great pleasure and rare privilege to work with our honorary assistant, Canon Lloyd Gesner whose wise council always gave insight and whose sermons were always thought provoking and stimulating.*

*We remember the Church School Nativity Services, the dedicated teachers, who shared their faith in a very creative way, all supported by people who were willing to "roll up their sleeves and get working." The altar guild kept the sanctuary with pride, everything set and ready in pristine form for each and every service. What a wonderful way to encourage care in worship, and to allay the anxieties of the priest approaching the altar!*

## **Reverend David Tatchell** **1986 – 1989**



The Reverend David Tatchell's incumbency was highlighted by the Sesquicentennial of the Diocese of Toronto. David was charged with the coordination of events, including the cross-diocese bearing of the centennial cross and the mass Sesquicentennial Service in the then Skydome. Rev. Tatchell's organizational energy sparked an outpouring of outreach projects in the parish too including Genneseret, a project to survey the area, Bridgehead, an alternate third world trading project, and PeaceFest 87 sponsored by St. Theodore's Church with speaker Geoffrey Pearson, of the Canadian Institute for the International Peace and Security. The Sesquicentennial Cross arrived at St. Theodore's on November 6 and was carried through the parish. Services were held for its reception.

### ***A Letter from Mary Tatchell***

*Although our time at St. Theodore's was short, David and I have many lovely memories. It was a busy, active parish with seemingly one event after another, from Senior's Teas to Youth Group sleepovers to Peace Forums and the wonderful Monk's Cell dinner. Most of all I remember St. Theodore's parishioners as a strong group of committed people who worked hard to support and build a strong Christian community in Willowdale.*

*One very special memory I have is of the children – in church school, children's story,*

*dramas, singing, youth group, sleepovers, etc. The children knew this was their church. They knew their importance.*

*One Sunday I noticed a little boy called Nicholas holding his collection tightly in his fist ready to drop it in the collection plate. The sidesperson that day was tall, and perhaps, expecting children to be in church school, the plate passed above Nicholas' head. Now Nicholas was not only an adorable little fellow, he was clever. He squatted at the end of the pew, keeping a close eye on the sidesperson's return to the altar at the end of the offertory hymn. Focused on their task they passed Nicholas' outstretched arm a second time. Nicholas looked puzzled for only a moment. With a look of determination, he hopped down from the pew and marched up the centre aisle just as the sidespersons were marching back down. By this time, the blessing over the gifts had been said and the offertory plate was still sitting in the centre of the altar. David, arms outstretched with robes flowing, was ready to begin the eucharistic prayer. The sunlight streamed in as the last notes of the offertory hymn faded away. Nicholas reached the altar. Stretching with all his might from the tip of his toes to the ends of his fingers his little head peeked above the altar as he dropped his coins - clink, clink, clink - into the collection plate. With a satisfied and beautiful smile he marched back down the aisle to his seat. A lovely moment.*



**The Sesquicentennial cross paraded in our parish**

**Reverend Doctor Patrick Yu,**  
**1990 – 1997**



During Patrick’s incumbency there were major changes to the building and to the presence of St. Theodore’s in the community. Patrick and Kathy along with their children Christina, Theresa and Jacob brought the energy of an active family life into the parish. The Church School was innovative, youth programmes, were started, the parish van was put to much use in senior’s trips and youth events. St. Theodore’s took on the pastoral care of Cheltenham Nursing Home.

A major renovation to the front of the building saw the narthex remodeled and the new stained glass window installed on the west end. Patrick gained an office and the addition of an elevator and a first floor washroom made us accessible to the handicapped.

An Electronic Three Manual Johannes organ was purchased and its installation in the balcony caused much parish debate. Dutch organist recitalist Klass Jan Mulder initiated the instrument in a notable concert in September 1993.

Our presence on Cactus Avenue was illuminated by a new sign, but perhaps, most memorably, Rev. Patrick initiated “The Hot Seat” a sermon time dedicated to hot topics in Christian theology (and parish life).



**Before the renovation**



**Raising the funds**



**Raising the roof!**

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Tunes youth musical ensemble took their show on the road during March Break trips on three occasions to New York City, once to Boston and twice to Quebec City. In 2009 they took their show to Guelph for major patron, Chris Mitchell.

**Reverend Dean Mercer,**  
**1998 – 2004**



**The induction of Rev. Dean  
by Bishop Bedford Jones**

The Reverend Dean Mercer brought St. Theodore's into the modern digital world initiating our first website and making administration appear easy by using up to date software. Along the way he made the youth feel at home in programmes such as The Tunes, The Flames, and Raptorball. His commitment to Wycliffe students as each year saw us hosting placements of theology students, many of whom remember us with fondness, and one of whom is our current incumbent. Sister Janis Mary, Rob Sears and Ed Haley, at various times have worked here. His induction service was conducted on May 31, 1999 by Bishop Bedford Jones.

We are the home of St. Seraphim of Sarov Russian Orthodox Mission, Harmony Seventh Day Adventist Church and Mindspring Preschool Initiative, Kumon Math Programme, as well as the continuing presence of the 18<sup>th</sup> Willowdale Scout Troop, Cubs and Beavers.

During his incumbency we hosted The World Day of Prayer, and began the procession of international flags on the day of Pentecost. Major repair and replacement of the windows was done, and our beautiful stained glass memorial windows in the sanctuary were installed. The kitchen was totally renovated by the Tillotson family as a memorial.

**A message from The Reverend Canon  
Dr. F. Dean Mercer**

*The time at St. Theodore's is one that Natalie and I will always look back upon with tremendous gratitude and affection. Bishop Yu once said that he always remembers the great food. To that I would add the great music, and the great warmth of a Christian family gathered from around the world. May God bless St. Theodore's for many years to come.*

*The Rev. Canon Dr. F. Dean Mercer*

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

Rev. Canon Dr. F. Dean Mercer is incumbent at St. Paul, L'Amoreau.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Patrick Yu is Bishop of York Scarborough.

The Rev. David Tatchell is retired and living in Vancouver.

The Rev. Allan Kirk is priest-in-charge at St. Cyprians.

The Rev. Bruce Mutch is retired and living in Toronto.

The Rev. Bruce Fraser is retired and living in Barrie.

## **The Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer** **2005 - present**



### **From the Rector's Desk:**

*'So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day'*

2 Corinthians 4:16

Much has changed in our 'outer nature' over the last fifty years but as Paul writes to the Corinthians, 'our inner nature is being renewed day by day.'

It is easy to look back over fifty years at St. Theodore's and become despondent – mourning the early years of the parish. It was vibrant and full to overflowing. The Sunday School was numbered in the fifties and yearly confirmation usually had at least ten confirmands. The choir actually had **four** strong parts and volunteers were numerous. There was a real sense of church growth.

Since then the demographics around the church have drastically changed. It is no longer fashionable to go to church each Sunday. Many have dropped away and those who attend consider once a month regular attendance. Social life and friends are stronger outside the church community. Many parishioners do not live in the parish and have little knowledge of the needs of those around the church. The fear is that we are coming to the end of our presence on Cactus – time to step aside and allow others to take over the mission!

As we celebrate fifty years in this place, we could look back at the good old times and there were good ones or we could look forward to the next fifty.

I always think of St. Theodore's as the little church that could and the best kept secret in the diocese. We are much more than the Monks Cell and we need to make that known.

There is a new paradigm of church coming out of our Anglican tradition and it is exciting. We are being called into new territory something uncomfortable for a church which believes in the words, 'As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end'.

Our 'inner nature is being renewed day by day' as we try to follow the guidance of the Spirit towards this new paradigm

We can no longer wait for people to come to us. Through prayer, studying of scriptures and action we must take the gospel to the people.

As we become more aware of the needs of those in the neighbourhood, we are beginning to mould our ministry and presence to meet the people's needs.

There will be dead-ends, there will be stumbles, but if we remain Spirit-led we will eventually get the message of what God is forming our inner nature into.

Paul called upon the Corinthians to 'have faith' and 'be confident' for 'we walk by faith and not by sight'.

Let us run with that faith and confidence and allow our inner nature to be renewed and transformed for the sake of others and for the next fifty years of our ministry in this place.

Yours, in Christ, Rev. Claire.

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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Our service today is in instantaneous translation into Russian?

## **What we offer**

**Nursery and Sunday School** – following the “Seasons of the “Spirit” curriculum.

**Choir** – meets for rehearsal Thursday evenings, occasional community performances.

**Altar Guild** – serves the church in a gentle and humble way, preparing the sanctuary for worship.

**Servers Guild** – adults and young people assisting in worship.

**Sides teams, Greeters, Readers and intercessors** – lay assistance at services.

**Education and Bible Study** – led by the priest and qualified teachers

**Baptism and Confirmation Classes** – classes are led by the priest as required

**Weddings, Funerals, Counselling** – per discussion with the priest

**Tunes Youth Ensemble** – All musical youth welcome.

**Beavers, Cubs and Scouts** – meet at the church throughout the week.

**Monks’ Cell** – for over 40 years, the church basement is transformed into a monastic refectory for two evenings of steak dinners served by the brothers and sisters of St. Theodore’s.

**Caribbean Night** – Each fall an evening of calypso, food and dancing.

**Outreach** – social support for local initiatives; currently, Don Valley Refugee Resettlers, Outreach to Russian community and local food bank

## **Wardens**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Rector’s Warden</b>	<b>People’s Warden</b>
1959-61	W.A. Boxer	H. Flesher
1962	N.A. Beverly	K.O. Melick
1963	N.A. Beverly	J.D. Sandilands
1964	J.D. Sandilands	C.C. Lloyd
1965	J.F. Hunt	J.B. McKenna
1966	J.B. McKenna	C. Box
1967	T. Murphy	J. Edmunds
1968	W. Engell	J. Edmunds
1969	F.A. Gartrell	W. Engell
1970-71	M. Jenkins	W. Engell
1972	M. Jenkins	G. Darlington
1973	R.J. Hayward	G. Darlington
1974	J.H. Harvey	G. Darlington
1975-76	J.H. Harvey	A. Richards
1977-78	P. Maree	B. Pipes
1978-79	P. Maree	D. Bennett
1981	G. Darlington	D. Bennett
1982	G. Darlington	N. Wilson
1983	B. Bostock	N. Wilson
1984	B. Bostock	G. Spooner
1985	J. Sacco	G. Spooner
1986	J. Sacco	M. Carter
1987-88	M. Carter	R. Graham
1989-90	J. Bostock	G. Darlington
1991	G. Darlington	J. Bostock
1992	G. Darlington	D. Della Rossa
1993	B. Hietala	D. Della Rossa
1994	D. Della Rossa	B. Hietala
1995	V. Lambert	D. Della Rossa
1996-97	V. Lambert	R. Prior
1998	V. Lambert	S. Stewart
2000-2005	A. Khan	S. Stewart
2006	D. Darlington	A. Khan
2007	D. Darlington	K. Merrett
2008	D. Darlington	B. Hietala
2009	B. Hietala	H. Niles

**A Letter from Erika and Mike Allen**

*My husband, Mike Allen, and I joined St. Theodore's in 1982 and we had both our sons, Peter and Andrew, baptized by Father Allan Kirk. As our boys grew, we attended church regularly and both Mike and I led the singing circle that started off the Sunday School each week. Both Peter and Andrew participated in the Beaver and Cub program that met in the basement. Peter is now 27 and is working as a firefighter in Brampton and Andrew is 24 and is working in IT with the Royal Bank of Canada. Both Mike and I have recently moved up to Aurora, although Mike still sometimes attends the folk service at St. Theodore's. I joined the folk choir in Trinity Anglican church here in Aurora and am enjoying it.*

*We have many fond memories of St. Theodore's and we wish all the parishioners and Rev. Claire the very best on this special 50th anniversary.*

*Erika Allen*



**Peacefest 1987 in Moore Park**  
(Mike Allen right)



**Peacefest 1987 in Moore Park**  
(Erika Allen right)



PHONE: (403) 223-2417

**ST. THEODORE'S CHURCH**  
*A PARISH IN THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF CALGARY*

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St. Theodore of Canterbury Anglican Church  
111 Cactus Avenue,  
North York, Ontario  
M2R 2V1

People of St. Theodore of Canterbury

Greetings from the Parish of St. Theodore in Taber, Alberta.

On behalf of the people of St. Theodore's Church, we would like to offer our best wishes as you celebrate your 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ministry in North York. Our prayers go with you as you continue to minister in these challenging and changing times. Having recently celebrated our own 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we recognize the work and commitment it takes to minister over such a long period of time. We hope that you will continue to share the life transforming message of Christ's love to each other and to your community until He comes again.

Yours in Christ

The Reverend Wil Stonehill  
Incumbent

Carmen Bodnarek  
Rector's Warden

Bonnie Hart  
People's Warden

*Serving Christ since 1907*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Some of the memorial items donated for the new Church were on order from England. While awaiting their arrival, we borrowed the cross on the altar and the processional cross from the Anglican Book Centre.

The Synod purchased a house at 129 Connaught Avenue for approximately \$21,000 to be used as the rectory.

## Founders and Newcomers



In this commemorative issue of Canterbury Tales, we would like to introduce you to one of our devoted members, **Ivy Williams**.

Ivy was born and educated in Trinidad. Ivy was one of 14 siblings, Her father died very young at 49 and her Mother lived to 95. Ivy is the mother of 4 children, two daughters and two sons.

Ivy and her daughter came to Canada in 1988. She lived in Pickering for a time, where she attended St Martins . At St Martins she belonged to a Seniors group of about 200 people, where she did line dancing and the usual seniors activities which she readily participated in and enjoyed.

When the decision was made to move into North York, she asked the priest at St. Martins to recommend a church in this area and he gave her the phone number of St.Theodore's.

Although now she is a little out of our boundaries she says she would not go anywhere else. She thoroughly loves our friendly church.

Ivy has been coming to St Theodore's for 17 years, she helps out with the Altar Guild and happily executes her duty as sidesperson once a month. You may see her pouring coffee in the kitchen on Sundays after the service or in the kitchen doing duty at other functions. She is at the 10.30 service most Sundays and always has a smile and a warm welcome to all who come through our doors. Ivy is adamant that St. Theodore's is her church, and looks forward to coming every Sunday.

Once again we are introducing a relatively new member of St.Theodore's, **Gladstone Matthew**. Around the year 2004 he decided to join his aunt Doris Phillips, at our 10.30 service, and has been a member ever since.

Gladstone was born in London England in the year 1960. He came from a place called Hackney, in North East London. In the year 1962 his family moved to Antigua, in the West Indies. At the age of eight on December 10<sup>th</sup> 1968, he left the island and immigrated to Toronto, where he went to Public School, High School, and College. Gladstone had various jobs in Toronto but wanted to move on. He decided to travel out West ending up in, Red Deer Alberta in the central part of the Province, where he spent Eight years, before moving back.

His sport interests are Cricket and he is a fan of baseball but his interest in hockey has fallen off somewhat. Gladstone has his 3<sup>rd</sup> degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, a sport of Martial Arts. He has also taught the sport, and enjoyed doing so.

Gladstone is a member of the sidesteam, and takes his turn every fourth Sunday. He likes St. Theodore's because it is a small Church, and friendly. He would like to see more parishioners attending on Sunday Mornings. He feels the Church has a lot to offer and should reach out to more people in the area.

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### DO YOU REMEMBER?

- The flooded basement
  - Lighthouse rehearsing in the basement
  - The Christmas story at Black Creek
  - The Currie Cup
  - Burns Night
  - The Maureen Henderson library and the Mary Anne Hutton Library
  - Genneseret
  - Cactus café
  - Babel Rap
-

## Credits and Thanks



**Eileen Packwood**

This commemorative issue has been made possible by the dedicated work of our Archivist. For fifty years Eileen has kept our records in words and pictures. She condensed and rewrote and condensed again until the issue you have in your hands holds the essence of St. Theodores.

### **Cathy McRae**

Cathy took fifty years of written material and edited it to the size of this issue giving it its word appeal. She brought lists to life and dry data to imaginative narrative.

### **Ruth Darlington**

Ruth's ongoing work with the Founders and Newcomers section has become a much-read section. We all need to know who's who.

### **Eagle-eye Vi Farquharson Lambert**

Vi's compassionate knowledge of this congregation saved many an editing gaffe

And, as always, our Rector,

**Claire Goodrich Dyer**, who held the editor's hand throughout the composing of this issue, listened to her complaints and encouraged her through those times when nothing seemed possible.

And to all those who sent us greetings and memories ...

**Erika and Mike Allen**

**Mary Tatchell**

**The people of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Taber, Alberta**

**Rev. Bruce W. Fraser**

**Rt. Rev. Colin R. Johnson**

**Rev. Allan Kirk**

**Rev. Canon F. Dean Mercer**

**Rev. Bruce Mutch**

**Rt. Rev. Patrick Yu**

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### **Friends we have known**



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### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The mural on the nursery wall was designed and painted by Stephanie Newroth a York University student. Stephanie also spearheaded The Mustardseed Campaign to support Outreach Projects.

## Calendar of Events

### October

Thu. 1            8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 2            4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 3            8:30-3pm Diocesan Outreach  
 Conference

**Sun. 4            Pentecost 18**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
                          Rev. Dean Mercer, Preacher  
 Thu. 8            8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 9            4:30    Tunes Rehearsal

**Sun. 11          Pentecost 19**  
**Harvest Thanksgiving**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Contemporary Eucharist no  
 school  
                     2:30    Thanksgiving at Thorne Mills  
 Thu. 15          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 16          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 17          6:00    **Caribbean Night**

**Sun. 18          Pentecost 20**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
                          Archdeacon J. Sandilands,  
 Preacher  
 Thu. 22          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 23          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal

**Sun. 25          Pentecost 21**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
 Thu. 29          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 30          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal

### November

**Sun. 1            Pentecost 22**  
**All Saints Day**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
                          Russian translation  
                     2-5pm   Mosaic Peace Meal Thornhill  
 United

Thu. 5            8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 6            4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 7            Basil Tonks Dinner St. Andrews

**Sun. 8            Pentecost 23**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Contemporary Eucharist with  
                          Jennifer Mountain on Refugees;  
                          no school  
 Thu. 12          8pm    Choir Practice  
                          Pre synod meeting  
 Fri. 13          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal

**Sun. 15          Pentecost 24**  
**Remembrance Sunday**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 230/school  
                          Rev. John Wilton, preacher  
 Thu. 19          8pm    Choir Practice  
                     7:30    Advisory Board meeting  
 Fri. 20          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 21                                    Financial Synod

**Sun. 22          Last Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Reign of Christ**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
 Thu. 26          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 27          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 28          10:00   Altar Guild Meeting

**Sun. 29          Advent 1**  
**Advent Sunday**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
                     7:30    Healing Service

### December

Thu. 3            8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 4            4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 5            6:00    Parish Dinner and Dance

**Sun. 6            Advent 2**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185/school  
                          Russian Translation  
                          Bishop of Toronto Colin Johnson,  
                          celebrant  
 Thu. 10          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 11          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal  
 Sat. 12          A Christmas Carol CBC sponsored  
                          performance and carol singing

**Sun. 13          Advent 3**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Contemporary Service no school  
                     7:00    Joint Evening Service  
                          with St. Seraphim  
 Thu. 18          8pm    Choir Practice  
 Fri. 19          4:30    Tunes Rehearsal

**Sun. 20          Advent 4**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Service of Lessons and Carol

**December 24 Christmas Eve**  
                     7pm    Contemporary family service  
                     11pm   Festal Eucharist

**December 25 Christmas Day**  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS230

**Sun. Dec. 27 Christmas 1**  
                     8am    Holy Communion  
                     10:30   Sung Eucharist BAS 185;  
                          no school

