

The Guardian

St. Michael And All Angels

June 2011

Welcome to St. Michael and All Angels!
Special welcome to visitors and new comers!
We hope you feel at home in this community of faith.



Priest's Office Hours:

Monday evenings from 5pm to 7pm
Wednesday & Thursday mornings from
10 am to noon.

Please drop in during those times or
call the church office for an
appointment.

The Parish Office will be open when
our parish secretary is in on Tuesdays
8.30am to 9.30am Wednesdays &
Thursdays from 9.00am until noon.

Address:

15556 Cabot St Pierrefonds QC H9H 1R5
Phone Number: (514) 626 4205
email: st.michael@videotron.ca
Website: StMikesPierrefonds.com
Bus route #207 Jacques Bizard

Weekly Services

During July & August

Sundays Holy Communion at 9.00am

Wednesdays Holy Communion at 7pm
except for the following dates:

June 29th July 6th July 27th
Aug 3rd Aug 17th

Directory

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Parish Priest: | Rev Michelle Eason |
| Wardens: | Brian Hammond Debbie Wolowicz |
| Treasurer: | Dominick Merle |
| Music Director: | Sean Mayes |
| Youth Director: | Jaclyn O'Connor |

From the Parson's Quill

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. ⁵ For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ." (2 Corinthians 1: 3-5)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ in the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

I greet you in these first days of summer full of gratitude and thanksgiving for you. I am grateful for your kindness and compassion. The passage cited above from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians shows how Paul learned of God's mercy and compassion through his sufferings. There is a reciprocity in giving and receiving comfort and for us as Christians we must first receive from the God of all compassion. I have seen God's compassion given and received among you and I have been blessed.

In the spring, just before Easter, on Maundy Thursday my sister's struggle with cancer came to an end and she returned home to her loving Saviour. And what was for her a day of glory was for me, her children and all our family a day of great sorrow, a sorrow that will linger for a long time. I don't know if I can ever express the gratitude I feel for the compassion I received from you. Your kindness and thoughtfulness moved me as I saw the face of God in you. Especially during the services of Holy week and Easter when I thought I would crumble, I felt buoyed by your presence and support. I want to thank you for being a reflection of God's glory.

Our family was given a most beautiful arrangement of flowers from St. Michael's and in that arrangement there were many, many pink roses. While I admired the arrangement I remembered my sister and I had rosaries made from rose petals. My mother had the nuns make them out of roses my father had given her at my sister's birth (and, a year later at mine). It seemed just the right thing to do to have rosaries made out of the roses in that arrangement from St. Michael and All Angels. Unfortunately I was not able to find any nuns who still did this in time before the roses wilted too much. However, I found some recipes online and have made the rose petals into beads which I intend to make into rosaries for my sister's children. The time it took to make the beads was a good time to reflect and express my feelings of sorrow and loss as well as gratitude and joy. Hopefully I will be able to complete this rosary project in the next two weeks as I will be on holidays.

My prayers are with you all for a wonderful summer time of rest and enjoyment of all that this beautiful season is. May the light of Christ continually shine through you.

In Our Lord's Service,

Michelle+

June 22, 2011



The Easter Parade

After the choir's Christmas performance, there was the usual grumbling about the choir gowns. They were too hot, raggedy, old hat etc. It was suggested that new gowns were long over-due and we could use the free-will offerings from the organ recitals at St Mike's and St. Barnabas and the sales of our CD. Our goal was to have the new gowns ready by Easter Sunday. We were up and running.

Christ has risen, Hallelujah!

Lydia took up the challenge, bless you Lydia. We started reviewing the Church vestments catalogue and by mid-March the choice had been made, measurements taken, how many, colour and style. The request was sent out and now it was the waiting game.

Christ has risen, Hallelujah!

The Easter Sunday parade drew ohs and ahs from the congregation. We proceeded up the center aisle in all our finery. The worn-out, faded blue had been exchanged for a beautiful burgundy (sugar beet), the sleeves bordered with a narrow, white strip. We proudly sang-----

Christ has risen, Hallelujah!

Annette



What is Pastoral Care Ministry

We at St. Mikes are a pastoral parish and I frequently hear the comment: "The Church is like family to me." As a family, we are blessed with many gifts and talents making up the whole body of Christ.

I know that there are those amongst us who have been blessed with the gifts of caring, empathy, patience and authenticity. These are the 4 main attributes of a pastoral carer. At the center of pastoral caring is being THERE for the other. You accept where they are in their journey, walking with them, not for them, being mindful that we are stepping into Holy space with Christ as our center. He is the hub of the wheel and the spokes are visiting shut-ins, hospital visits, listening to someone off load their cares and worries or quietly sharing a cup of coffee. It is a listening ministry and whatever takes place between you is tightly sealed between you, the other and God. Listening to someone else's pain and confusion, while knowing there may be nothing you can do to lessen the suffering, is a gift from the heart. It sounds like a formidable gift. With Christ as your center, you may discover that you are a natural. I am putting out a call to YOU.

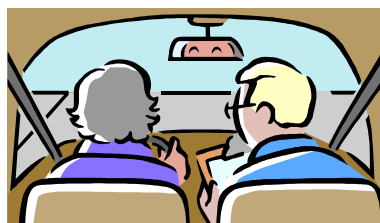
Use the gifts God has given you. Be bold and let the light of Jesus shine through you.

"No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand so that those who come in can see the light." (Luke 12, V. 16)

Yours in Christ,

Annette

Following on the next page is a list of people available to help out in various ways.



Pastoral Care Team Members

Join us in This Mission - Be an Angel

Talk to one of the administrators:



MEALS: Julie Hum, Joan MacDonald - (On Hold for now), Louise O'Connor-
Bernice Hadden (On hold for now) Isabel Chenier. Gloria Giroux, Annette Bouwman,
Jacqui Hoitz.

DRIVERS: (West Island only) Bob Belding -, Milt Hadden, (On hold for now),
Brian Sherstone - (Not available May to Oct.), Anne Chan, (On hold for now)
Irene Martinson, Barbara Clarke, (On Hold for now), Annette Bouwman, Gloria Giroux

DRIVERS: (Montreal) Gloria Giroux, Esi Laryea (Except Mondays)

SHOPPING: Ann Chan, (On Hold for now), Jacqui Hoitz , Bernice Hadden, (On hold for now) Barbara Clarke,
(On hold for now), Julie Hum.

HOUSEWORK: Bernice Hadden, (On hold for now), Laura O'Connor, (Tues. Wed. Evenings and Sat.)
Annette Bouwman ,

MINOR REPAIRS: Lorne Eason, Brian Sherstone - (not available May to Oct)

HOME VISITING: Annette Bouwman, Irene Martinson , Dale McCall, (On hold for now) Bernice and Milt
Hadden (On hold for now), Pearl March, Walter March , Barbara Clarke (On hold for now), Kelly Carson, (On
hold for Now) Anne Chan, (On hold for now) Julie Hum, Jaclyn O'Connor, Joyce Lawrence, Maureen Firth, Gail
Sydell, Jacqui Hoitz.

HOSPITAL VISITING: Barbara Clarke (On hold for now), Jaclyn O'Connor, Julie hum , Annette Bouwman
Joyce Lawrence,

CHILD CARE: Ann Chan, (On hold for now), Bernice Hadden, Jacqui Hoitz, Laura O'Connor. (Tues. Wed.
evenings and Sat Only)

COMPANIONSHIP: Laura O'Connor (Tues. Wed. evenings, and Sat. Only) , Annette Bouwman, Jacqui
Hoitz (On hold for now), Bernice Hadden, (On hold for now) Barbara Clarke (On hold for now), Jaclyn O'Connor.

PET CARE: Annette Bouwman, Bernice Hadden, (On hold for now)

BUDDY SYSTEM TELEPHONE: Jaclyn O'Connor, Bernice Hadden, (On hold for now), Gail Sydell.

The names underlined and in RED, above are presently members of the Administration of The
Pastoral Care Team, assisted by Rev. Michelle Eason .

Note: This listing was revised as of June 13th 2011, Please advise ANNETTE
BOUWMAN (514) 626-2546, of further changes and or additions, also contact your
friends at St. Mike's to help us help others. You and they will be BLESSED.

We will always welcome Pastoral Care Team Administrators

St. Mike's Introduces Pre-Authorized Remittance

St Mikes would like to introduce pre-authorized remittance (PAR) system to the congregation. The United Church of Canada has offered all Churches to take part in this program. The following web page will allow you to look in more details and answer most questions you may have for this project. Open your internet browser and type in the following address:

<http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/donate/howto/par/faq>

Some of the benefits of using PAR

- Allows St Mikes to have a more even revenue stream throughout the year, especially during summer months.
- Easier to manage offering, requiring less time and potentially less expense.
- Allows congregation to make donations once a month, reducing their time and costs.
- Allows Parishioners to manage their offerings without having to “catch up” after the summer months or when away over the winter months.
- Reduces bank charges related to deposits that we are charged at CIBC.

Some of disadvantages of using PAR

- Allows only one remittance per month on the 20th of each month.
- Any changes. Eg: bank account changes or offering amount changes must be submitted before 10th of each month.
- Cost associated to program of maximum monthly amount \$45.00 or 0.50 cents per giver. (not charged to family)

I think you will see that the benefits for the parish are greater than the disadvantage's. The envelope secretary will continue to produce income tax receipts for your offerings and continue to administer your offerings as he currently does. You can take advantage of this program to designate a portion of your offerings and continue to support St Mike's with regular offerings as well. The only change for the Parishioner is that you need to sign up and supply a void cheque.

Any questions or concerns? Please talk to any wardens or your treasurer and we will try and assist you.

Please review a selection of the FAQ from the web site.

What is the general response to PAR?

Some of the original congregations have been using PAR for almost 25 years now. Very few givers who join the PAR program decide to leave it. It is very convenient and it allows them to give consistently. The program usually grows in local congregations once the word starts to spread. By January 2006 there were over 45,000 PAR givers representing more than 1,600 congregations.

Is there a minimum number of people needed to go on PAR?

There is no minimum number of givers required by the United Church for your congregation to start the PAR program, but the more people on the program, the more beneficial to the church.

10. How much does PAR cost the local congregation?

The PAR program costs the local congregation 50¢ per giver, per month up to \$45 (90 or more people), which is deducted at the time of transfer. This helps to defray administrative costs incurred by the United Church. Individuals pay the normal chequing/debit fees to their local bank or credit union.

How does a giver change the amount of his/her gift or change to a different bank account?

All changes of this nature go through the contact person in the local congregation. He or she will have forms to facilitate changes, additions and deletions to the system. When there is a change in banks or account numbers a voided cheque must be provided.

What do we do about our members who feel uncomfortable about not putting something in the offering plate?

The PAR program offers small cards for the offering plate. The cards are printed with the words: "My offering has been given by Pre-Authorized Remittance". They can be recycled from the offering plate and kept in a central place for people to pick up when they finish their own supply. About 10 cards per family is usually more than sufficient if cards are recycled. All materials are provided by the United Church free of charge.

****A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"**

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information before Leaving Earth.'