



## Three bishops & two new priests at Trinity



Photo from left: Cory Joseph McConnell, Bishop Cy Pitman (Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador) David Puxley, Bishop Ron Cutler, Rob Elford, Bishop Sue Moxley and Bridget MacKellar.

ON DECEMBER 6, the Feast of St. Nicholas, Rob Elford and David Puxley were ordained priests at Trinity Church, Halifax. The church was filled to capacity as clergy, family and friends came to support Rob and David in their ministry. Bishop Cy Pitman delivered the homily and it caused quite a buzz in the crowd after the service ended. He offered hope and optimism for the future of the church. The two newly priested individuals were asked

for their reflections on Bishop Cy's sermon; their offerings were strikingly different as follows.

**From David Puxley:** The Bishop's homily was hopeful, heartfelt and humble. Speaking on the occasion of ordination, he wove personal experience from over four decades of ordained priestly ministry together with reflections on the liturgy. Bishop Pitman went beyond the topical and commented

on the catholicity of the church, asserting that the unity of the church is not to be pursued by re-corporating the various denominations or by opting for a palatable but excoriated consensus, but by authentically celebrating the differences which obtain between us as Christians. This opened into reflections on what Bishop Pitman called a hopeful and exciting time for the Church. Drawing parallels between the widespread misunderstandings of and

antipathy toward the church in both its contemporary and Apostolic periods, the evangelistic quality of Bishop Pitman's message resonated with many in the congregation; though for many decades distorted echoes of the portentous declaration of Friedrich Nietzsche that "God is dead" have been audible in many corners, Bishop Pitman reminds us that ours is not the dead God but the God of the empty tomb.

**From fellow Newfoundlander Rob Elford:** "Dat Bishop from Newfoundland, b'ye, I gatta tell ya, 'e did a fine job talking 'bout how important unity of da whole church is nowadays. He's a fine fella."

COLUMNIST

# The adventure begins

WHEN I LAST LEFT YOU, Christmas was coming and following that festive season there were plans for the Rectory family to pack up and head south.

Well Christmas has come and gone and so have Billie and the "In-Laws". That great exodus began in early December with packing and planning and all of the other fussy stuff that make up a trip schedule. Billie was busy with Advent and Christmas, both religious and secular and her Mother-in law and Pops were busy deciding what should go with them when they left the rectory.

Pops is a pessimist at the best of times so he had convinced himself that he would never see his home By the Bog ever again. Mom was the easygoing one and after so many years with her beloved Pops, she had learned to keep quiet and do her own thing. She was certain that they would be back within a few months so she left most of her treasures behind. Billie packed a few warm weather clothes, lots of books and her new Christmas toy; an electronic tablet that could do just about anything except preach her sermons.

Once Epiphany was over they



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

headed south with promises to keep in touch every evening and stop in a safe place if there was any threat of bad weather. Billie's Android gizmo would be able to keep them on the right highway, tell them the weather forecasts and send us emails. Mom had some knitting to keep her busy in the back seat and Pops promised to keep his "front seat driving" to a minimum or else take the back seat. Mom pointed out that she could knit just as well in the front as the back!

The plan was for Billie to spend a few weeks in the

sun for a much needed and deserved holiday. Then she would head back in time for Ash Wednesday.

The Bishop was sending out retired priests to do Sunday worship with us. She has her "stable" as my Orin calls it.. Maybe it is just us but the retired clergy of this diocese seem to be getting younger and younger every time we have the pleasure of their company. Mind you, we are finding that police officers and doctors are mere babies now days and as far as the teachers that we see in our schools... well they look like they should be sitting in the third row of desks, not standing in front of the class!

The weather cooperated with the Sunday schedule so no one had to battle bad roads to get to us. It is interesting to have visiting clergy here. Some just come, do the job and leave. Others seem to want to leave their mark on us as a Parish. We have had some who insist on moving furniture in the chancel or changing all of the hymns that Irene James had selected. We even had one man of the cloth who insisted on going into the rectory to see if everything was in good repair. He was a retired

Archdeacon and saw this as part of his duty as he toured the diocese. We never will ask for him to return!

We got daily reports from our travelers as they went south. Billie said that Pops was very disappointed when they arrived at their retirement community. Several of his cronies had either moved or were not in very good health. The gang who had been regular coffee buddies at the local Mall a few years ago had stopped that practice. He found that there was no one to share tall tales with and he began to miss the gardening gang that met most mornings around the rectory kitchen table

Mom was soaking up the sunshine and warmth beside the pool as was Billie and they both said that they were happy to be away from a Bog winter, if only for a few weeks.

If Pops keeps finding disappointments at every turn, I wouldn't be surprised to see the car come back to the Bog carrying all three residents of the rectory. We will welcome whoever shows up the week before Ash Wednesday.

I'll keep you posted, Aunt Madge



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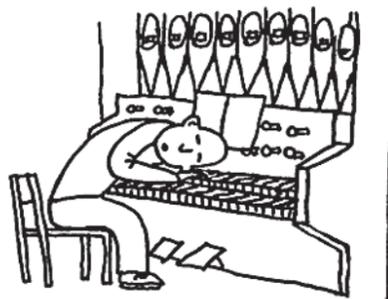
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## THE LITURGICAL PAUSE

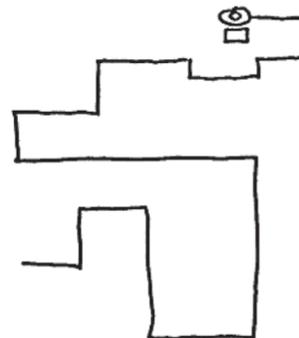
THIS IS ONE OF THE CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF A CHURCH SERVICE. WE OBSERVE A LITURGICAL PAUSE AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS:



AT MOMENTS WHEN PONDERING IS EXPECTED



WHEN THE ORGANIST HASN'T COME IN



WHEN THE READER HAS A PARTICULARLY GRUELLING JOURNEY TO THE LECTERN



WHEN AN EASTER FIRE OR ADVENT CANDLE REFUSES TO LIGHT



WHEN NO-ONE WILL ADMIT TO BEING THE PERSON DOWN TO LEAD THE INTERCESSIONS



WHEN NOBODY HAS A CLUE WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN NEXT

## BISHOP'S MESSAGE

# EPIPHANY – some questions for reflection

THE MERRIAM WEBSTER DICTIONARY has 3 options for understanding the word epiphany.

1. January 6 observed as a church festival

- i) in commemoration of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, or
- ii) in the Eastern Church in commemoration of the baptism of Christ;

2. an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being;

3. a sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something; an intuitive grasp of reality through something (as an event) usually simple and striking."

In this season of Epiphany (In 2013 - Sundays January 6 through February 10), I think we might look for all three of those.

January 6 we find ourselves on the journey with the Magi seeking the one born to be king. The Gospel of that Sunday tells the story of the faith that led to the great journey, the political intrigue of Herod, and the giving of



*The Right Reverend Sue Moxley, Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.*

gifts. (Matthew 2:1-12)

January 13 we find ourselves at the river at the Baptism of the Lord. "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased"- a clear manifestation of divine being, the voice of God! Who heard that voice? Was that voice enough to help those who heard it to perceive the essential nature of this man who had been baptized? Was it somehow enough to help them somehow grasp the reality of God there among

them? (Luke 3:15-17, 21, 22)

January 20 we are celebrating at a wedding reception where the wine is flowing freely! Now is this a likely place to experience a divine manifestation? Jesus and his friends are present. Some of the friends suddenly experience the reality of Jesus - God among them – in the abundance of amazingly good wine! There is no clear "evidence", only an intuition that this man is more than first he seemed! (John 2:1-11)

January 27 we are present in the synagogue in Jesus' hometown. We hear him read from the prophet Isaiah. There is something in the way he reads that makes everyone listen up. He pauses then says, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing". Here is a passage from Isaiah, long thought to refer to God's Messiah who would come. "All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth." Was there a moment of connection between the young man before them reading their scripture and the long awaited messiah? (Luke 4:14-21)

February 3 something suddenly blinds that same crowd and they can no longer see "God with us". Their unwillingness to believe that God could appear in one of their own youth causes them to resort to violence to drive Jesus away. (Luke 4:21-30)

February 10 on the last Sunday in Epiphany, many congregations will hear the reading of the transfiguration story. It is a beautiful story of the amazing spiritual experience of three of the disciples. There is a clear manifestation of the divine being! I sometimes wish that an amazing thing like that would happen to me. Wouldn't that make who Jesus is so perfectly clear and telling the world about him so much simpler? Well maybe not! It doesn't seem to have worked that way for the three who had the experience. "And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen." (Luke 9:28-36)

In this 6 week season of Epiphany, perhaps we could reflect on our faith journey – where is it leading, whether we have been caught in political intrigue, what gifts we have to offer to our King.

Who are the "gentiles" in our life? Are we in some way being "Herod", trying to block their search, thinking we are protecting something of value? Do we listen for that divine voice (You are my beloved child...) in our prayer time, or are we just busy with our list of demands for God to do something? In our celebrations, weddings or others, do we expect the Risen Christ to be present? Would it change our behaviour if we did? Am I one of the young adults, who, like Jesus, feel driven out of the church even when we feel a calling to be more? Or who are the youth, the young adults, in whom you catch a glimpse of the face of Christ? How do you acknowledge that and encourage them on their faith journey? Do you encourage a vocation to the priesthood? Or are you somehow not accepting that God is at work in our youth and young adults, not listening to their critique of the church, and in anger driving them away?

Some questions for your reflections for the six weeks of Epiphany!

+Sue

## The pilgrim magi – a journey made

BY REV. STEVE LASKEY

HOW WILLING WOULD I or you be to make a journey without the knowledge of where direction or destination? Matthew tells us the Magi undertook such a journey with the guidance of a star which must have been coupled with an inner longing that drew them to Bethlehem. What anticipation there must have been. It is the kind of stuff of which pilgrimage is made.

It is often said that our whole life is a journey and like the Magi there may be times on this journey when we are inspired to make a particular pilgrimage. Pilgrimage is a particular kind of journey. Sometimes it is journey to a sacred place where the destination itself is the most important part of the pilgrimage. Other times it might be a journey undertaken as part of an inner search. Here, it is the process of the journey which is most important. It offers a continuing opportunity

for prayer, reflection, and conversation while on route, making the journey. There may still be a destination but the spiritual stuff happens along the way.

There is a pilgrimage I would like to take. It is an 800km pilgrimage that people have been making for over 1000 years: the Way of St. James. Today pilgrims often leave from the town of St. Jean Pied-de-Port in the Pyrenees area of France to walk to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Throughout the ages people from all over Europe would simply leave their home and begin to walk to Santiago. The journey could be thousands of kilometres. Along the way they would meet fellow pilgrims and walk, eat, sleep and pray together. People who lived along the route would open their homes to pilgrims and offer refuge for a night or a meal along the way. In Medieval times Santiago became an important pilgrimage destination when it was not possible to make the journey to Jerusalem.

Tradition says that Santiago de Compostela is the place where the remains of the Apostle James are to be found. The greeting pilgrims gave one another was Buen Camino, that is, Good Road or Good Way.

Why make this or any pilgrimage? There are likely as many reasons as there are people. It is most often a journey or act of faith. It might be undertaken as a thanksgiving, a search for answers to questions of faith or perhaps as a balm for inner turmoil. The pilgrim may not have any idea at all but simply knows he or she must make it. It could even be a long walk to see what can be seen or if it can be done. All the guide books for the Santiago pilgrimage suggest an allowance of at least thirty days to make the journey.

I have my reasons for wanting to make this pilgrimage. But it is one that may never come to be. I know a number of people who have walked the

Camino and they tell some very rich stories of their own experience walking with fellow pilgrims as well as those who offer shelter and food. Many people are a part of ones pilgrimage. People will walk as a group one day; with a companion on another and some days on their own. They speak of moments when they have sensed the almost tangible presence of God and the times when that sense was totally lacking. What draws me to make this pilgrimage is the time for inner reflection coupled with my enjoyment of walking. There is something about repeatedly putting one foot in front of the other over a long period of time that can open doors to our own inner spiritual life. Here we become more aware of who we are as God's children. This is prayer. It is not the 'be still and know I am God' variety. It is more like the conversation that took place between the disciples and the risen Lord on the Walk to Emmaus.

It can be good for the soul to make a pilgrimage for

purpose or to seek answers to questions. It may be that one day you simply walk out your door and begin to walk as you wait for the purpose to arise. Do we need to go to Santiago Compostela to do this? Not necessarily. There are many paths to take this journey and make pilgrimage. I have been thinking about the many sections of the 'rails to trails' around our diocese and the many people I have encountered while walking or cycling these. Here there is the perfect opportunity for silence or for conversations; to find stopping places for prayer and quiet; villages to enter to find food and shelter. It is the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to that place where we meet our Lord just as the disciples did on the way to Emmaus and, as the Magi to Bethlehem. I will be making the pilgrimage and am not worried at all about having a destination. Challenge yourself to be a pilgrim. Perhaps our paths will cross. Buen Camino!

# It's a new day! Meetings & the main thing

By Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Annual general meeting time! Yay! There's nothing like a good meeting. Really! I'm one of those people who gets cranked-up by a productive, positive meeting. Unfortunately, most meetings for most people are not that.

Rev. David Keill of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, in an online article entitled "Effective Church Meetings" describes the two extremes of church meetings using biblical words - heaven and hell.

He writes, "A hellish church meeting begins late, has little or no agenda, decision making does not take place, spawns multiple side conversations about small details, and lasts forever! On the other hand, a heavenly church meeting is a greatly satisfying experience. We grow closer to our fellow church members, ideas and dreams are discussed, decisions are made and each person leaves feeling that they have made a contribution and accomplished something important for God's kingdom."

It all starts with the agenda. To set the proper tone for the context and focus, begin with a short Bible reading and at least one comprehensive prayer that names the meeting's purpose and basic aims. If you can spare a few more minutes, take some time and discuss the scripture passage, what it means in relation to that session's discussions. Don't rush the devotional time.

This is important. It reminds members, wherever they're coming from, of who we are as Christians and what we're called to do as we come together for the meeting.

Our Church Council from time to time will review a short article about a particular aspect of ministry we're hoping to improve or a feature of a new cultural trend that affects our efforts to reach new people for Christ. We have even participated in questionnaires that provide a jumping-off point for our conversations.

A meeting order of discussion topics reveals a great deal about what we value. For example if our agenda begins with debate about finances or building maintenance that would appear to be the most important business. If, on the other hand, the members begin by discussing spiritual development matters like Christian education and worship, that speaks to its prominence in the faith community.

The question we ask ourselves as we sit down for any church meeting should be, "What is our ultimate goal?" Is our reason to exist as church community to participate together in ministry to build up the Kingdom of God? Or is it to maintain a building structure? Or perhaps it's to perpetuate an institution? In other words, what is our priority in ministry?

In 2004 I was inspired by a speaker at an evangelism conference who taught us about "keeping the main thing



the main thing." Dr. Rex Keener of Grace Fellowship in New York, challenged us to reflect on what is "driving" our church work? He used the illustration of a car with seats, each representing important components. They may be administration, property, relationships, tradition, courses, liturgy, social programs, etc.

For example, if we think of our church's ministry like a bus, how would we arrange our ministry priority seats? What would we like to have in the driver's position? Dr. Keener suggested the course we set for the driver's seat should be mission. All the others are a means to this glorious end, sharing the Good News of

Jesus Christ.

If finances are the driving force for all we do our ministry will stall. Even if we put programs or relationships or worship in the top seat, our work will not flourish. However, if mission is our "main thing" the other priorities will fall into their proper places.

Diocesan Bishop Sue Moxley said in her bishop's charge to our Diocesan Synod gathering in May 2009, we are Christians in community "to grow personally, to grow as parishes in order to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to God." She said, "We are not here to just survive, we are here

to grow! To grow...into the image of God, the image we know through Jesus Christ who passed the mission on to us!"

So, how are the seats on your church bus arranged? What's driving your agenda in meetings and in ministry? Is your bus moving swiftly or standing still? Why?

Annual meetings are a wonderful time of year to reset the course of our ministries. Let's make sure we "keep the main thing the main thing."

*Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn is pastor and priest in Hatchet Lake and Terence Bay.*



## A breath of fresh air for the ACW

*In photo from left: St. Margaret of Scotland parishioner, Susan Crouse and rector Charles Bull with Autism Nova Scotia presenter, Vickie Harvey.*

BY CYNTHIA PILICHOS

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN in the Chebucto and Fort Sackville Regions met for their 2nd Annual Regional Gathering. Hosted by St. Margaret of Scotland, Halifax, the evening began with a Eucharist with Rev. Charles Bull. The turkey dinner that

followed was ably served by a newly formed group of Pathfinders. The guest presenter for the evening's program was Vickie Harvey from Autism Nova Scotia. The 2012 Annual Project for Anglican Church Women in Nova Scotia is "A Breath of Fresh A.I.R. (Autism Information Resource) Kits". Funds raised for this Project will ensure a good supply of this valuable parent resource. The Offertory from the Eucharist was directed for "A Breath of Fresh A.I.R."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jody Clarke and Rev. Charles Bull appointed Canons of the Cathedral Church of All Saints effective December 1, 2012. On an appropriate occasion, they will be installed in their seats at the Cathedral.

Rev. Ann Bush has been appointed Rector ½ time at the Parish of Port Hill, PEI, effective January 1, 2013. Ann comes from the parish of Fort Smith in the Diocese of the Arctic.

A Sunday to honour



Flos MacFarlane receiving a Certificate of Recognition from the Diocesan ACW by Rev Michael Conrad.

By WENDY WELLS

St. Andrew's Church in Timberlea recently honoured a very dedicated member of the parish. Flos MacFarlane, who turned 80 this year, decided she needed a break from her many activities and duties she performed in the church. In other words she wanted some time for herself while she still had her health to do those things all too easy to put off.

Flos is a long standing member of St Andrew's Choir, a member of St. Andrew's Ladies Group, a member of the Altar Guild, a member of the Pastoral Care committee,

she visited the sick and shut ins, she wrapped all the shoe boxes for the Mission to Seafarers project, she always helped with funerals, she set up the tables for all fundraising suppers. These are just a few of the things she did for her church. She is a humble person and does not like being recognized for all the things she does. In May she was honoured with a Certificate of Recognition from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island ACW and she was made Life Member of the St. Andrew's Ladies Group. She will always be part of the life here at St. Andrew's.

Welcome Back Sunday in Timberlea

By WENDY WELLS

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH celebrated Welcome Back Sunday this September with a special celebration led by the Youth of the parish with special guests Allie MacNeil, Buddy Boutilier and friend who played gospel music during the service. The service began with a children's talk and a special guest came to speak to the children. It was "Cecil, the Lost Sheep". He told the children about his life as a sheep and how he ran

away one day only to be found by the shepherd and brought home. The children enjoyed "Cecil's" story and look forward to his return another Sunday. They heard that God loves them as much as the shepherd loves his sheep.

Photo from left: Joshua Wells, Kira Chenell, Jayden Wells, Rebecca Chenell, Patrick Griffin, "CECIL", Brenna Griffin, Wendy Wells, Mitchell Osmond, Marcus Osmond, Emma Wile, Lauren Ashford, Maya Wile, Emily Scott.

CHURCH CHECK 2013 CALENDAR



**January**  
**Step check!**

Check walkways, hand rails, stair case hand rails, steps, etc. for secure attachments to the pavement/wall, etc. Check that carpets, mats and flooring are in good repair.

**February**  
**Storage check!**

Check nurseries, Sunday school rooms, bathrooms for cleanliness and remove items stored there that should be elsewhere. Check kitchens, halls, storage cupboards for cleaning products, paint, or tools are stored within reach of a child. Make sure everyone knows to store these items securely.

**March**  
**Screening check!**

Have volunteers and paid people, lay and clergy, been screened for the positions they hold? Do children, youth, parents and caregivers have a way to communicate any concerns or needs? Are the leaders equipped for the ministries in which they participate? How do they get training?



OVER THE PAST few months, the clergy of the diocese have been taking part in risk management workshops led by Lorraine Street of the Parish of Horton. At several of the workshops, the idea of "common sense" has come up. People have noted lots of areas where some common sense could help make parishes safer for everyone and especially for children, youth, and

vulnerable adults. As the new calendar year begins, why not challenge your parish council to put a "Church Check" item on the agenda each month? Hopefully by noticing how we live and work we can improve our environment and our practices. If you come across things that puzzle you or find some great solutions, please be in touch so that we can share your stories.

**April**  
**Where are the matches?**

Check sacristies, worship spaces, chapels, votive racks, etc. to ensure oil, lighters, matches, etc. all have a proper and safe storage place.

**May**  
**Furniture check!**

How are tables and chairs stored? Can chairs topple over? Are the table legs all in good repair? Is furniture in rooms used by children appropriate to their size and needs? What about the doors to Sunday school and youth group rooms and offices used for counselling have windows in them?

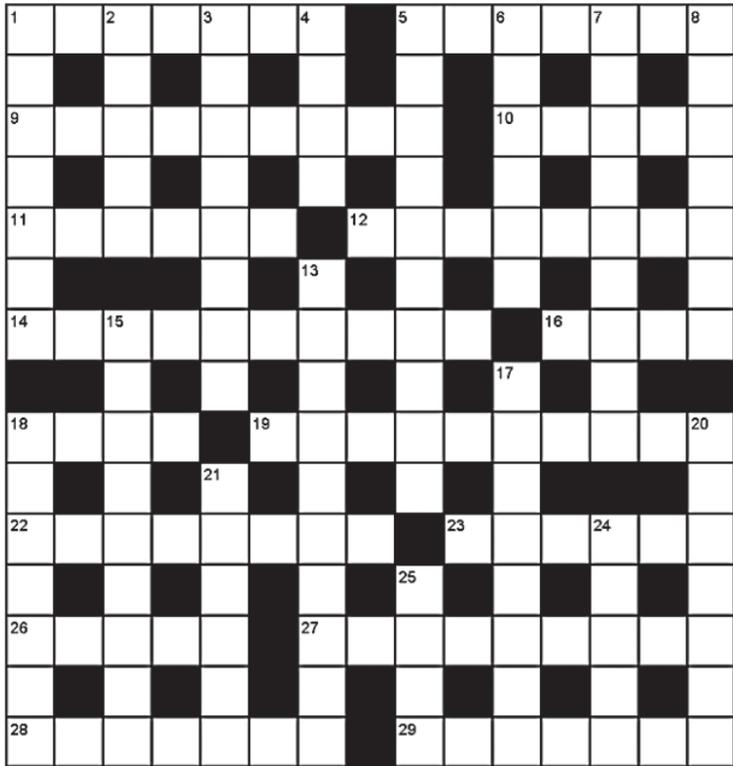
**June**  
**How's the furnace?**

Is the furnace room accessible to children or vulnerable adults? Is there a lock or other mechanism to prevent entry? Can young people gain access underneath the church or in attics or bell towers? Is regular maintenance scheduled?



# Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



## January 2013 Clues

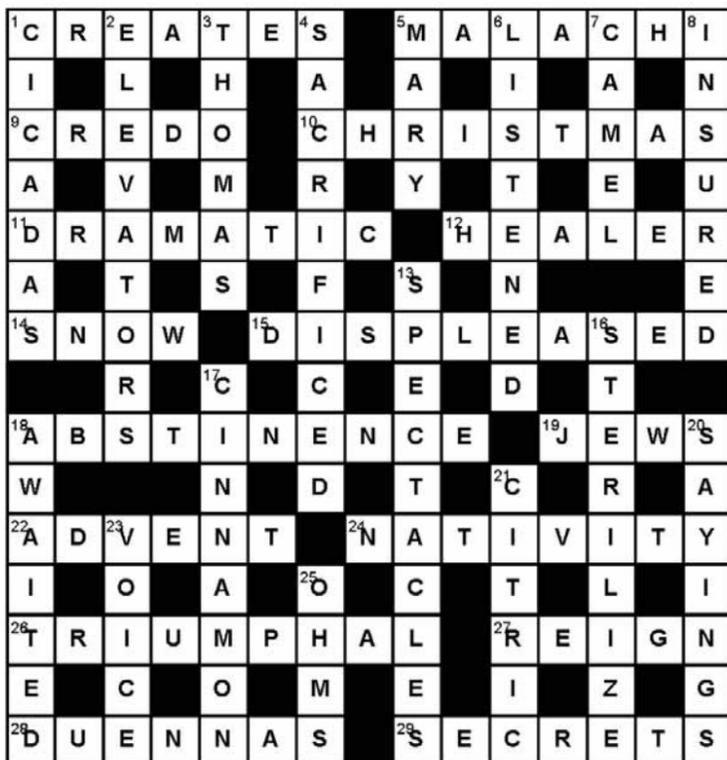
**ACROSS:**

- 1 – Wife of Ahab (1 Kings 16:31) (7)
- 5 – A son of Joseph, adopted by Jacob (Gen. 48) (7)
- 9 – Very small metric weights (9)
- 10 – One who acts without speaking (5)
- 11 – Take for granted (6)
- 12 – Privately (8)
- 14 – European country that no longer exists (10)
- 16 – White garments worn by priests, etc. (4)
- 18 – “For we observed his \_\_\_\_\_ at its rising”, heavenly body (Matt. 2:2) (4)
- 19 – Objects that cause light to bounce back (10)
- 22 – Showing forth of Christ to the Magi (8)
- 23 – Acceptable to eat by Jewish dietary laws (6)
- 26 – A disciple and apostle (5)
- 27 – Where Jesus lived as an adult (Matt. 4:13) (9)
- 28 – Pain in the ears (7)
- 29 – Colleague of Paul, recipient of two epistles (7)

**DOWN:**

- 1 – This month (7)
- 2 – Areas (5)
- 3 – Man with two wives at the same time (8)
- 4 – One of Jacob’s two wives (4)
- 5 – Indispensables (10)
- 6 – Book of hymns (6)
- 7 – New World ant eater (9)
- 8 – Those who die for their religious beliefs (7)
- 13 – Portable sanctuary used before Solomon’s Temple was built (Gen. 25-27) (10)
- 15 – Fighter in Roman arena (9)
- 17 – Particular kind of medical recording (8)
- 18 – Tower found as part of some churches (7)
- 20 – Small and insignificant (7)
- 21 – Written for a choir (6)
- 24 – “Love the Lord with all your \_\_\_\_\_”, core (Deut. 6:5) (5)
- 25 – “...keep the commandments without \_\_\_\_\_ or blame”, flaw (1Tim. 6:14) (4)

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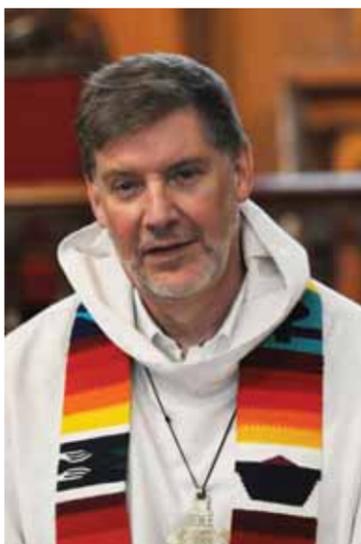
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## REVIEWS



Paul Friesen

Reviews Editor

# Weather permeates the book: snow, ice & blizzards in winter and sea ice & fog in summer

*It is a pleasure to introduce the reviewer, this first month of the year, as Capt. Thomas Sellers. Tom is a faithful parishioner of St. Paul's, and a holder of many, many volunteer roles in the parish and beyond. He is not a native of Halifax but widely known in the city; just ask anyone who knows anything about Halifax Harbour!*

J.T. Richards, *Snapshots of Grenfell* (1940; rev. 2012, Irving Letto)

*Snapshots of Grenfell* is a Revised Edition in 2012 of the original book by Canon J.T. Richards published in 1940 shortly after Grenfell's death. Included with this revision is Grenfell's Monologue on an Ice Pan, which is an earlier version not available when Irving Letto published the first revised edition of the book in 1989.

The title "Snapshots of Grenfell" is very appropriate. The book itself, a paperback, is 150 pages long. The snapshots take up 84 of these pages and the Monologue most of the remainder. Into these 84 pages are packed 21 chapters most of which are three pages long, some a little more, some less. Given the amount of work and travelling Grenfell did and the things he influenced over and above his medical work, the great number of chapters emphasizes this and only gives the briefest account of each facet.

Sir Wilfred Grenfell arrived in Northern Newfoundland in 1892 to set up a medical mission in St. Anthony, and carry medical aid to the settlers in that area and on the adjacent coast of Labrador. Rev. Canon J. T. Richards was appointed as an Anglican Missionary, working from Flower's Cove, in 1904. On his arrival, he was immediately impressed that Grenfell, in 12 years, had won a unique place in the hearts of the people in the whole of his extensive mission. In the summer, he visited this vast area by ship, in the winter by dog team. In all places he

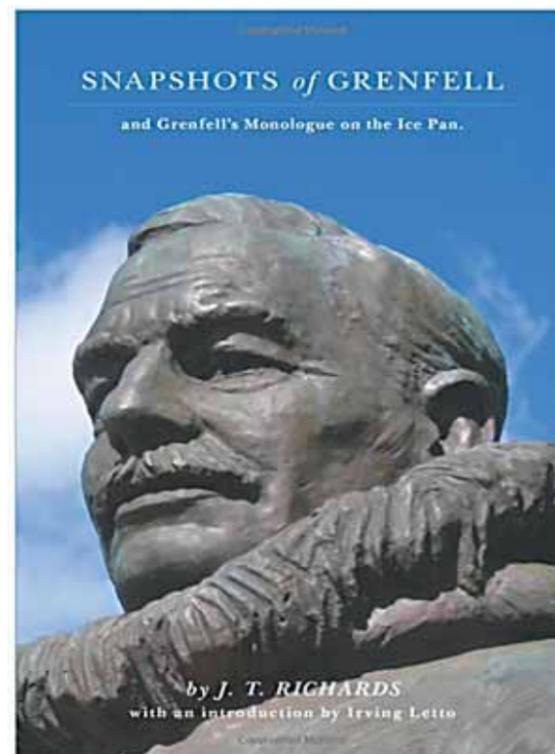
visited, the economic as well as the physical well-being of the people was attended to. It was noted that he covered 60 miles in one day by dog team.

He set up a system of bartering before establishing a co-operative store. He established an orphanage in St. Anthony when he saw how many orphaned children there were, whose fathers had been lost at sea while fishing. He noted the lack of schools and any real education for children. He persuaded a number of teachers to spend their summer vacations at schools he established throughout the area. Not only reading, writing and arithmetic were taught but also hygiene. The teachers brought toothbrushes for the children. One teacher came from as far away as New Zealand. One came for 30 summers. He introduced weighing machines to record the growth of children. He organized Annual Sports – football, dog team races, racket races (run on snow shoes), boxing contests and sack fights.

He was a dedicated Christian and held impromptu services wherever he went. His friendship with J.T. Richards enabled them to co-ordinate services in which Richards would baptize children and have Holy Communion. Grenfell was sorry these were few and far between, and was overjoyed when he arrived at Flower's Cove on his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and Richards held a special Eucharist for him.

Grenfell was also adept at persuading other doctors etc. to become his co-workers. Some stayed for many years. It was remarkable that they were willing to serve given the dangers of blizzards and the hardships of the living standards in the area at that time. Some stayed until death claimed them.

What permeates the whole book is weather - snow, ice and blizzards in winter and sea ice and fog in the summer. He sailed in relatively small schooners with only a magnetic compass for a navigational aid. Lighthouses and charts were practically unknown at that time. The Strait of Belle Isle, between North Newfoundland and Labrador, with Belle Isle in the middle of it, is mentioned frequently. I have extensive experience of navigating in this area as it was the shortest northerly route from



the U.K. to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. When reading the book and looking at the map, the names brought many memories back – Cape Bauld, Cape Norman, Point Amour, Flower Ledges, Greenly Island. The Strait was ice bound from mid-January to late June, so we could only use it from July until the following January. I have been through it on a Christmas Day. While there was no field ice in the summer, there was frequent fog and of course icebergs, many of which grounded in the shallower water and sat there until they had melted. After being in fog for 36 hours, I was speaking to the Operator at the Marine Radio Station on Belle Isle. I asked him what visibility was like where he was. He replied "I haven't seen anything for a month". The north tip of Newfoundland is almost at the same latitude as Lands End in England, and some 3 degrees of latitude south of the south-west tip of Ireland, both relatively warm places in winter. This illustrates the difference between living on the east coast of a continent as we do in this part of Canada and living on the west side of a continent as they do in the British Isles.

The last part of the book is dedicated to Grenfell's Monologue on an Ice Pan. It is more of an epic than anything else. He had been summoned urgently to provide medical attention to a young man on whom he had operated some two weeks previously and who had now taken a turn for the worse. He set off with companions and arrived at Lock's Cove where he spent the night. In the morning, his companions went on but he was delayed looking after another patient. He decided rather than go over the rough land to take a short cut across the ice on Hare Bay. He came across thin ice which collapsed under the weight of the sled, throwing him and his dogs into the water. He cut the dogs free but the sled was lost. They all managed to get on an ice floe which he hoped would bear their weight and not melt too much. The Monologue, written down by J.T. Richards immediately after Grenfell was rescued, recounts his thoughts during the whole ordeal. The most poignant part was when, to give himself some chance of survival, he sacrificed three of his dogs. He used some of their skins to wrap around himself and the remainder to put on a flag pole which he made by tying the dogs' legs together using part of their traces. This enabled his rescuers from Lock's Cove to find him and his surviving dogs. One can well imagine such thoughts going through one's mind if caught in a similar predicament. He was indeed fortunate to have survived and be able to relate them.

Two quotes from J.T. Richards encapsulate Grenfell's work. "Both the doctor and his wife came as near solving the problem of perpetual motion as anyone I have ever met. A wasted hour was something neither of them could tolerate". Further he said, "I never met Sir Wilfred Grenfell in all those years without feeling, after he had gone, that I must do a more faithful job than I had before".

TOM SELLERS

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He held impromptu services wherever he went.

**RICHARD MCKENSTER**

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# Life in all its fullness

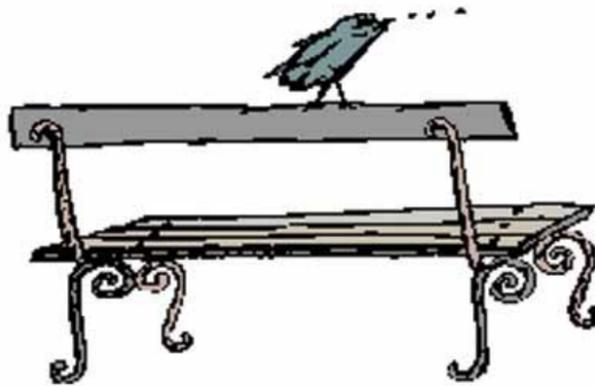
BY REV. MADONNA FRADSHAM

AS I WRITE THIS ARTICLE I am reminded of the many blessings that come from serving God and God's people. Just a snapshot of the last 10 days will, I hope, give you an idea of just how full life is and how it needs to be celebrated. During this time, I was privileged to attend and participate in the celebration of life for one of my dearest friends. It was her wish that her transition to the next stage of life's journey be celebrated with music, Biblical passages of love and service, song and a Eucharist. People attended from many denominations and in contrast to most funeral services, the majority of people of all faiths received Communion. Using her talents, financial resources and time she was a true model of diaconal work/love and service. In keeping with her wishes, we had a wonderful Un-birthday party for all in attendance. It was a day to experience sadness, joy and to build relationships. Life in all its fullness!!!

Next, after one full year of working with Immigration and

others including Newcomers Assoc. to help a young mother and her 3-year old son to settle in Canada, they were being sent back to Africa. They had lived right here in the parish Hall where I live so we became very close and love each other. It was particularly hard to have "my little boy" wave goodbye as he left for his great adventure. It is hard for the parish as well as they brought great joy. It is those memories that sustain us as we pray for their return sometime in the future. The many ups and downs, the hopes dashed to be raised again, the joy of the first snowfall remind me of life in all its fullness.

And life continues; as I along with many volunteers made up 350 + apple pies. New parishioners as well as long-standing members, 5 year olds and 80+ came together. We have the blessing of many countries being represented so new relationships are being formed as our parish grows richer. As an added bonus, several students from the Culinary Institute joined us as they were looking for ways to outreach to the community. What a joy to have them. Our



View from the deacon's bench

parish is looking for ways to connect more with students from college and university and this simple act helped us form connections.

Just as one door closes, another opens and two immigrant families needing supports have contacted me to help in a variety of ways. Wouldn't you know they need things such as furniture, clothing, bedclothes etc. to help them get set up in an apartment? Guess who has just such supplies...St. Paul's because our family just left. Sadness at their leaving is replaced with great joy as we

deliver these families all they need and a little extra. Here is God taking care of God's people once again. The next several months, I will walk with one of those families as the mother, a doctor, tries to navigate the medical approval system in PEI. The other will be mentored and accompanied by a dear friend who assists many families as well—life in all its fullness.

For several years, St. Paul's has worked in partnership with the Muslim Association in supporting refugee families. This week, the Canadian Council of Muslim Women

and St. Paul's sponsored a women's forum...Finding Common Voices. This multi-faith event had 31 participants. We shared stories of the basics and the challenges and joys of our faith, brainstormed ideas and at the end of the day went home with a commitment to meet again. More importantly, perhaps, we chose another person to bless and pray for each day: Muslims praying for Christians, Christians for Bah'ai or Buddhists and Wiccan etc. This continuing dialogue will help us build stronger communities.

And finally, I attended a citizenship ceremony where a family we have supported was among the 43 people who became citizens. What joy! Also there was Marisha, a participant in the women's event who had shared her loneliness and her feeling of isolation because she wears a scarf. To see the joy on her face when two of us ran to congratulate her and give her a hug was unbelievable. We all were in tears! A new friend, a new sister. God taking care of God's people—life in all its fullness. Amen!

## Happy New Year!



EDITOR

Paul Sherwood

This past year was an exciting time to be an Anglican in our diocese. Our youth groups travelled, gathered and worshipped around the world. Mission groups organized a house building project in the Dominican Republic. Parishes realigned to make the most of their resources and found new life in the process. Many newly ordained priests and deacons entered ministry with new ideas and a contagious energy & optimism. The stories you tell offer hope and inspiration to others. I look forward to seeing them in The Diocesan Times n 2013.



Merry Christmas from  
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