

Quebec Diocesan Gazette

VOL 110 Number 6 Reporting on our diocese since 1894 FEBRUARY 2004

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Bishop Bruce welcomes Father Gabriel Maelasi, an Anglican Franciscan from the Solomon Islands, as honorary assistant priest at St. Michael's & St. Matthew's, Sillery. Erin Clarke served as the Bishop's Chaplain for the service. Details and photos are found on page 4 in *Word from Michaelgarth*. Photo supplied by M. Anderson

The Right Reverend Bruce Stavert Visits the Maggies

By Lynn Osborne

The Bishop of the Diocese of Quebec gave us the pleasure of his annual visit from Wednesday, December 3 to Monday December 8, 2003. Unfortunately for him, he arrived and departed in the midst of storms, giving him more than a taste of Island life in the winter months. However he arrived and departed safely, that is the main point. Bishop Stavert visits the Maggies on an annual basis, not only to conduct Confirmation Services, but also to spend time with the people of this part of the Diocese.

Muriel Clarke and Lynn Osborne-O'Donnell were inducted as lay readers for Holy Trinity Church.

As Bishop Stavert pointed out, just as the confirmation candidates were stepping forward to declare their commitment to God, Muriel and Lynn were making a commitment to take leadership roles in the church community. Thus it was fitting they be inducted in the same service.

Clarke. The children looked and sounded wonderful. They ended their performance with an energetic action song.

It was truly a special morning and afternoon. It was made even more special by the fact the storm held off just until the event was completed (thank you, Lord).

Unfortunately, the storm prevented Eucharist from being held at

On Entry Island, although not conducting confirmations, he was able to touch base with one of the most isolated churches in the diocese of Quebec (there are a few others as isolated). He also stayed at the minister's cabin, and was very pleased with the results of the new renovations.

Following Holy Communion at All Saints Memorial on Thursday evening, a reception was held at the Entry Island Museum. The evening was completed with Christmas gifts being given to the children.

On Friday Evening, Bishop Stavert, with the Rev. Andy O'Donnell, held Holy Communion at the Grosse Isle Foster Home, a residence for disabled adults. On Saturday, a meeting was held with all 12 of the confirmation candidates and preparations made for Sunday's service at Holy Trinity in Grosse Isle. Sunday dawned with wind, but thankfully the weather held off until after the service and reception.

For the 10 am confirmation service, the church was filled, with people standing at the back. The Bishop gracefully agreed to play the organ during the service. He also gave the sermon, of which one of the main messages was 'what God does is more important than what we do'.

Bishop Stavert then proceeded to conduct the confirmations. Being confirmed were the following children: Caitlyn Keating-Brink, Josh Mason, Christi Mason, Brenton Goodwin, Julie Burke, Karina Cyr, Rick Clarke and Tiffany Burke. Also confirmed were the following adults: Darren Burke, Tim Clarke, Franco Longuepee and Roger Turnbull. After the confirmations,



Confirmation and Induction of lay readers at Holy Trinity, Grosse Isle. In the front is Brenton Goodwin, in the first row from the left are: Julie Burke, Caitlyn Keating-Brink, Karina Cyr, Rick Clarke and Christi Mason. In the second row are Franco Longuepee, Lynn Osborne, Tiffany Burke, The Right Rev. Bruce Stavert, Joshua Mason, Darren Burke, Roger Turnbull and Muriel Clarke. In the far back are Timothy Clarke and The Rev. Andy O'Donnell. Photo by *First Informer*

Following the service, a spaghetti dinner was held, which was sponsored by the ACW. The confirmation candidates provided the sweets, rolls and beverages. It was truly a community event. With approximately 70 people attending, the firefighters present agreed to serve the spaghetti.

After the dinner, the children of Church club performed a "mini - pageant". Led in song by Beth McKay-Chevarie and Sandra Vigneau, they performed a reenactment of the Nativity, complete with Noah Burke playing Baby Jesus. The picturesque scenery was designed by Muriel

St. Peter's by the sea. However, Bishop Stavert was able to meet and speak with some of the members of St. Peter's who were present at the reception at Holy Trinity Family Center.

Despite a storm that held us prisoner for the rest of the day and night, Bishop Stavert was able to get his flight back to Quebec in the early afternoon.

With the weather challenges of the Magdalen Islands made clear, it was suggested that the next annual visit be held in the spring or summer.

Sailors get shoeboxes in Baie-Comeau



From left to right: Stephen Kohner (Lay Incumbent); Josclynn Goble (school spiritual animator); Neil MacIntosh (church warden; scout leader)

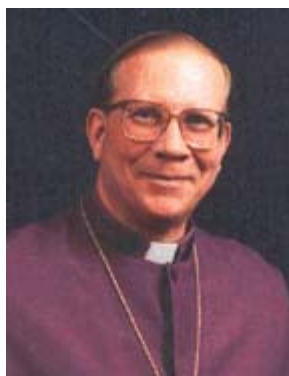
Story and photo supplied by Stephen Kohner

Since 1997, the Church of St. Andrew & St. George in Baie-Comeau has been putting together gift-wrapped presents to give out to mariners who arrive at one of the three ports in town (Cargill; Alcoa; Abitibi-Consolidated). This year, as part of an ecumenical initiative, the project was expanded to include the Roman Catholic Paroisse de la Nativité-de-Jésus. Along with our two other community partners, Baie-Comeau High School and Scouts Canada - First Baie-Comeau 235, we managed to amass 130 shoe-box sized presents.

The first load of 20 was given out to Polish sailors aboard the "Lake Ontario" who were on their way to Belgium with a load of Lindseed. Two days later, on December 29th, a crew of 19 Filipino and 3 Croat mariners aboard the "Unterwalden" were delighted to receive their boxes a day before leaving our port for Spain with a load of wheat.

We will be kept busy in the New Year since 3 or 4 more boats will be arriving at our ports. All of our project partners were pleased to have been able to contribute in a concrete way to this project. We are also indebted to the port masters who allowed us access to the boats and who co-ordinated the actual delivery of the presents.

From the Bishop's desk:



Dear Friends,

There has been much in the media for months now about the issue of the blessing of same sex unions, the ordination of people in such unions and how the Anglican Communion is dealing with the surrounding division and controversy. This paper and the Anglican Journal have reported my own participation and that of others from our diocese in the ordination of Gene Robinson as a Bishop in New Hampshire.

I have had a small amount of mail from people about New Hampshire – very equally divided between those who were delighted that Quebec was represented there and those who wrote, mostly before the event, to say that it would be inappropriate for me to attend, or at least to participate in the laying on of hands.

I thought it time to write a few things on the subject in this letter.

Personally, like many people, I am unsure exactly where I am on some levels of this complex issue. I know I have changed some thinking over the thirteen years I have been in the Canadian House of Bishops while we have struggled with issues of human sexuality. My own personal views are less important than how we deal together with the issues in the church and the diocese.

This is the situation at the moment in Canada;

- We have the present House of Bishops Guidelines which I respect and adhere to
- We have the local or unilateral action of both Synod and Bishop in New Westminster, which I understand though I regret the division and controversy it has caused
- At the request of the House of Bishops, Bishop Terry Buckle has withdrawn his intervention in the Diocese of New Westminster and the Primate has appointed a task force to consider the matter of alternative Episcopal oversight for parishes which dissent from diocesan decisions
- The issue is coming to General Synod in May/June this year and no one knows what that body can or will do about it all.

At the most radical, I suppose General Synod might do what General Convention of the US Episcopal Church did last summer and authorize "local option" That would mean the blessing of same sex unions is something which could happen if, where and under what conditions a diocesan Bishop so authorizes in a diocese.

I am not at all sure General Synod will go that route but if it does I would not feel either moved or authorised to leap in and give permission to clergy to bless same sex unions in the Diocese of Quebec. This is an issue both controversial and delicate enough to need wide debate and discussion before change would be appropriate.

In the meantime, let me reflect a little on my participation in the ordination of Bishop Gene Robinson in New Hampshire.

I thought and prayed a lot about being there and about participating in the consecration. I attended and participated for several reasons;

- Because of our Companion Diocese relationship – what would it have said if I had refused to be there when Synod had just strongly endorsed our five year old relationship and had sent a message of concern to a diocese in the midst of outside criticism?
- Because of Gene Robinson, the person who has been a good friend of our diocese for many years and who represented the Diocese of New Hampshire at my ordination in 1991.
- Because I am related to New Hampshire not just through the Companion Diocese relationship but also because of the Border Parish. What would it have done to that wonderful "total ministry" parish relationship if I had said I would not recognize one of the Bishops related to the Border Parish?

Finally, I need to endorse the words of our interim editor in the December **Quebec Diocesan Gazette** about diversity. We live with the diversity he described in his editorial. Anglicans pray for and seek the highest degree of Communion possible when faced with differences between provinces and dioceses. However, there should be no need for a province, diocese, parish or even individual that does not recognize everything done in another part of the church to say "Sorry, I'm gone – I won't be part of your church or be in communion with you".

Please pray for the Primate's Task Force on alternative Episcopal oversight as they do their work. Pray also for the preparations for the discussions at General Synod in May.

Every blessing,

+Bruce

Deadline for March Gazette: Feb. 1st 2004
Deadline for April Gazette: March 1st 2004
Send in your parish news and photos!

Annual Candlelight Carol and Lesson Service held in North Hatley

By Anne Milot

On December 21, 2003, the Parish of Waterville, North Hatley and Eustis held their Annual Candlelight Carol Service and Reception. This year, as in past years, they held the service at St. Barnabas Church followed by a Parish Christmas Reception in the church hall. These festivities also included Santa's visit to Dreamland Park, by the lake in North Hatley.

The attendance for the Service was more than seventy people, which was a real blessing considering a miserable weather that day. The theme of this year's Service was "The Saviour We Seek." The Scripture Lessons and Reflections along with the Carols expressed since the time of creation our searching need for God's love, promises, and presence in our lives. Christ is the Saviour we seek and need in our lives as we grow upwards now and in the New Year.

The setting of the Nave and Sanctuary of the Church, being lit solely with more than two hundred lit candles, was breath taking. The candles were on a large wooden cross suspend from the ceiling going down the centre of the Church. The candlelight, the Scripture Lessons, the Reflections, and the Carols, set the stage of a message beautifully proclaimed. There were two Anthems of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" and "Carol Sweetly Carol," The Anthems were beautifully presented and magnificently sung by the small choir under the direction of Andre Ouelette, the organist.

Following the service there was a Wine and Cheese Reception where there was a surprise presentation to Rev. Canon Alain Milot and Mrs. Lynne Milot. It was for the occasion of the celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary on December 16th. Mr. Philip Scowen gave a humorous talk and roasting of the couple. Also, they surprised the Milots with a presentation of flowers and a gift. All gave their best wishes to them on the behalf of the whole parish. The Milots were very grateful for the gifts, best wishes and surprise. The whole evening was truly special for all involved.

BISHOP'S CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY - MARCH

February 1	With Bishop Douglas Theuner at Cathedral for Candlemas	Quebec
February 7	Central Board of Church Society	Quebec
February 8	Confirmation	Trois Rivières
February 12-15	Council of the North	Edmonton, AB
February 27	Visitation - Bishop's College School	Lennoxville
March 1-5	March Break(Vacation)	
March 8-17	Visitation - St. Clement's Parish	Lower North Shore
March 25	Provincial House of Bishops & Episcopal Ordination	Halifax, NS

A Suggestion for those using the Anglican Cycle of Prayer

The serious growth of our Anglican Communion and the increased number of bishops has made the updating of the Anglican Cycle of Prayer a challenging project. To enable this ministry of global prayer and support to work more efficiently, the Anglican Communion Office has placed the official prayer cycle on its web site. This online version, which is the only updated version, may also be downloaded. You can find it at www.anglicancommunion.org/acp/main.cfm

Quebec Diocesan Gazette

A Ministry of the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec

Founded in 1894 by the Rt. Reverend A. H. Dunn. Published by the Synod of the Diocese of Quebec ten times a year.

Dépôt légal - Bibliothèque nationale du Québec. ISSN 0700-4923 Subscription rate is \$20.00 per year.

According to the Diocesan Canons the mandate of the **Gazette** shall be to serve as a means of encouragement, communication and community building among the regions of the Diocese, with special emphasis on regional activities and matters of concern for both laity and clergy. It shall provide an opportunity for the Bishop to address the people of the Diocese directly and seek to cover items from outside the Diocese that bear on its corporate life.

The Gazette is a member of Canadian Church Press and the Anglican Editors Association. It is printed and mailed by Signal Star Publishing, a division of Bowers Publishers Limited, Goderich, Ontario, N7A 4B6

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On-line versions of the paper from November 2002 onward, can be found at: <http://www.quebec.anglican.org/gazette/gazette.html>

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Please send undeliverable copies and address changes to: Quebec Diocesan Gazette, Anglican Journal Circulation Dept., 600 Jarvis Street, Toronto ON M4Y 2J6

Greater Parish of Coaticook holds special service to mark Canon Patterson's 25th Anniversary in the priesthood

By Debbie Smith

Greetings from the Greater Parish of Coaticook. The parish has been very busy. On November 3rd 2003, an Advent Service was held at Christ Church, Stanstead. It was a very special service not only for being Advent and a service to collect shoeboxes to go to the sailors in the Port of Quebec, it was also the Rev. Canon Curtis Patterson's 25th Anniversary in the priesthood. Canon Patterson was taken by complete surprise to see the church filled with family and friends. The Rev. Patterson's son Matthew was a server for this service and Mrs. Thelma Middleton was the organist. His daughter-in-law Tracy Alexander read the first reading. The psalm was lead by Joan Gibb and Judy Ross read the second reading. The Rev. Barbara Wintle read the Gospel.

The guest speaker was Graham Reynolds of the Maison du marin/Seaman's Club in the Port of Quebec. Graham gave a wonderful talk on the sailors and mission of the seamen shoeboxes. Rev. Patterson's grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Shawn, Anthony, Jayden, Bryan and Krystel, made a presentation to Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds thanked everyone for bringing in the boxes. He said that each sailor, who receives a box, would have a little more Christmas cheer. The Rev. Lynn Ross gave the sermon.

The Rev. Barbara Wintle told a story to the children, which everyone enjoyed. Prayers of the people were lead by Frances Molony.

making something for someone.

Canon Patterson's family assisted in the service with the ele-



The Reverend Canon Curtis Patterson and his family on the occasion of the special service to mark his 25th Anniversary to the priesthood. Photo by B. Patterson

A presentation of a lovely gift was made to Canon Patterson by his wife Beverley and grandchildren Krystel, Jayden, and Bryan. Canon Patterson was surprised with his gift, he said that he had seen Bev making this gift, but he did not think anything of it because she is always

ments for Holy Eucharist presented by Curtis's grandchildren. Christopher and Norris, Curtis' sons, received the offering and during the communion the music was played by his daughter-in-law Danny Crete.

After the service to help celebrate this very special occasion everyone was invited to a potluck

lunch to honour Canon Patterson.

On December 3rd 2003, St. George's A.C.W -Ayer's Cliff hosted a Christmas party at the Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 128. St. George's invited St. James, Hatley A.C.W and friends of St. George's to join them. A beautiful supper was served by Richard Stone and his workers with a choice of either chicken or roast beef. Everything was great.

After supper anyone who had an envelope in front of them, was asked to read what was inside it. There were little riddles or questions that the group had to try to figure out. I'm not sure who came up with them, but they were great. We were then asked to join Mrs. M. Church as she led us in singing some Christmas carols. Karen Patterson played the piano and recorder for us. Mrs. Church let us know when we were off tune, which was quite often for some of us. All to soon the evening came to a close. Thanks St. George's A. C. W. and Richard for a wonderful evening.

On December 13th 2003 the St. James A.C.W, Hatley hosted a children's Christmas party for

approximately 50 children and parents. The children started arrive around 1:30 pm, games were played by all. The younger ones played pin the tail on the donkey and pin the nose on the clown. The older ones tried to suck Jello through a straw; this seemed to be a great hit with them.

All were asked to then join in singing some Christmas carols, led by Karen Patterson on the recorder. Around 2:15 p.m. Karen was asked to play "Here comes Santa" as Santa (G. Roy) and Mrs. Claus (Z. Bowen) were making their way into the hall. Santa and Mrs. Claus handed out a gift and a candy bag to each child. When they had given out each child's gift, the Clauses asked Olive Whitcomb and Margaret Johann to come up and sit on Santa's knee for their gifts.

Melanie and Terri Greenwood on behalf of everyone present gave Santa and Mrs. Claus each a gift. Santa said that Mrs. Claus and himself had to get going as they had another party to go to. As they left they wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and told all the children to continue being good, and he would make a visit to them all on Christmas Eve. A beautiful lunch was then served, enjoyed by all

Changes at Church House

The new year has brought some changes to personnel and office hours at Church House.

Lorriane Damecour who has worked as the office secretary has left to work on completing her master's degree in Public Administration at Université Laval. Veronique St-Germain, who some will remember working a stage with us last year, has returned to fill in until the D.E.C. can look at the needs of the office, make recommendations and then fill those needs.

From now until the spring the office in Quebec City will be open to the public Tuesday to Friday 9am to noon and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Subject to other meetings and pastoral needs the office will be staffed as follows: Rodney Clark, the diocesan Treasurer, will be in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; James Sweeny, the diocesan Registrar, will be in the office on Thursdays; the Bishop will be the office as his schedule, published in the **Gazette** and travel permits. The message, which will be changed weekly, on the answering machine at Church House will supply details of when the officers are available should you happen to call when there is no one free to answer the phone.

The Diocesan Archives, located in the Library at Bishop's University in Lennoxville, (819-822-9600 local 2567) will normally be open on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. until noon and at other times by appointment.

PWRDF RESPONDS TO IRAN EARTHQUAKE

The Primate's Fund has responded with an initial grant of \$15,000 towards emergency relief efforts for survivors of the earthquake that devastated the Iranian city of Bam on December 26th, 2003.

The PWRDF grant is in response to an appeal received from Action By Churches Together—a global, ecumenical alliance of churches responding to emergency needs worldwide. The funds will be used by ACT members on the ground, including the Middle East Council of Churches and Norwegian Church Aid, for the purchase and distribution of tents, clothing, medicine and other relief items for survivors of the earthquake. Relief efforts are being coordinated with the Iranian Red Crescent and the United Nations' Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

The Primate's Fund welcomes donations for earthquake relief response in Iran. Cheques may be sent clearly marked "Iran Earthquake" to: PWRDF "Iran Earthquake", 600 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2J6. Call Barbara Wilkins (416) 924-9199, ext. 320 for credit card donations.

Hutchinson and Sheeran new Rural Deans

January 31, 2004.

Each member spoke about their individual congregation- the good and the bad. Archdeacon Drainville spoke about the Ministry Initiatives in the Greater Parish of Gaspé and the possibility of the establishment of an Ecumenical Chaplaincy. It was moved to give gift certificates to the Rev. Paul Lampman, Dorothy McRae, and Gracie Annett for their service to the Council during the past years. The next Gaspé Deanery Council meeting will be held on February 21, 2004, hosted by the Parish of Chaleur Bay.

St. Francis Deanery Council

On November 23, 2003 the St Francis Deanery Council met at St. George's Church, Lennoxville with 28 of the 37 deanery members of Synod and one parochial member present.

Ruth Sheeran was elected the Rural Dean, Canon Quentin Robinson was elected secretary. The Rev. Sister Mary Florence Liew nominated Kay Hartwell to remain as treasurer, seconded by The Rev. Canon Alain Milot. There were no other nominations and Kay was elected by acclamation.

In other business the Coun-

cil upon hearing a report from Ruth Sheeran and Quentin Robinson renewed the mandate of the Steering Team for Renewing Ministry in the Deanery. Brain Wharry reported on the Companion Dioceses and a possible upcoming Ireland trip. A new grant Committee was elected, members are The Rev. Canon Alain Milot, John Hoblyn, Roberta Sylvester, Brian Wharry, Kay Hartwell and the Rural Dean. It was decided the new committee would form a new guideline and table it at the next meeting along with a report on outstanding grants. The treasurer reported a balance of \$1135.47.

The Venerable Heather Thomson explained that non-stipendary deacons are not included in the provision of the Diocesan Employee Assistance Program. It would cost \$4.00 per month to include each non-stipendary deacon in the program. The council moved and carried a motion "That the cost of including the non-stipendary Deacons serving in the St Francis Deanery in the Employee Assistance Program be covered out of Deanery Council funds until such time as the cost is covered by another body."

The next meeting of the St Francis Deanery Council will be held Tuesday February 10 at 7pm at St George's Church, Lennoxville.

Two of the five Deanery Councils met recently and both elected new rural deans, The Rev. Susan Hutchinson in Gaspé and Ruth Sherran in St Francis. They both hold office until the first council meeting after our next diocesan Synod.

The Gaspé Deanery Council

By Gracie Annett

The Gaspé Deanery Council met in the office of St. Paul's Church on November 22, 2003. They began with Eucharist celebrated by Ven. Alan Cooke. The main purpose of the meeting was to elect new officers. Archdeacon Drainville chaired the meeting until the election of new officers. Rev. Lampman had moved to Western Canada and the Secretary and Treasurer had both resigned. The newly elected officers are: Marilyn Flowers as Secretary; Edna Cuning as Treasurer and the Rev. Susan Hutchinson as Rural Dean.

Other Deanery business included a grant request received from the Parish of the Magdalen Islands. It was decided that Services for the Gaspé Deanery would continue to be listed in the **SPEC** newspaper. The Council decided that deadline for receiving grant requests would be

Word from Michaelgarth

By Mia Anderson

I have a particular reason for welcoming this new year. St Michael & St Matthew's has a new honorary assistant priest. At the celebration of the Epiphany, Bishop Bruce licensed Br. Gabriel Maelasi to this parish for the duration of his time here, a year or so in which he will be helping Prof. Pierre Maranda in the anthropology dept of *université* Laval with many documents amassed in his native Lau language. If you enter the website of www.oceanie.org you will see what the work is about – or at least where. Gabriel comes from the Solomon Islands. Some of you will know that his bishop, Bishop Terry Brown, the Bishop of Malaita, is a Canadian, and a friend of our Bishop. Bp Terry was also honorary assistant for some time, before his consecration, at St Anne's church in Toronto, where I lived and worked for two years.



Br. Gabriel Maelasi. Photo by Mia Anderson

come the Rev. Ian Liversuch, a former parish priest in the diocese of Montreal, who now comes here once a month to host a book kiosk from the Montreal Diocesan Bookroom, with irresistible books on theology, prayer, biblical studies, with icons, cards and so on. So in the chancel you may not see the flames for perishing' parsons (ask Archdeacon Tom Settle for the joke about the parsons).

While Ian, a native Welshman, speaks no French, Claude, a Quebecker, speaks little English, but it will all work out, turn and turn about. We all have a common native tongue, the Holy Spirit. If one day you hear of 'the Sillery Blessing' in the midst of our solemn chants and genuflections, don't be surprised. Gabriel may start dancing in Lau in the aisle.

Inclusive language has been extremely important this fall at St Michael's. Our 'Heritage Enhancement' project has continued, hosted by Édouard Casaubon, while his wife Élise hosted the partner event at our partner's, St-Michel, and almost 100% of our visitors were francophone. Well, what are the demographics of Québec city, after all? This was an exhibit on the sinking of the steamship 'Montreal' off the promontory of land just down the road, on which is perched St-Michel. That was in 1857, and many of the drowned were buried in Mount Hermon cemetery, another partner in this project. A new monument to the disaster was erected there last summer. At our churches you could read the family names of both the lost and the survivors – Scottish / Quebecker old family names, so many of them.

St Michael's moved its baptismal font this fall, back near where it used to be a hundred and more years ago. Now around the font is not only ample space for baptismal families to gather, but – all unforeseen – a wonderful and inviting prayer space. Now Taizé song takes place there by candlelight. Now the Daily Office is said some mornings and evenings there, now prayers may on occasion be said for the dead; and midday Wednesdays, contemplative prayer takes place round it. Utter silence witnessed by the walls of the church is very powerful.

For the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and for much of Lent, this new 'Baptistry' area will house the pewter *repoussé* panels some of you will have seen at synod. This is apparently their first visit to the city of Québec. They were made near here, more than 60 years ago, and they show 48 scenes in the life of Christ. They are in time for the Bible Studies we host for the Week of Prayer: a visiting scholar from a different denomination animating each different study, daily throughout the week: a Roman Catholic professor from Laval, an Orthodox proto-deacon from Montreal, a Lutheran pastor also from Montreal, and of course an Anglican, but all with the same goal of leading us deeper into our own experience of the text, John 14: 23-31. It begins, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." A good beginning for a week of prayer.



The font, decorated for Thanksgiving, in its new position. Photo by Erin Clarke

You'll see I've called Gabriel 'Brother'. He is an Anglican Franciscan, and one of the pleasures of welcoming him is the chance to alert people – against all incredulity! – that the Anglican communion does indeed have Franciscan friars. Long may they live! I have a soft spot for St Francis. We have begun to celebrate the Blessing of the Animals at St Michael and St Matthew's, and I am already imagining next October 3, the day (one day before the actual memorial day) when we will honour St Francis with the animals – with the participation of our Franciscan.

I have another reason for appreciating the welcome we gave the new year at Epiphany. One of our faithful parishioners read a lesson for the first time here – in French. French is, while not his native language, which is Kenyan, his principal working language. His wife and niece and children speak no English. That family is one of the reasons, but only one, why we are moving to more and more 'inclusive language' in our parish – which in our case means inclusive of French as well as English. For the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we welcome the Rev. Claude Lamarre, responsible for the francophone congregation at St Stephen's in Grand'mère. We also wel-

Nuggets from the past

Compiled from past issues of the *Diocesan Gazette* by Dr. M.E. Reisner, Diocesan Historian

An important feature of the *Diocesan Gazette* was the tribute it paid through obituary notices to the many faithful lay members who had built up and sustained the church, especially in the farflung regions of the Diocese. The following honours two Gaspesian laymen, James Dow of Port Daniel and Edward LeGallais of Shigawake and was written by an old friend, Archdeacon Henry Roe, whose acquaintance with them went back to his student days.

"At the time of which I am writing (1871 and 1876)" Roe began, "the Mission of Shigawake and Port Daniel was made up of four congregations, - namely, in addition to the two just named, the congregations of Anse aux Gascons and Hopetown. At that time, for several years, the Bishop [James William Williams] had been unable to secure for this Mission a resident Clergyman. By his request, I spent my two mid-summer college vacations - with my family - there very happily, and we all learnt to love the people very heartily. The two Churchmen, whose Memoriam I am now writing, backed up my efforts to build up the Mission in every possible way. ... I found that those two good Churchmen ... were Church-Wardens, indeed they were, or seemed to be permanent Church-Wardens - expected by the two congregations to which they belonged to be so: always in their place in Church, and always ready to drive the Clergyman to the next station, or to ascertain that there should be some other competent person ready cheerfully to do the duty."

"Mr James Dow was a much older man than Edward LeGallais, but very much the same style of a Churchman and Christian: always ready to do his duty in the state of life into which it had pleased God to call him. Latterly his infirmities had increased upon him so that he had become as a little child again. He had been quite blind for some time. Surrounded to the last (he was well into the nineties) by the affectionate care and kindness of his children and grand-children, he finally 'fell on sleep' and was gathered to his fathers."

Roe had begun his ministry in 1852 He was a curate at the Cathedral in 1855, served parishes in the Townships (Ireland and Inverness, Richmond and Melbourne), Quebec City (St Matthew's) and taught theological students at Bishop's University where he had himself taken Divinity in that institution's first year of operation. He never, however, forgot his student days at Shigawake and Port Daniel, "these Missions so dear to me" as he called them, and the descendents of the Scottish Dows and the Jersey LeGallais.

Dear *Diocesan Gazette* reader,

For a number of months there has been a spelling error in the paper that has slipped by the interim editor's eye. In the *Nuggets* column the word "compiled" was published as "complied."

Needless to say it was caught by the author, Meb Reisner, who wrote "HWAT ABOUT CORECTIN "complied" too "compiled"!!! i thought yew pormissd tdo th fro lats mounth!!

I am truly sorry and the offending error has been corrected. My only excuse is that in poor raeding, aoccdring to rsheearch at an Elingsh Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttair in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer is at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by it slef but the wrod as a wlole.

Please continue to send in stories and letters.

A.C.W. Meditation by Cecily Hinton

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

In spite of all their challenges and troubles Paul and Timothy are thankful. They see their troubles as contributing to the help and health of the community. They acknowledge the help they receive as a gift from God to be shared with others in distress. They teach us that God's gifts are not for ourselves alone to use for our selfish purposes, but to be shared for the benefit of others. We are not meant to live in isolation but in community, sharing with each other the good things which God provides, and using our challenges as a blessing for others.

The Lenten Sock Project.

Imagine if we all took an odd sock or an empty jar, and each day in Lent put in the price of a package of cigarettes, a bottle of beer, a coffee, a magazine, a lottery ticket or some other little treat. Then at Easter we sent in what we have collected to PWRDF to be used for emergency relief or community development projects to help others around the world who cannot afford to treat themselves.

We could do it as individuals or as an ACW or Sunday School project. Who knows, it might even help us break that addiction we've been fighting!

Now that we have imagined it, let's do it!

We can make a difference, one treat at a time.