



St. Mary Magdalene Church  
Picton

Thanksgiving 2022



*Photo by Mary Brett*

### Colours of Life

Savour each day and the beauty it holds,  
Live the whole range from the reds to the golds,  
Experience life in each colour it wears,  
And welcome the bounty of richness it shares.

- Unknown

# St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

Archdeacon Charles Morris, Rector 613-503-0199  
Email: [charlesmorris78@gmail.com](mailto:charlesmorris78@gmail.com)

The Rev. Fran Langlois, Parish Deacon 613-476-7988  
Email: [flanglois@ontario.anglican.ca](mailto:flanglois@ontario.anglican.ca)

Martha Riddell, Parish Curate 647-462-4096  
Email: [mriddell@ontario.anglican.ca](mailto:mriddell@ontario.anglican.ca)

Penny Kitchen, Parish Secretary 613-476-3303  
Email: [stmpicton@gmail.com](mailto:stmpicton@gmail.com)



St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church  
335 Main Street Picton, ON K0K 2T0  
Telephone: 613-476-3303

Email: [stmpicton@gmail.com](mailto:stmpicton@gmail.com)

Website: [stmpicton.ca](http://stmpicton.ca)

**Our Mission:** As followers of Jesus, to be a loving, welcoming, joyful and caring community that reaches out to others and fosters spiritual development for all.

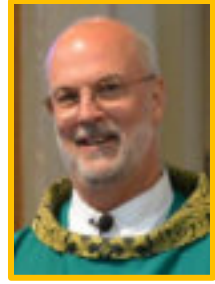


## The Circle of Days

Lord, we offer thanks and praise  
For the circle of our days.  
Praise for radiant brother sun,  
Who makes the hours around us run.

## Our Rector's Message

Autumn is upon us. It feels like it snuck up on me, with warm summer weather suddenly being replaced with cool days and cold nights. And just like that, it is October, and as I write this, Thanksgiving is just around the corner. I like the focus of Thanksgiving. It reminds us of the abundance of God's blessing, and encourages us to give thanks.



That encouragement is helpful, because deep down we don't always feel like saying "thank you". When I was little, my mother was always after us to make sure we sent thank you notes to our aunt down in Arkansas who sent us a package every Christmas. I didn't want to. I am not proud of it now, but I really wasn't very thankful. My dear Aunt Edith always sent clothes. A sweater one year, a flannelette shirt another; one year: socks! They were really nice socks, several pairs, but they were, well – socks. As a six-year-old, I wanted cars or trucks or Meccano. But socks? Not so much. I look at it quite differently now. I realize I had an aunt who lived far away and hardly ever saw us, and yet still took the trouble to send us something every year. Now as a grandparent with children and grandchildren and nieces and great-nephews, I have a great appreciation for the effort and care that my aunt showed year after year.

Aunt Edith was the kind of person who wanted to give something that would be useful, not quickly broken or discarded the day after Christmas. Maybe not what I wanted, but probably something I needed. Sad to say, my mother had to nudge me more than a few times before I got around to writing a thank-you note.

*Cont'd ...*

For sister moon, and for the stars,  
Brilliant, precious, always ours.



Praise for brothers wind and air,  
Serene or cloudy, foul or fair.

Thanksgiving is like that: it provides a helpful nudge, reminds us that no matter if we have everything we want, as long as we draw breath, we have a lot to be thankful for, a lot to thank God for. At Thanksgiving we can shift the focus away from our worries and offer our thanks to God. We can gather for worship in a beautiful church decorated to remind us of the bounty of harvest time and join together to sing God's praises and share bread and wine at the communion table. If we listen, we can hear the angels singing with us; if we look carefully, we can catch a glimpse of God's kingdom. I look forward to sharing that experience with you this Thanksgiving.



Yours faithfully, *Charles*

## Collected Stories

If you noticed odd pieces of furniture or strange bits of tape on the floor in the Parish Hall over the past year you were discovering evidence of **Joan McBride's** preparations for her performance in *Collected Stories* at Mount Tabor Playhouse in September and early October. Our Churchwardens graciously supported Joan's need for rehearsal space, allowing the two-member cast the opportunity to rehearse in the Parish Hall for months before they could move into the theatre. The play received very positive



*'Collected Stories' Set at the Theatre*

reviews, and the support of St. Mary Magdalene was acknowledged with an advertisement for the church on the back page of the playbill.



For sister water, clear and chaste,  
Useful, humble, good to taste.

For fire, our brother, strong and bright,  
Whose joy illuminates the night.





## St. MM Goes Green ...

*...to strive to save the integrity of Creation  
and sustain and renew the life of the earth.*

*- A Canadian Anglican Mark of Mission*

**How many of you can recall the pungent smell of burning leaves in the fall?** While it may conjure up nostalgic memories, the annual fall leaf burning is now considered a significant threat to the environment. There are many “greener” options for your dried brown leaves. Love Your Leaves – try these!

1. Set the lawnmower on ‘mulch’ and regularly run it over a thin layer of leaves on the lawn. The chopped leaves quickly compost to enrich your lawn.

2. Mound leaves around tender plants to protect them over the cold winter. Making a cage of wire first will help hold the leaves in place. In spring-time, simply spread the leaves around and work them into the soil. This saves money on buying products from the garden center to do the same job.

3. Adding leaves to your compost bin at any time is a great idea. Save some in a bag next to your composter to add during the cold winter months to carbon balance the nitrogen-rich kitchen waste added. When spring comes, the pile will heat up and decompose nicely.

4. Some gardeners make leaf mold which is a great soil amendment. Digging in leaf mold improves the texture of the soil, allowing for better moisture retention and air circulation. This produces organisms that make our plants very happy. To make leaf mold, place a pile of leaves on their own, or in a plastic bag with holes in it. Either way, ensure that they are moist and leave them to compost over winter.

5. Kids love making a scarecrows; it is an engaging weekend project. Stuff old clothes with some dry leaves, then put your scarecrow on a pole in the garden or make a set of scarecrows for your front porch for Halloween.

Praise for our sister, mother earth,  
Who cares for each of us from birth.  
For all her children, fierce or mild,  
For sister, brother, parent, child.





# Amazing Graces

A grace is a short prayer or thankful phrase said before or after eating. In English, reciting such a prayer is sometimes referred to as "saying grace". So, what is its purpose? The Grace implies first that what we have is freely given by God, regardless of whether we have earned or deserved what we received, and giving thanks to God is our response. Saying grace then, is an expression of two-way relationship.

When we thank God for providing our daily bread, we are acknowledging that all things come from Him, and praying before meals, as a habit, helps to remind us of that truth.

Families have been sitting at dinner tables and saying grace since before the time of Jesus. For many it is a habit steeped in tradition and can evoke many memories.

We asked our readers about their Traditions on giving thanks and we thank them for sharing.

**John Brett** sometimes makes up Graces on the fly along the lines of:

*Lord we thank you for the friends present at this table and we thank you for giving the wonderful skills used in the preparation of your gifts.*

**Mary Brett** recalls this Grace from her time in England:

*Bless us O Lord and these thy gifts which we receive through thy bounty through Christ our Lord. Amen*

We joined hands while Sarah said the simple words *'For health and strength and daily food we praise Thy name, O Lord. Amen.'* Occasionally she would try to sneak in the irreverent words of a grace she had learned at the Anglican Church Camp Hyanto just to see what our reaction would be. I'm sure our readers can recall a few of those!

- **Wendy LeBlanc**



2016 Thanksgiving Altar

**Kathy Condie** notes: we have a lovely little book called "One Hundred Graces" that our daughter, Lauren gave to us for Christmas 1992 when she was ten. It has a lovely collection of graces.

Here is one of my favourites from the book. It speaks to the joy we experience when we gather together to share our stories over food:

**God of pilgrims,  
Give us always a table to stop at  
Where we can tell our story and sing our song.**

Father John Giuliani, Benedictine Grange



Grace in the **Morris Family**

In my family growing up we only said grace at special occasions, and it was always *"For what we are about to receive may the Lord make us truly thankful. Amen."* I like that grace, and I still often use it. But with my children we learned a grace as part of a communion preparation course: *"Come Lord Jesus be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest. Amen."* We used it at just about every meal as they were growing up. Most often Joan and I just offer a very simple prayer: *"Thanks God. Amen."*

Thank you God for food and prayer, Teach us how to love and share. Amen (A Children's Grace)

From **Maxine Tiller**. In my family we had our simple Grace, *"God is Great, God is Good, let us thank Him for our food, Amen."* Holiday Grace may have been a little more elaborate but the important thing was that we thanked God for our blessings.

Grace was an important part of **Julie Miller's** family meals. Here is one she recalls:

*Bless this food to our use and us to thy service. In Jesus name. Amen.*

# A History of the Anglican Church in Canada and the Diocese of Ontario

**Angela Adams** was curious about the history of the Anglican Church in Canada and in particular our own Diocese of Ontario. As often happens her research turned into more than what she'd originally intended! Angela would like to add a disclaimer that articles for these facts were gleaned from various web pages and are not authenticated for accuracy!

Her research, presented here, is the second of a two-part series and is a wonderful way to set the stage for our 200th Anniversary next year.



**From the late 1790s The Anglican Church grew and spread throughout Canada**, and until 1832 it was the established church of Canada. As congregations increased, they were grouped into dioceses and provinces. A unifying organization, the General Synod, was established in 1893 in Toronto for the two provinces and 15 dioceses then in existence.



Royal Chapel

The oldest surviving church building in Ontario is her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks in Brantford, Ontario and was the first Anglican Church in Upper Canada. It is one of only three Chapels Royal in Canada. In 1981, the chapel was designated a National Historic Site of Canada.

***"We must knock at every...door and rouse the inhabitants to devote a small portion of what God has bestowed upon them to promote a just work."***

With these words, the Diocese of Ontario was conceived in 1854 by Toronto Bishop John Strachan but it took eight years of struggle to bring

*Cont'd ...*



For creatures wild, and creatures tame,  
For hunter, hunted, both the same.

For brother sleep, and sister death,  
Who tend the borders of our breath.



It into being in 1862. The bishop and his emissaries journeyed vast distances over primitive roads and across rough waters in frail vessels.

John Strachan was ordained as Bishop of Toronto in 1839, after being ordained in the Anglican Church in 1803, and was the first Bishop of the Diocese of Ontario.



*Bishop Strachan*

In 1857, a start was made to solve the problem of the rapidly growing size of the Diocese of Toronto. Strachan had written to the archbishop of Canterbury in 1853 noting that “it is rather too much for a Bishop who will pass his 75th birthday in a few short weeks to be obliged to travel continuously three or four months over very rough roads every summer often with very poor accommodation.”

Financial problems delayed the division, but in 1857 an election was held for the new Western Diocese of Huron. In 1861, the eastern portion was split off to form the Diocese of Ontario and was divided from the Diocese of Toronto. Until 1896 it included the present-day Diocese of Ottawa. Its first bishop, John Lewis, a Church of Ireland cleric, was the first bishop consecrated in Canada rather than in England.

The boundaries of the Diocese of Ontario are not the same as those of the province, but encompass approximately 17,700 square kilometres of it, including the counties of Prince Edward, Hastings, Lennox and Addington, Frontenac, and Leeds and Grenville. Apart from Kingston - the headquarters of the Diocese - the other major centres included are Belleville, Brockville, and Trenton. Our own **St. Mary Magdalene Church**, celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year, is in the Diocese of Ontario.

**- Angela Adams**



For desert, orchard, rock, and tree,  
For forest, meadow, mountain, sea.

For fruit and flower, plant and bush,  
For morning robin, evening thrush.



# St. Mary Magdalene Milestones



## Birthday

*Michael Calnan*

## Baptisms

*Taavi Poulsen Navey Prinzen Cameron Miller*

## Wedding

*Mark Hutchings and Kathleen Langmuir*

## Passings

*Frank LeBlanc, Agnes Russell, Stan Whitehouse, Edward Wright,  
Daphne Walsh (daughter of Mary Folkard),*

## Attention! Ladies of St. MM!

After a long absence and many changes in our Church life, we are hoping to reconnect members and former members of The Magdalenas Group and interested newbies.

**Please join us at Maxine Tiller's home at 5 Curtis Street (off Talbot Street) on Wednesday, October 12 at 3:00 p.m. for tea and treats.**

During this time of fellowship we will discuss the future of this group that has contributed so much to the life of our Parish in the past. No need to RSVP – just come along!

For all your gifts of every kind,  
We offer praise with quiet mind.  
Be with us, Lord, and guide our ways  
Around the circle of our days.



## From the St. MM Bulletin Board

**Julie Miller** commented on being awarded The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pin:

*I was honoured earlier this summer to be awarded the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pin for service to the community. It means all that much more in light of the last few weeks. My volunteer work, in addition to St MM, includes chairing the Christmas parade in Picton, running the women's rec hockey league, and sitting on the recreation committee for Picton. I have always believed a community is as strong as its volunteers, and if you can help out, you should!*



Julie with MP Ryan Williams



Congratulations to our Curate  
**Martha and Jared**  
on the birth of

**Lawrence Victor Tomlinson Riddell**

We don't need more to be THANKFUL for,  
we just need to be more THANKFUL.

St. MM welcomed back several concert series this summer including Mid-day Concerts, Music at Port Milford, The PEC Jazz Festival (especially the popular Jazz Mass on August 21) and the PEC Chamber Music Festival.



# Services at St. Mary Magdalene

**Sundays** – 9:00 a.m. – Communion (Traditional Language)

10:30 a.m. – Communion (Contemporary Language)

**Tuesdays** – 3:30 p.m. – Silent Meditation in the Church

**Wednesdays** – 11:00 a.m. – Bible Study Group – Meets at rear of Church at 10:30 for coffee followed by group discussion

**Fridays** – 4:30 p.m. Evensong Service – Postponed until further notice

*Please note that wearing masks is preferred but not required.*

The first Sunday of the month, Food Bank Sunday, has resumed. Non-perishable items and monetary donations are taken to the Picton Food Bank by John Hughes.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The lovely poem in this edition of *The Vine* is based on the *Canticle of the Sun* written by St. Francis of Assisi in 1225. This hymn of praise for all creation has been adapted to poetry and song for centuries. The version here was written by Reeve Lindbergh in 1998.

Photos by Mary Brett, David Gilbert and Penny Kitchen

 The Vine Newsletter

**Editor:** Maxine Tiller 647-296-9317 maxinetiller10@gmail.com

**Production:** Wendy LeBlanc 645-2001 wendyjleblanc@gmail.com

**Printer:** Printcraft, Picton

 St. Mary Magdalene  
Anglican Church Picton