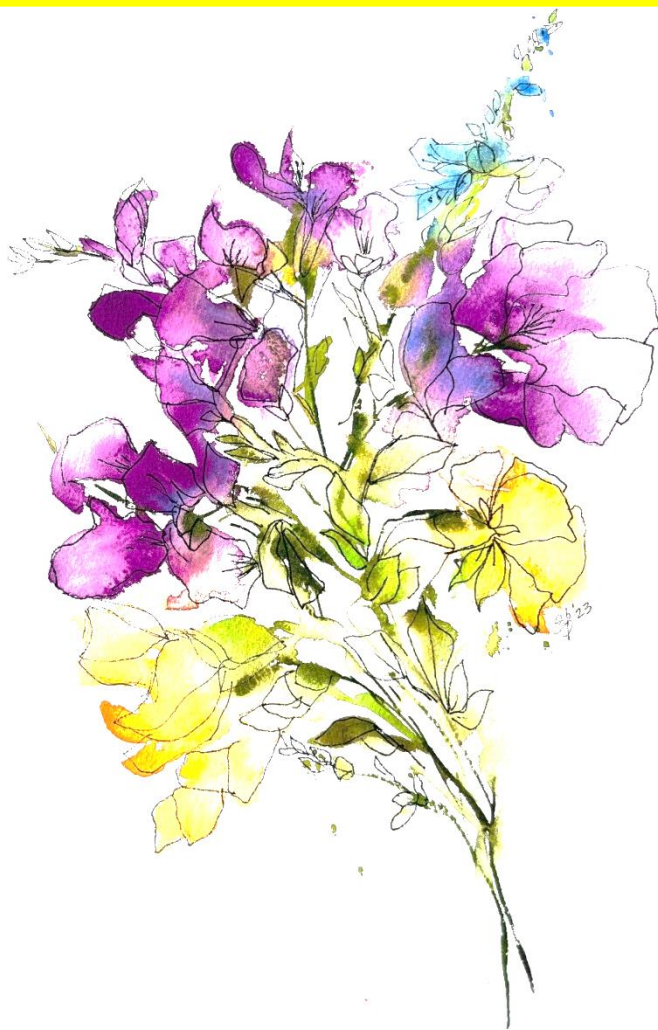


St. Mary Magdalene Church



Easter 2024



- Shirley Barnes

St. Mary Magdalene Milestones



St. Mary Magdalene parishioners were saddened to hear of the passing of **Ian Inrig**, husband of Carol, and brother of Mary Folkard. Sincere sympathy to Ian's family and friends.



The congregation helped **Pat Romkey** celebrate her 90th birthday on Sunday, February 25. Pat graciously thanked the congregation for marking her special day in such a special way.

Pat enjoys helping around the Church office and her work is much appreciated!

Congratulations, Pat!

St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church Contacts

The Venerable Rev. Dr. Bramwell Pearce 613-888 4172
Email: bram.pearce@gmail.com

Rev. Canon Fran Langlois, Parish Deacon 613-476-7988
Email: flanglois@ontario.anglican.ca

Shirley Barnes, Parish Secretary 613-476-3303
Email: stmmpicton@gmail.com



St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
355 Main Street, Picton, ON K0K 2T0
Telephone: 613-476-3303
Email: stmmpicton@gmail.com
Website: stmmpicton.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.

A Message from Our Rector

God With Us

*... What if God was one of us?
Just a slob like one of us
Just a stranger on the bus
Tryin' to make his way home?*



Archdeacon Bram Pearce

Singer-songwriter Joan Osborn wrote these questions into her popular song from the 90s entitled “One of Us.” It is an interesting line of questioning that resonated with our culture at the time. What if God was one of us?

As Christians, we know that God was and is one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. Yet even those closest to Jesus had trouble recognizing him following his death and resurrection. Mary Magdalene mistook him for a gardener until he spoke her name. The two disciples on the road to Damascus thought Jesus was simply a fellow traveller until he broke and blessed bread with them. There was also the encounter in the upper room on the first Easter evening when a ghostly figure appeared. He spoke and asked for something to eat. It wasn't until that moment that the disciples recognized it was Jesus. A week later, the disciple Thomas, missing from the events in the upper room, would only believe in the resurrection after the Lord invited him to touch his nail-pierced hands and wounded side.

These post-resurrection accounts suggest that recognizing Christ among us is not so simple, but it is possible. The resurrected Christ was recognized when a name was spoken and heard, in acts of hospitality, and in the intimate experience of touching the wounded. I wonder if these first experiences of resurrection serve as a template for where we might encounter the same Christ in our lives today?

People often ask me, especially in those difficult times of sickness or grief, “Where is God?” It is not an easy question to answer. Amid the pain of their own grief, I am sure that Mary Magdalene and the other disciples would have wanted Christ's presence to remain precisely as it had always been – tangible and certain. Yet, God's closeness and guidance would come in a different form following Christ's ascension – the gift and work of the Holy Spirit.

... continued next page

Rector's Message continued ...

In this Easter season, remember that Christ comes in the ways *he* deems appropriate: in words of scriptures, hymns, acts of hospitality, unexpected conversations, a caring touch, or in the Sacramental acts of Baptism and Holy Communion. These are the places where Christ is recognized amongst us today – the places where we are assured of God's grace and empowered to continue God's work.

One day, we shall see Jesus Christ face-to-face. In the meantime, look carefully for the ways he already chooses to be present and cherish all of them. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Archdeacon Bram+

Easter

Lord, Who are You, I cried.

And from His side,

Flowed blood and water.

Lord, Who are You, I said.

But he was dead.

They crucified Him.

Lord, where are You, I pled.

Alive, He said.

For He had risen.

Lord, Who are You, I knelt,

Because I felt

His presence round me.

- Rowena Hawkins

Magdalenas are a Hit with theROC Teens

In early 2023, a group of participated in ***The Way Forward*** visioning sessions facilitated by Diocesan Archdeacon Wayne Varley. One of the areas of growth identified was Community Engagement and Outreach.

Our Magdalenas group learned that food insecurity is a major challenge in Prince Edward County. In response to this significant issue, part of the programming at the local youth centre, The ROC Youth Services, involves providing between 30 and 50 teens with free lunches four days a week.

The Parish already supports theROC financially by annually covering one month's rent at the building located on Picton's Main Street. The Magdalenas wanted to engage with the young people directly and after consultation with theROC staff, decided to roll up their sleeves and actively assist with the lunch program. We began with the 'Fill the Freezer' Campaign where parishioners can drop off frozen meals to the freezer in the Parish Hall kitchen. Containers of chili, soups, pasta dishes and sweet treats are delivered to theROC.

In addition, beginning in November 2023, the Magdalenas have held on-site lunches at theROC. Sandwiches and hot lunches including vegetarian selections and the much-prized cookies are all eagerly enjoyed by the teens. At a recent lunch, the young people showed their appreciation in many ways – from hearty 'Thanks' to 'Wows', to big grins and polite requests for seconds.



A Recent Lunch Provided by the Magdalenas

By participating directly with the teens at theROC's lunch program, the Magdalenas enjoy their interactions with the young people and their work to fill a need in the community. Speak with Kathy Condie or Maxine Tiller if you want to get involved in this worthwhile project.

Our Bishop, The Rt Revd William Cliff's Visit

St. Mary Magdalene was blessed to welcome our Bishop William Cliff to our church on Sunday March 10th.

Resplendent in his purple vestments, the bishop delivered a sermon which was powerful, relatable, and quite riveting in its content and delivery. His stories of his days as a University Chaplain and Anatomy labs were entertaining, left us a little squeamish, yet served to demonstrate the feelings of wonder he spoke of.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Most are familiar this verse as it is one of the most often quoted from the Bible. It appears on signs, posters, billboards, even on t-shirts and at sporting events. Bishop Cliff was clear to define the use of the word "so" in John 3:16 to mean God loved the world *'in this way.'* What is the difference? As the Bishop explained, it is the extent to which God loved the world and was motivated to sacrifice his only son for his love of humanity. It is a powerful message and one that not many parishioners had examined previously.



Photographs taken by Joe Parisi and Maxine Tiller.

In fellowship time following the service, the feedback from those lucky to have been in attendance, was a resounding “WOW!” His words were powerful, interesting, thought-provoking, and left the congregation with full hearts and a memorable message to ponder.

Bishop Cliff took the time to personally greet and talk to every parishioner at the conclusion of the service giving everyone the opportunity to meet him.



Bishop Cliff and Pat Brant



Following the service, Reverend Bram presented Bishop Cliff with framed photos taken by David Gilbert of our beautiful stained glass windows.

The entire service was beautiful from the splendour of the Lenten drapings arranged by the altar guild to the beautiful music of the choir and organist Murray Baer. For our clergy, Reverend Bram and Deacon Fran, the readers and greeters and all of us who are lucky to call St. Mary Magdalene home, it was a lovely and unforgettable way to spend a Sunday morning

A Prayer for His Majesty in light of his recent illness

Composed by Bishop William G. Cliff



Almighty God and Healer of all our infirmities, from whom all sovereignty takes its pattern, we pray for the good health and recovery of our gracious sovereign, King Charles III. Give him strength of body and spirit to continue in service to this people. Grant wisdom and skill to all those who treat him, and patience, peace and a glad heart to the Queen as she supports the King in his work and recovery. Grant that restored to health, he may yet serve all the peoples of this land and the whole Commonwealth, and follow the way of the Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with the Holy Spirit remains ever one God, world without end. Amen.

How do You Address a Bishop?

In 1997, Reverend David Sinclair invited his churchwardens, deputy churchwardens, treasurer and their spouses, to dinner at the Rectory to meet Bishop Peter Mason. Dinner was a wonderful, surprisingly relaxed evening of good company and bright conversation. During supper the question came up as to exactly how does one address a Bishop?

From around the table came several suggestions, deteriorating into the lighthearted in keeping with the companionable tone of the meal. 'Your Holiness' was immediately struck off, as was, 'Your Grace' or 'Your Lordship'. Just 'Father' was in a somewhat reluctant running. Perhaps reflective of a humble calling, Bishop Peter said his preference would be to be known as 'Pastor'.

Later, I recounted the conversation to my oldest friend Ken, from kindergarten, whose grandfather had been the Rector at St. Mary Magdalene and rose to be Archbishop and Metropolitan in our Diocese. Looking to a possible liturgical leg up when next meeting a Bishop, I asked Ken what his grandfather was called. Safe to say that never in the long history of the Parish has there ever been less helpful advice given or received, when Ken replied, "I just called him Grandpa".

It may not be believed, but at no time has the occasion ever arisen in which it was fitting to call any Bishop, Grandpa! - **Warden Herb Stone**

St. MM's Donation to PECMH Recognized

It is a great pleasure to report that St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church will appear on the donor recognition wall at the Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital at the **Sponsor** level, honouring the church's donation to the "Back the Build" fundraiser.



PECMH Donor Wall

Our cumulative donation total is \$5,812. These funds were a result of the free will offering at Murray Baer's two successful 'Pulling Out All the Stops' organ concerts in the spring of 2023, celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Parish of St. Mary Magdalene.

Bordering on the cliché, this is only one example of a relatively small but active congregation making an outsized difference in their community. Thank you! - **Warden Herb Stone**



It *IS* Easy Being Green!

By Deputy Warden Julie Miller

WWGD?

This edition is **WWGD**... **W**hat **W**ould **G**ranny **D**o? I am often asked what swap-outs we can use for this or that. I sometimes like to think, '*What would my granny have done?*' She didn't have the options that we have with plastic wrap or bags. So, let's look at what granny would do....

Granny wouldn't bring a dish to a pot luck in a plastic bag or covered in wrap; she would have used Tupperware. Remember Tupperware? Remember all the parties? When was the last time you were invited to one? That stuff was bomb-proof and many of us have inherited our parents'. It hasn't lost its usefulness; it has gone out of favour because it has to be brought home and washed. It can't just be tossed. Great granny would have used a glass dish with a cover. If you need to cover something in your own kitchen, use a tea towel, not plastic or foil.

Granny wouldn't use those evil dental floss tools - you know, the ones that look like the letter 'p'. It astounds me these even exist! When did it become too hard to whip off a piece of string? As an aside never flush floss! It unfortunately needs to go into garbage.

Granny wouldn't idle her car. She knew it's much more efficient to drive in order to warm up your car once the snow has been cleared. Great granny probably would have warmed up her horse though...however the emissions would have been a tad different!

Granny wouldn't use rolls and rolls of paper towels! She would have had rags at the ready and washed them to reuse until they virtually fell apart.

Granny most definitely would not have use coffee pods!! What a horrible invention...even the man who invented them regrets it and doesn't even own a machine in his home. Please don't tell me they are recyclable: I won't even begin to refute that reasoning.

And I'm not even going to bother with mentioning single use plastic water bottles. I know many of you are sick of me banging on about them!

And lastly, granny wouldn't use those Swiffer duster thingies...you know, the ones that you use then throw out? She would have had a dust cloth and a dust mop and would have taken them outside to shake out not throw out!

BE LIKE GRANNY!

Centre

Centre

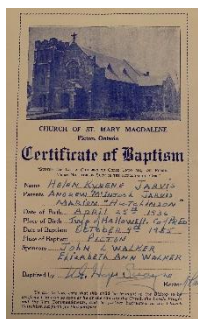
Memories of St. MM and More with Kyrene Tripple



No doubt first-time visitors get a good chuckle when they read the sign beside the front door of Kyrene Tripple's home located not far from St. Mary Magdalene! It was a long (both in miles and years) round trip *from Picton back to Picton*

for Kyrene and her husband Carl, a member of the Royal Canadian Electrical Mechanical Engineers of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The two met in the bowling alley where the Community Care for Seniors Thrift Shop is now located. Carl was posted to 'The Heights' when they were married in 1960 at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Their *first* home, the apartment building located to the south of Shire Hall later destroyed by fire, was the *first* of 20 homes they lived in until Carl retired in 1991. For 30 years they moved from coast to coast on or near Armed Forces bases in Montreal, Kingston, Petawawa, Trenton, Ottawa, Chatham and Gagetown New Brunswick, and even the isolated radar base of Holberg on Vancouver Island. During those nomadic years, their two sons, Mark and Andrew were born and Kyrene worked on and off in lawyers' offices and at government jobs, typical of many military wives of the period.



Kyrene wasn't always a member of St. Mary Magdalene Church. The middle child in the Jarvis family of nine, Kyrene only occasionally attended a variety of churches as a child. When her sister who wanted to marry in St. Mary Magdalene was required to become baptized and confirmed before marriage, Kyrene attended the classes with her and was baptized and confirmed in 1955. For several years in the 1980s when the family was posted

here, she attended St. John's Church in Waupoos, and it wasn't until 1997 that she began attending St. Mary Magdalene regularly.

Kyrene walks from her home to church each Sunday, arriving early enough to sit quietly and look at the stained-glass windows. Although a non-singer, she loves the music at Church. She enjoys being a member of The Magdalenas, and like most parishioners, the social time following each service.



Kyrene and Friends celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday at St. MM

Kyrene and Carl were very active in the communities where they lived and when they retired here in 1991, they volunteered at the Legion, the Public Library, the Regent Theatre, the Fall Fair, canvassed for Heart and Stroke and the Cancer Societies, and organized bus trips to Toronto for Community Care for Seniors. As busy as they were with community work, they decided to visit by car every province and territory, so they alternated visiting the west coast in the even years and the east in the odd!

Kyrene is often asked about her unusual name. Along with her unusual name is an unusual story. When her sister Betty was born, the attending doctor wanted to call her Corrine, but the baby became Elizabeth. So the following year, when another daughter was born at the family's Lake Street home, the doctor once again suggested Corrine. Somehow it was misspelled, Kyrene, a name having Greek origins.

Sadly, Carl died in 2019 but Kyrene still keeps busy. An avid reader of WW2 and mystery novels, she completes at least six library books every two weeks and smiles as she says she plays cards (Bid Euchre and Pepper) 'three or four or five' times a week!

It was an interesting visit with a most interesting woman. One story led to another to another with some serious moments and plenty of laughs. Kyrene may have travelled the country and lived in many homes, but clearly she and her husband had a strong family life grounded with love and caring for each other, their family and friends.

Thank you, Kyrene, for sharing your story with readers of **The Vine**!

Introducing a New (to Us) Artist

Hanging in the freshly-painted office of St. Mary Magdalene Church are several beautiful watercolour paintings created by our Church secretary, Shirley Barnes. She shared with us the story of her life as *Shirley, the Artist*, and we are delighted to feature it along with some of her works on the front and back covers and here in this edition of **The Vine**.



Shirley Barnes

Shirley writes:

Photography, life drawing and painting have always simply just been hobbies for me. Over the years I was able to carve out time to take courses, some here in the county, most in Newfoundland, where I followed my husband on his work travels. The Anna Templeton Centre in St. John's is where I discovered a variety of art courses and after several months of classes I seemed to settle on watercolour. A challenging medium to say the least. A former college professor once told me with great delight that watercolours were filled with 'happy accidents'.



I don't have any recollection of anything happy whatsoever, for me it was mostly frustrating! Only recently, and with a focus on florals, have I been able to loosen up and paint with less hesitation and more intuition. I've learned to mix colours on the paper, not the palette, letting the watery blobs settle where they choose and dry into abstract vignettes. Then with the addition of some permanent ink scribbles, if you look closely, I can trick you into believing they were flowers all along.



Thank you, Shirley, for sharing your talents with us!

St. MM Pancake Day Quiz

Mark the correct answer(s) for the following statement:

Pancake Day at St. Mary Magdalene is

- ☐ *a fun event for numerous volunteers*
- ☐ *well-known in the community*
- ☐ *a successful and delicious fundraiser*
- ☐ *a great way to mark the last day before Lent*
- ☐ *all of the above*

You're correct if
you marked any
or all!!



Even though organizer Deputy Warden Julie Miller hadn't planned the February 13th Pancake Supper as a fundraiser, the successful event netted over \$1000!

Thank you and congratulations to Julie and her team!



Why do We Celebrate Pancake Day?

For Christians, Shrove Tuesday marks the last day before Lent, traditionally a period of abstinence. This is associated with clearing your cupboards of goods such as sugar, fats, and eggs. Pancakes were traditionally eaten on this day to use up such foods before the 40-day fasting season of Lent began. Some believe the four ingredients used in pancakes may represent the four pillars of the Christian faith — flour as 'the staff of life', eggs as 'creation', milk as 'purity', and salt as 'wholesomeness'. (Source: Wikipedia)

Music at St. Mary Magdalene 2024

Looking Back ...

In mid-January an appreciative audience was treated to a performance by the group *Acacia Lyra* comprised of harpists **Janine Dudding** and **Susan Sweeney Hermon**. The group was



celebrating the release of their album called "***Sharing the Moon***". *Acacia Lyra* offers a unique style and approach to the Irish harp through their live music performances. They blend both contemporary and traditional Celtic harp music, composing, performing and singing their music in several languages from many corners of the world.

Proceeds from donations at the door amounted to approximately \$1200 and Janine was delighted to present a cheque to Hilary Fennell, Community Relations staff member at The ROC.. Many thanks to Janine and Susan for sharing their talents and supporting the programs at our Youth Centre.



Janine presents cheque to Hilary at The ROC.

- Angela Adams

Sing-along with Murph!

In the words of Dr. Suess, '*It's good for dusty musty throats/To let out gusty, lusty notes!*' And sing we did! Beginning on Sunday, February 25, with plans to repeat quarterly, an enthusiastic group remained after the service and coffee time to learn several new hymns and enjoy familiar ones we hadn't sung for some time. **Helen Cluett**, who volunteers to select the hymns and music for Sunday services, enlisted the help of the talented **Murphy Longley** to accompany the singers on the grand piano. These hymns will be used in the Sunday services in the near future. No doubt the voices of those who stayed for the enjoyable practice time will help to raise the rafters!

Looking Ahead ...

Come join us for an unforgettable evening of soul-stirring melodies and enchanting harmonies with The **Elmer Iseler Singers**! This highly-acclaimed choral group will grace the stage at St MM on **Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 4:00 pm.**

Prepare to be captivated by their breathtaking performances, as the singers showcase their immense talent and passion for music. Led by their renowned

director, Lydia Adams,, this group has garnered international recognition for their exceptional vocal abilities and captivating interpretations of both classical and contemporary compositions. Immerse yourself in an evening of pure musical bliss as The Elmer Iseler Singers transport you to a world of beauty and emotion through their soaring voices. Whether you are a seasoned choral enthusiast or simply appreciate the power of music, this event promises to be a truly unforgettable experience.

A Glorious Sound



Presented by
St. Mary Magdalene
Anglican Church at
335 Main Street Pictou,
NS
"... great clarity, precision
and beauty" - John Gilkes

SAVE the DATE!

Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 4 p.m.

Tickets: \$35 at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or
Books and Company

MARK YOUR CALENDAR and STAY TUNED!

Other 2024 musical events at St. MM include:

- Chamber Music Festival concerts in April for high school students
- Command Performance concerts on May 24 and 25
- National Youth Orchestra on June 21
- Port Milford rehearsals and concerts in July and August
- Jazz Mass on August 18
- Prince Edward Classical Music Festival in September
- Quintissimo children's music program



An Easter Garden for the Generations



As a child, at Holy Trinity church in my area of London, England, we always had a wonderful indoor Easter Garden. It was probably the length and breadth of a trestle table and was built up at the rear to make a hill, on which were three crosses, and another hill with the tomb carved into it. In the foreground there was a 'stream', and all along the stream were planted live spring

flowers. It was like an Easter creche! In fact, it was such a fond memory for me that when teaching Sunday School at our church in Toronto when our children were young, the other volunteers and I made a replica of this garden. We used chicken wire to make the hills and tomb, then covered it with paper-mâché, and painted it all, placed the crosses on the hill, and the stone across the tomb. We had bandages inside the tomb, and, for Easter Sunday, figurines of Mary Magdalene and Jesus. We bought tiny pots of spring flowers, and moss, and 'planted' these all along the cellophane stream. The children participated as we used this to illustrate the Easter story. We brought it out for its annual airing for several years, until the church mice finally made it unfit for purpose. But for many years it brought the Easter story to life, and I like to think that it left an impression on a new generation.



- Janet Howes

(Editor's Note: The illustrations pictured here of small Easter gardens were taken from two websites after 'Easter Resurrection Gardens' was googled.)

The Easter lily has traditional and spiritual meaning.

Mentioned many times in the Bible, the white lily symbolizes purity, rebirth, new beginnings and hope and is most often associated with the resurrection of Jesus Christ as observed on Easter. Across many religions and beliefs, the white lilies are symbols of purity and grace.



From the St. MM Bulletin Board



Andrew Innes discovered this lovely little Chapel at our Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital. It is located across the hall from the room where Andrew's husband, Don Watson, was a patient. Andrew appropriately titled the photo, ***Stillness.***



Where would we be without **Tuula and Ross Saunders** who cheerfully make and serve after-Church coffee and tea each Sunday?

Many thanks to them for their dedication and service!



Through much-needed donations of everyday necessities, St. MM continues to support **Alternatives for Women** as part of our Outreach. AFW is an important community partner which supports not only women but their children as well.

You can help by donating personal care and household items. Please see ***Janet Howes*** or check out the donation box at the back of the Church for a list of needed items.

**Alternatives
for Women**

Confidential help for abused women in Prince Edward County

Give someone a
reason to smile
today!





Easter Services at St. Mary Magdalene

Sunday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. - **Palm Sunday**

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. - **Maundy Thursday**

Friday, March 29, 10:00 a.m. – **Good Friday**

Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m. – **Easter Sunday**

Regular Services – Silent Meditation, Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.

Note that there is one Sunday service at 10:00 a.m.



Happy Easter!
Happy Spring!

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