

St. Mark's Chronicles

NOVEMBER 2022



Comments from the Clergy

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



For the past three or four years I have been attending a meditation and book study group at one of the United churches in Guelph. This session happens to be on Esther De Waal's book "The Celtic Way of Prayer." I have also attended two of three in a series of lectures given by John Phillip Newell on Celtic Spirituality at Five Oaks the United Church Conference Centre.

And no, I am not thinking of jumping ship, but it did get me to thinking about how much I have learned about Celtic spirituality (and how much I am continuing to learn). I am wondering how much people at St. Mark's know about it, other than the fact that we have the Celtic liturgy the first Sunday every month and most people seem to really enjoy it.

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First Indigenous Veterans Day in Canada

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



On Nov. 8, 1994, Manitoba observed the first Indigenous Veterans Day. It soon became a national day, honouring more than 200 years of service by thousands of First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. Even though Indigenous veterans were among the most decorated, they faced much racism when they returned from battle. "Acknowledging Aboriginal roles in the protection of Canada will help other citizens understand what true reconciliation means," said Sheldon Quinn, the Indigenous adviser to the 3rd Canadian Division, in 2021.

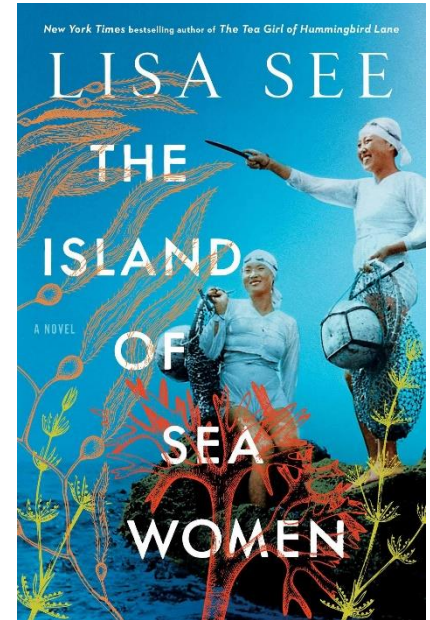
The Month of November

By Elizabeth Coatsworth

*"November comes and November goes,
With the last red berries and the first white snows.
With night coming early and dawn coming late,
And ice in the bucket and frost by the gate.
The fires burn and the kettles sing,
And earth sinks to rest until next spring."*

Book Review

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



***The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See**

I found this to be an enthralling work of historical fiction. Set on the Korean Island of Jeju I was spellbound as I was introduced to the fascinating and little-known world of the *haenyeo*, the diving women of Jeju. Here the women are in charge, engaged in the dangerous and physical work of deep-sea diving (without oxygen) to make a living from the produce of the ocean floor, and the men take care of the children. Through the Japanese colonialism of the 1930s and 1940s, World War II, the Korean War, it is the story of women's friendships and the dramatic history that shaped their lives.

A Little Bit of Humour

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

A Queen's Tale

Only Her Majesty could pull this off - her wonderful sense of humour will be a big part of her legacy. We'll always remember her sense of humour and that beautiful smile.

I was on Guard of Honour, waiting for the King of Saudi Arabia, on Horseguards. On the right flank; Scots Guard (100 guardsmen) a gap, HM The Queen, mounted in uniform; alongside her the CO Colonel Gerald, another gap, then on the left flank, the Queen's Company Grenadier Guards (100 guardsmen).

We're stood at ease waiting.

Suddenly the silence was broken by Colonel Gerald's charger erupting with horse farts at full volume for two minutes. Embarrassed and staring straight ahead Colonel Gerald says, "Sorry about that your Majesty!" She replies, in a wonderful voice, "That's alright Gerald, I thought it was your horse!"

200 guardsmen silently cried with laughter and tapped their rifle butts on the gravel. From that moment, every man there adored her!

Very Particular About Her Floors

A police officer called the station on his radio.

"I have an interesting case here. An old lady shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped."

"Have you arrested the woman?"

"Not yet. The floor is still wet."

A Call a Day

Being a little older, I am fortunate to have someone call and check in on me every day. He is from India and is very concerned about my car warranty.

Poems for the Journey

By Arlene Davies-Fuhr

Insight Among the Grass

*Bark cracked and broken, twig is twig
She doesn't mind. No complaints.
Just how twig is. All knobby and
crooked.*

*Cut off from her life-source.
Some label twig dry and useless
But is she, really?*

*Twig intuits she has a purpose
As yet unrevealed.*

*Twig lies amid the long, wild grass
Waiting. Wondering.*

*What will come next on her journey?
A lady bug visit? Raccoon defecating?
Who knows?*

*Twig doesn't need to predict the future.
She is here now.*

Ready. Accepting. Open.

*Twig is happy in the place where she
Has landed. It is soft. Welcoming.*

*Inviting her to rest awhile amid
Clover and the yellow leaves.*

*Twig is not alone and for that she gives
thanks.*

*It is a natural community, not of her
choosing.*

But of her finding.

Twig is at peace.

Parishioner Spotlight

By Diane Smith

We have begun highlighting some of our senior parishioners to help identify them to those new to St. Mark's, particularly during Covid. This column is dedicated to Diane Smith.

I was born in England and lived in Cheshire and a number of other places before eventually moving to Canada. When I finished school I applied to a factory that was assembling computers. That is where I met David, my husband to be, who was a quality control inspector. You could say we started computer dating before it was fashionable. He emigrated to Canada shortly after we had started dating but after a few years of correspondence he proposed (by mail) and I followed him here. We were married in July 1973 at Christ Church Cathedral in Hamilton by Canon John Rathbone. We were living in Burlington where our son Keith was born in 1978. We attended services at the Cathedral where David was a server and crucifer.



One day on a trip back home from Wasaga Beach, by accident, we turned off Hwy 10 down First St. and drove past the Mall. We took a liking to Orangeville and as a result ended up renting a house here on Orangemill Court. David had worked for Stelco in Hamilton but soon found a job at Canada Wire and Cable. I found employment at McDonald's as a day lady.

Canon Rathbone who had served as the priest at St. Mark's, had mentioned that church to us so that when we moved to Orangeville we started attending there. David was a server and crucifer at St. Mark's and Keith was a server as well.

In 1985 just after the tornado went through, David was diagnosed with lung cancer and 6 months later, he died. Keith attended ODSS and when he graduated (as did I at the same time) he got a job as manager in Factory Direct computer Sales. Unfortunately in 2007 he also was diagnosed with cancer and within the year at age 29 he died.

I had joined the altar guild and became a chalice bearer at Sunday services. These days I still help with the altar guild but due to hip problems and having to use a walker I can no longer manage to get up into the sanctuary to continue as a chalice bearer. I moved to the Bythia St apartments about 10 years ago and have helped arrange the services there first for Mary Ranger and now for Canon Lynne. For the past 25 years until the pandemic I was a volunteer at the hospital first in the coffee shop and then in the auxiliary office. Now I can be found on Sunday usually at the back of the church enjoying the services there.

Comments from the Clergy

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

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If I were to ask any of you why you enjoy that particular liturgy what would you say? It must speak to you or resonate with you somehow, but in what way? Why are you drawn to it?

The Celtic tradition is the ancient or elemental – a return to the elements, the earth, stone, fire, water, the ebb and flow of tides and seasons, the pattern of the year as it moves through November when it becomes dark to May, the coming of light and spring. The rediscovery of the Celtic world has been an extraordinary revelation for many Christians in recent years, an opening up of the depths and riches within our own tradition that many of us had not really thought about before.

De Waal describes it as a journey into prayer. My great aunt was a nun in the Anglican tradition and I remember talking to her one day about household chores. She remarked that she loved to do ironing. My response was “man, I can think of a lot of things I would much rather do. How do you stand ironing all those parts of your habit. She smiled and said “I offer it to God as prayer and it is not a problem at all”. I have never forgotten (nor completely understood) what she said until I read what De Waal had to say about Celtic prayer:

“The Celtic way of prayer was learned from monasteries; it was from its religious communities that the people learned to pray. As a result, they learned that there was no separation of praying and living; praying and working flow into each other, so that life is to be punctuated by prayer, become prayer. So what we are talking about here is a household religion in which praying is inseparable from an ordinary daily working life.”

According to Newell, in the Celtic tradition, we suffer from soul-forgetfulness. We have forgotten who we are and have fallen out of true relationship with the earth and with one another. In the Celtic tradition you will find nothing of the individualistic, competitive, inward-looking approach so common today. Instead, everyone will see themselves in relation to one another, and that extends beyond human beings to the wild creatures, the birds and the animals, the earth itself. Before the Celtic service next time, just look at the affirmation of Faith #2 to get a sense of “being in relationship with creation”

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Comments from the Clergy

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Before the Celtic service next time, just look at the affirmation of Faith #2 to get a sense of "being in relationship with creation"

*Our God is the God of all humans
the God of heaven and
earth,
the God of sea and rivers
the God of sun and moon,
the God of all heavenly bodies,
the God of the lofty mount ains,
the God of the lowly valleys,
God is above the heavens;
and he is beneath the
heavens,
heaven and earth and sea,
and everything that is in them,
such he has as his abode.*

*He inspires all things, he gives life to all things,
he stands above all things,
he stands beneath all things.
he enlightens the light of the
sun,*

*he strengthens the light of the night and the stars,
he makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in the
sea, and he
places the stars in the service of the greater lights*

Does that not give you a sense of being a part of all that is good in this world, of all that God has created and loves?

Celtic Spirituality resonates with me. When I first started reading I felt as if I had finally found a true spiritual home. The next Sunday when we use the Celtic liturgy, take some time to see how it resonates with you. You might find yourself on an exciting new journey.

The Quiet Corner

From the Iona Abbey Worship Book

God calls humanity to care for creation. Throughout the ages the Church has not always paid attention to this divine expectation. Now with the threat and experience of climate change, we cannot, we cannot in prayer or action, be neutral.

*God above us –
Trees, birds, and sunshine,
Stars and moonlight –*

*God beneath us –
Earth, rocks and rivers,
Roots and caverns –*

*God around us –
Seas, winds and cities,
animals and people –*

*God within us –
Hopes, tears and laughter,
Love and wonder –
God above us,
God beneath us,
God around us,
God within us,*

*We celebrate that
You made us
You love us,
And you call us
to work and rest with you.*



Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

We are beginning another Purdys Campaign to raise funds for a new camera for our live streaming services. The catalogue is available online and as hard copies at the church.

You can order online by going to www.fundraising.purdys.com and registering as supporter using the customer number 58794.

Alternatively, you can order by phone at 1-888-478-7397 ext.1, using the customer number 58794.

If you have any problems, please contact Lynne at 519-826-0320 or email mlthackwray@gmail.com or call Rebecca at the office.

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE CHOCOLATE!

Recipe of the Month

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

Sharon Temple Illumination Cake

½ c soft butter
 2 c white sugar
 5 or 6 eggs
 2 c all purpose flour
 2 tsp cinnamon
 1 tsp nutmeg
 1 tsp ginger
 ½ tsp baking soda
 ¼ tsp salt
 ¼ tsp cloves
 8 – 10 tart apples (1/8" slices (about 6 cups)

Cream butter and sugar, add eggs and beat together. Stir together dry ingredients and beat in well. Gently fold sliced apples into batter. Turn in to 22 buttered deep 10" pie pans and spread smoothly. Bake at 350 degrees for about 40 minutes and enjoy!

Dates to Note

November 6 at 2 a.m. is the end of Daylight-Saving Time and our Remembrance Day Sunday service.

November 8 is when the full moon occurs. November's full Moon is traditionally called the Beaver Moon. In the Colonial Era, this was the month to set one's beaver traps before the swamps froze and beavers retired to their lodges, to ensure a supply of warm winter furs.

November 11 is Remembrance Day.

November 19 is our Santa Claus parade and Silent Auction Dinner.



Church Information

Connect With Us

Website: www.saintmark.ca

YouTube: [saintmarkorangeville](https://www.youtube.com/saintmarkorangeville)

Facebook: [saintmarkorangeville](https://www.facebook.com/saintmarkorangeville)

Phone: 519-941-0640

Email: office@saintmark.ca

Services

Sunday Eucharist – 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Choral Eucharist – 10:00 a.m.

Thursday Eucharist – 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Food Cupboard Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

The Beacon Drop-In Centre

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Address

5 First Avenue

Orangeville, ON

P.O. Box 22

L9W 2Z5