

# St. Mark's Chronicles

MAY 2023



## Clergy Corner

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

On Easter Day, during his sermon, our rector Archdeacon Peter Scott referred to the fact that the versions of the Easter story in the four gospels are the same in general but some of the details differ. As a young person, I had not noticed this. Perhaps the church I attended used the same gospel every year or those details were not important enough for me to recall them a year later when next I heard the story.

On Easter Day 1969, I was home alone with my 6-month-old baby while my husband was working in another part of the province. I did not drive and could not get to a church but I wanted to do something to honour the day. So, I got out my Bible, the King James Version I had been given at the age of 7, and read the Easter story from all four gospels. I was astonished, even dumbfounded to discover the variations in the stories. I remember closing the book and thinking to myself, "Well, if they wanted me to believe this, they could have at least got the story straight."

*Continued on page 6.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

—  
PARISH PROFILE:  
CAROL HULCOOP

Page 2

BOOK REVIEW:  
THE POPE

Page 2

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR

Page 4

OUR LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Page 7

## Parish Profile

By Carol Hulcoop



### Carol Hulcoop

My name is Carol Hulcoop and I have had the privilege of being St. Mark's Envelope Secretary for several years. It's been my pleasure to be able to contribute to our St. Mark's community in this way. I enter the individual donations into our donation system throughout the year and prepare our annual tax receipts, or in the case of donations from visitors, monthly receipts. I've been a member of St. Mark's for many years. I don't remember the year I first came to St. Mark's on the invitation of dear friends who were long time members, but I knew by the warm welcome I received and the entire experience of the services and programs that I had found my church family.

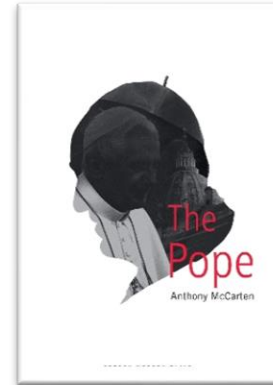
I was born and raised in the suburbs of Toronto. I grew up in the United Church through weekly Sunday School and a vibrant youth group. As an adult I stopped attending church until my introduction to St. Mark's. I moved to Orangeville in 1983 when I bought a small property on C Line. My little house and barn there have since made way for development. In my work life I commuted to Manulife in Waterloo for many years until I landed my dream job as Branch Manager of the Ontario SPCA in Orangeville. I loved working with the animals and those who cared for them and living and working in the same community. I retired in 2016 and currently work part time at Global Pet Foods, leaving me more time to develop my involvement with St. Mark's.

In addition to my role as envelope secretary I've been a member of Parish Council for several years, on the Outreach, Social, Stewardship and Refugee Committees, a member of the choir, and on the board of directors of HIWHOIS and Credit River housing. I help with the Food Cupboard which has been an amazing and enriching experience.

I've also been honoured to serve as the Rector's Deputy Warden for the past four years. If you have any questions about your donations or tax receipt please don't hesitate to contact me, in person at church or email [envelopes@saintmark.ca](mailto:envelopes@saintmark.ca).

## Book Review

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



### ***The Pope* by Anthony McCarten**

Some of you have probably seen the movie "The Two Popes" but according to the blurb on the back cover of the book - this is The true story behind the upcoming major motion picture starring Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce. I have not seen the movie but can imagine that the book covers many more details than the movie would be able to. It goes into the backgrounds of both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis, why Benedict made the startling decision to step down from the papacy and how it was the Francis was duly elected. It questions the church's teaching on the infallibility of the pope when two living popes who disagree on almost everything can both be right. It discusses the sexual abuse scandal that continues to rock the church and gives credence to the intrigue within the Vatican. An interesting read.

# The Real Popeye

By The Rev'd Canon  
Lynne Thackwray



His real name was Frank "Rocky" Fiegel. He was born in 1868 in Poland and, as a child, immigrated to the United States with his parents, who settled down in a small town in Illinois. As a young man, Rocky went to sea. After a 20 year career as a sailor in the Merchant Marines, Fiegel retired. He was later hired by Wiebusch's Tavern in the city of Chester, Illinois as a 'Bouncer' to maintain order in the rowdy bar.

Rocky quickly developed a reputation for always being involved in fighting (and usually winning). As a result, he had a deformed eye ("Pop-eye"). He also 'always' smoked his pipe, so he always spoke out of one side of his mouth. In his spare time as a Bouncer, Rocky would entertain customers by regaling them with exciting stories of adventures he claimed to have had over his career as a sailor crossing the 'Seven Seas.'

The creator of Popeye, Elzie Crisler Segar, grew up in Chester and, as a young man, met Rocky at the tavern and would sit for hours listening to the old sailor's amazing 'sea stories.' Years later, Segar became a cartoonist and developed a comic strip called 'Thimble Theater.' He honoured Fiegel by asking if he could model his new comic strip character, 'Popeye the Sailor Man,' after him. Naturally Fiegel was flattered and agreed. Segar claimed that 'Olive Oyl,' along with other characters, was also loosely based on an actual person. She was Dora Paskel, owner of a small grocery store in Chester. She apparently actually looked much like the Olive Oyl character in his comics. He claimed she even dressed much the same way. Through the years, Segar kept in touch with Rocky and always helped him with money; giving him a small percentage of what he earned from his 'Popeye' illustrations. WHO didn't love the cartoons??? We watched them religiously ... so funny, so moral ... each story had a good ending ... wonder if kids these days even KNOW who Popeye is??? Who knew he was a real man??

# Recipe of the Month

By The Rev'd Canon  
Lynne Thackwray



## Cherry Oatmeal Crumble Bars

You're just four ingredients away from these delicious Cherry Oatmeal Crumble Bars! So simple to make and so much better than cherry pie, these are sure to become a family favorite. You could use any other pie filling, too, like lemon, apple, blueberry, raspberry, or strawberry-rhubarb.

### Ingredients

- 15.25 oz yellow cake mix 1 package
- 2 1/2 cups quick-cooking oats
- 3/4 cups butter melted
- 21 oz cherry pie filling 1 can

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
2. Line a 9 x 13 baking dish with parchment paper or grease with cooking spray.
3. Mix cake mix and oats in a large bowl.
4. Add melted butter, stir until crumbly.
5. Press down half the crumbs onto the bottom of the pan.
6. Carefully spread cherry pie filling over the crumb crust.
7. Spread remaining crumbs over preserves and press down gently.
8. Bake for 18 to 23 minutes or until very lightly golden brown.
9. Eat warm or cool, cut into bars, and serve.

# A Little Bit of Humour

Thanks to The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

## McDonald's

My husband and I went through the McDonald's drive thru window and I gave the cashier a \$5 bill. Our total was \$4.25, so I also handed her 25c.

She said, 'You gave me too much money.'

I said, 'Yes I know, but this way you can just give me a dollar back.'

She sighed and went to get the manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the 25 cents, and said 'We're sorry but we don't do that kind of thing.'

The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

Tip: Do not confuse the people at McD's.

## Fractions

We had to have the garage door repaired.

The repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener.

I thought for a minute, and said that we had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

He shook his head and said, 'You need a 1/4 horsepower'.

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, 'NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two.'

We haven't used that repairman since.

## Oh Deer

I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local city council office to request the removal of the DEER CROSSING sign on our road. The reason: 'Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore'



## Must Have Been a Long Day

When my wife and I arrived at a car dealership to pick up our car after a service, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door.

As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked.

'Hey,' I announced to the technician, 'it's open!'

His reply, 'I know. I already did that side.'

# Oil for Charles III's Coronation Consecrated in Jerusalem

Thanks to The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray, from The Winnipeg Free Press

LONDON (AP) — Two senior clergymen in Jerusalem have consecrated the holy oil that will be used to anoint King Charles III during his coronation, as the Anglican Church seeks to underscore the monarchy's long history and the royal family's links to the Middle East.

The oil was consecrated Friday morning at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the traditional site of Christ's crucifixion and burial, Buckingham Palace said in a statement. The ceremony was conducted by His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos III, head of the Greek Orthodox Church in Jerusalem, and the Most Rev. Hosam Naoum, the Anglican archbishop in Jerusalem.

The oil was pressed from olives harvested on the Mount of Olives, which plays a prominent role in the Bible, and has been perfumed with sesame, rose, jasmine, cinnamon, neroli, benzoin, amber oil and orange blossoms, the palace said.

Charles' paternal grandmother, Princess Alice of Greece, is buried at the Monastery of Mary Magdalene on the Mount of Olives. "This demonstrates the deep historic link between the coronation, the Bible and the Holy Land," the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said in the statement. "From ancient kings through to the present day, monarchs have been anointed with oil from this sacred place."

Charles will be formally crowned on May 6 at Westminster Abbey in London, during a ceremony the palace says will combine elements of tradition with modern touches that highlight the changing face of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

Charles became king on Sept. 8 following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, who reigned for more than 70 years.



*Two senior clergymen in Jerusalem on Friday March 3, 2023, consecrated the holy oil that will be used to anoint King Charles III during his coronation, as the Anglican Church seeks to underscore the monarchy's long history and the royal family's links to the Middle East. (Isabel Infantes/Pool via AP, File)*

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## Hugging is Healthy

It has no unpleasant side effects. It is God's miracle drug! It is all natural, it contains no chemicals, artificial ingredients, no pesticides, and no preservatives. It helps the body's immune system. It cures depression and reduces stress. It's rejuvenating. Hugging is practically perfect. There are no parts to break down, no monthly payments, non-taxable, non-polluting, and of course... **It's fully returnable!**

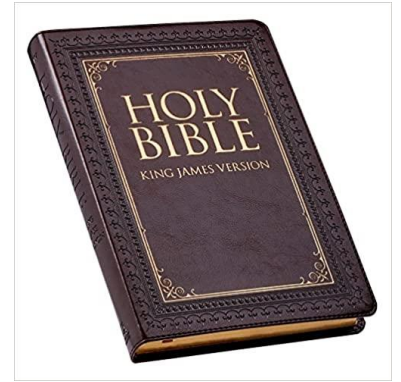
# Clergy Corner

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

*Continued from page 1.*

That might have been the end of it. I may never have opened a Bible again. But it wasn't. Instead I became curious about why four gospels had been included, about how the books of the Bible had come down to us from the past and about how these ancient writings hold such meaning for us today.

Instead of dismissing the Bible as irrelevant to me, I recognized this was the main link we had to the past to tell us about the Christian faith and my curiosity was aroused to learn more. At that point in my life, I had actually read some books of the Bible. When I was about 9, I had plowed through all of Genesis but bogged down in the middle of Exodus. I had heard the Sunday lectionary read aloud for at least fifteen years and I had attended Sunday School regularly up to about the age of 12. I used to go to youth groups at churches that were not Anglican and had memorized many short passages there. Many of you may have become familiar with scripture in the same way.



Some parts of the Bible are quite easy to read through. Matthew, Mark and Luke are accessible while John is a bit more obscure in places. The history in Genesis, Exodus, Joshua, Samuel, and Kings, for example, is fairly straight forward but when mixed in with prophecy in Isaiah and Jeremiah the story line can become more confusing. Parts of Daniel and Revelation can sound more like fantasy than reality but Proverbs and The Wisdom of Solomon are very down to earth. The story of Joseph and his brothers in Genesis reads like a novelette and the psalms are beautiful poetry. There is so much variety that it is no wonder some folks have said the Bible is the book they would choose to have if they could only pick one to have if they were stranded on a desert island.

No matter how easy or difficult to understand, I think it is important for all of us to have more than basic knowledge about the contents of the Bible. So how can a reader get started? There is one program that guides you to read the Bible in a calendar year. I have a copy of that I can share if you wish it. It is demanding and requires a lot of discipline. St. Mark's provides opportunities to study the Bible together. The Bible Book of the Month group reads one book per month (half if it is too long) and then meets one evening to discuss the book. Another choice is to meet on zoom on Thursday mornings from 11-noon. In that group the gospel reading for the coming Sunday is looked at in more detail. Then you may find Sunday's reading more familiar and even recall some of the ideas discussed. These two programs are supported by the clergy of St. Mark's.

Neither of these studies require you to be there every meeting. Come when you can. Details are in the church bulletin or request the Thursday morning link through the office.

As you read you may find that some parts surprise you, some annoy you as, for example, you consider the attitude towards women in that society two thousand years ago. Some parts may fill you with joy as the beauty of creation is set before you. Parts may make you weep when you consider how the disabled and people with mental illness were treated and how Jesus died on the cross. Some parts will fill you with hope. But no part of the Bible will fail to teach something about life and faith.

May your explorations through the pages of the Holy Bible be blessed.

# Our Lenten Book Study

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

This Lent we studied Michael Coren's book "The Rebel Christ." We were intrigued with many things in his book but In chapter 2 was a challenge. Mr. Coren says: "It is not new, novel or nonsense to claim that Christianity is based on a dramatically socialistic and radical reinterpretation of ownership, property, profit, money, and power.

He quotes from the Bible: "sell what you own and give the money to the poor" (Mk 10:21-25) Jesus' response to the rich man who asked what he must do to inherit eternal life. "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God" (Matt.19) that he said teaching his disciples. And finally, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me" (Matt 25) part of his parable about the sheep and the goats.

Luke tells us that Jesus says, "So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions" (Luke 14:33) and again in Acts, "Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common." (Acts 4:32).

We were being challenged to think about what Jesus said about wealth and helping others in his time, and how it would apply to us in the 23rd century. Some would argue that while Jesus did indeed call for a redistribution of wealth, he envisaged this as charity, a voluntary act of generosity, and that these seemingly startling comments about wealth and ownership have to be read in the context of their era and culture.

So, what do we think about our wealth and our possessions? It would be unreasonable to literally give it all away and follow Jesus so what does he mean for us today? Can we consider ourselves faithful followers of Jesus if we don't give up our money? How much should we give up, how much do we need? How much help do we give our brother (sister), how much do we give of ourselves? Questions not just for lent but for everyday life. How much have our attitudes changed?

We might not have cared for this book so much, but we had some very good discussions. We are planning to possibly do one of the other books that had been suggested for Lent, possibly in May or September. Please keep your eyes open for when we will start.

# Parish Engagement Survey

By Liam Croft

The Rector, Wardens and Parish Council have worked together to develop a survey regarding engagement within the Parish. The results of the survey will be used by St. Mark's leadership team to help plan how we can all carry out the vision of St. Mark's together. The survey is available online, with paper copies available from the Church. Everyone is encouraged to fill in a survey, regardless of how involved you are or how often you attend. Please have it back to the Church by May 14.

# Interesting Facts About May

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

- It is the third and last month of the season of spring.
- The birthstone of May, the emerald, symbolizes success and love.
- May in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to November in the Southern Hemisphere.
- May was once considered a bad luck month to get married. There is a poem that says "Marry in May and you'll rue the day".
- In Old English May is called the "month of three milkings" referring to a time when the cows could be milked three times a day.
- The Indianapolis 500 car race is held during this month. The Kentucky Derby, the world's most famous horse race, is also held on the second Saturday of this month.
- The month of May was named for the Greek goddess Maia - the goddess of fertility.
- The United Kingdom celebrates May as the National Smile Month.
- It is said that those born in May have a greater chance of being more successful in life and experience more love




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## A Little More Humour

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

### Checking In

The I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, 'Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?' To which I replied, 'If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?' He smiled knowingly and nodded, 'That's why we ask.'

### Crossing at a Crossing

The pedestrian light on the corner beeps when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an 'intellectually challenged' coworker of mine. She asked if I knew what the beeper was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, 'What on earth are blind people doing driving?' She is a government employee...



## Poems for the Journey

### *Voices of Earth* by Archibald Lampman

We have not heard the music of the spheres,  
 The song of star to star, but there are  
 sounds  
 More deep than human joy and human tears,  
 That Nature uses in her common rounds;  
 The fall of streams, the cry of winds that strain  
 The oak, the roaring of the sea's surge, might  
 of thunder breaking afar off, or rain  
 That falls by minutes in the summer  
 night  
 These are the voices of earth's secret soul,  
 Uttering the mystery from which she  
 came.  
 To him who hears them grief beyond control,  
 Or joy inscrutable without a name,  
 Wakes in his heart thoughts bedded there,  
 impearled,  
 Before the birth and making of the world.

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## The Quiet Corner

### **The Adventure of This New Day**

Lord of life, we praise you for all that is:  
 for the reaches of our star-studded space,  
 for the particles small beyond imagining,  
 for the detailed immensity of your love,  
 for the promise of your companionship  
 through the adventure of this new day.

## Church Information

### **Connect With Us**

Website: [www.saintmark.ca](http://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](mailto: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