CONNEXION

The Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of Central Saanich



St. Mary's Church

1973 Cultra Avenue, Saanichton, BC V8M 1L7

St. Stephen's Church

7921 St. Stephen Road, Saanichton, BC V8M 2C3

Rector: The Reverend Robert Szo **Deacon:** The Reverend Gil Shoesmith **Youth and Family Worker:** Chris McDonald

Worship Services Sundays

9:00 am Choral Eucharist and Church (Sunday) School

Third Sunday 7:00 pm Evening Prayer in the style of Taize

> Wednesdays 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Bible Study

Office: 250-652-1611 Hall: 250-652-7942 Email: stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca Web: www.stmarysanglican.com

Worship Services

Sundays 11:00 am Holy Eucharist and Church (Sunday) School 4th Sunday, Praise & Worship in the Hall

> **Tuesdays** 11:00 am Prayer Group

Thursdays 7:00 pm Seekers & Upper Room meetings, Praise and Worship every fourth Thursday

Office: 250-652-4311 Email: ststephens1862@shaw.ca Web: www.ststephensanglican.net



September to November, 2014

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www.anglicanparish.info

Number 12

As we go into high gear after the summer months, here are some significant dates for you to note during September, October and November.

- Wednesday Eucharist at St. Mary's will start again on September 3 at 10 am, followed by Friendship Coffee and Bible study.
- Christianity Explored One Life What's it all About? is a seven week video-based course developed in the UK. It is an informal course for people who would like to investigate Christianity or just brush up on the basics. It will be led by Rob at St. Mary's on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm, starting on September 3 and continuing for seven weeks. For further information, talk to Rob.
- **Soup's On** starts up again at St. Stephen's on Fridays at noon, the first one on September 5 (subject to completion of the kitchen renovations). All are welcome (the best soup in the Valley!).
- Evangelism for Amateurs is a one session course all you ever wanted to know about evangelism but never dared to ask. It will be led by Rob at St. Mary's on Saturday, September 13 from 9:30 am until noon.
- Evening services in the style of Taize will again be held on the third Sunday of each month at 7 pm at St. Mary's, the first one on September 21. All are welcome to this reflective service.
- **The Parish Weekend** with guest speaker Bill Hockin will take place from Friday October 17 to Sunday October 19. Bill Hockin is the former rector of St. Paul's Bloor Street in Toronto and the retired Bishop of Fredericton. He continues to be a writer and speaker at conferences throughout North America. The Theme for the weekend is: "Spiritual Resilience: bouncing back in times of loss and crisis". Details will be in the Sunday Bulletins closer to the date.
- The Parish Weekend will close with a **Joint Service** at St. Mary's at 10am on Sunday, October 19.
- **Sunday Serenade Concerts** are back again, at 2:30 on Sunday afternoons, one on October 19, and the next on November 30
- The Holly Fair at St. Mary's will be on Saturday, November 29 see a note about this on page 19.

A Good Time to Start

don't think anyone doubts that the church faces an uphill climb in Canada these days. **L** For many, the institutional church seems outdated, dusty and something that belongs to another time. But even though we've seen closures and for sale signs over the past decade, we can still be confident that there is a future. Before you start thinking that your rector has given in to the 'Pollyanna principle,' consider that churches are indeed growing around the world in places like Iran, Africa, China and yes, even Canada. Why are they growing? I'll look at some reasons in the next issue of Connexion. For now, it's enough to know that growing churches are serious and intentional about their spiritual and numerical growth. In pursuit of growth in this parish, I ask you to consider three questions:

- 1. What is our purpose as a church?
- 2. What does God want to do in Central Saanich at this moment in time? What might God be calling you to do as part of this?
- 3. How well do our worship/events/programs serve our purpose? What things should we start doing that would better serve our purpose? What are some things we should stop doing?

As you can see, these questions have the potential to make us uncomfortable, but they do so for a reason: to help us grow.

Starting in September, you'll have a chance

to give your answers to these questions. We'll be holding small group meetings after church and at other times to get your feedback. If you prefer to answer by email, please send your an-



swers to me directly: robszo@shaw.ca

Your feedback will be reported back to the whole parish at a later date, but will be done anonymously.

To help us think biblically and prayerfully about our identity and calling as a parish, I'm planning a 4-week sermon series for September called: "The Church: One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic." As you engage with God's word through this series, I ask you to give your feedback using the three questions. I thank you in advance for taking our growth seriously and I ask you to continue in humble prayer and confident faith. The Lord is moving in this place, and is willing to partner with us in drawing new people to salvation in Christ. Will we be part of His plans at this exciting time?

In His name,

Rev. Rob Szo Rector, Parish of Central Saanich

The Credenda and the Agenda

The Church in its wisdom has divided the ecclesiastical year into two sections. During the first section, from Advent to Trinity Sunday, it recalls the Nativity of Jesus Christ, His Baptism, Ministry, Transfiguration, Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, followed by Pentecost and Trinity. As a Christian you are called to believe in these things and they are enshrined in our Creeds. We may call these things the CREDENDA of our Faith, the things we believe.

But the Creeds, important as they are, say nothing about living the Faith, putting our beliefs into action. It was Louis Nizer, a lawyer, who once said "True religion is the life we lead, not the creed we profess." So often we think that "right belief" is of paramount importance and have used the sword and the gun to enforce that; e.g. the Crusaders, the religious sects. We get things so turned around when too much importance is placed on right belief. What we believe and what we say and what we do should be in harmony. Our BELIEF is only important when we hold it with sufficient conviction to act upon it.

So the second section of the year may be called the AGENDA - things to be done; a time when we focus our minds on the virtues we should cultivate, the life we should live as Christians. We are helped by the Collects and Readings at this time. The CREDENDA and the AGENDA must be in harmony. Others know we are Christians by the life we live.

Today our church is weakened by the manifest disharmony between our beliefs and our lives. Our Lord prayed that we be one, as He is one with the Father (John 17, 21), He commanded that 'we love one another as He loves us' (John 15, 12). Yet, today we continue to build fences, we are so divided... we build fences between countries, races, religions, denominations and even families. Would you believe that there are approximately 40,000 Christian denominations? Instead of conforming to Jesus' prayer about unity, we try to fit Him into our divisions. The church today, that includes you and me, must remove fences and be the extension of Christ's ministry: Extending our arms, welcoming, forgiving, accepting, loving, healing, not a select few but everyone. Our lives, by the grace of God, should have an agenda that promotes unity and love.

There is a little anecdote from the 'Tales of the Hasidim': An old rabbi asked his pupils how they could tell when the night had ended and the day had begun. "Could it be," said one student, "when you can see an animal in the distance and tell whether it is a sheep or a dog?" "No," answered the rabbi. Another asked, "Is it when you can look at a tree in the distance and tell whether it is a fig tree or a peach tree?" "No," answered the rabbi. "Then when is it?" the pupils

asked. "It is when you can look on the face of any person and see that it is your sister or brother; because if you cannot see this, it is still night."

Haitian Mission

Taking a deep breath, Lynn Fallan signed up to go as part of a work team to Hope Home in Haiti for ten days. It is a home for about 27 youths and young adults with disabilities. She was inspired to do this by a presentation by Gladys Thomas, who started the Foundation for the Children of Haiti when she saw the plight

of neglected orphans. Lynn was rigorously interviewed by Judith, a parishioner at St. Philip's, and after training and packing sessions the team of eight traveled in April to Port au Prince, a city of one million people. They took four wheelchairs,

16 garbage cans with medical supplies, batteries, electronic devices, clothing and gifts, and one personal carry-on bag each. They must have looked quite a sight as they lined up to check in! Some of the team had been before and some hadn't. They ranged from 18 to 62 (with Lynn somewhere in there!). They all paid their own way, took some food for themselves, and paid for their accommodation. Although there was a range of skills and backgrounds, the glue of the group was their Christian faith.

The team stayed at Emmanuel's Guest Home, where Lynn was relieved to find there was water, electricity and excellent breakfasts and dinners. But there were also 40° temperatures, humidity, no air conditioning and four to a room!

Lynn was unsure how she would interact with people with disabilities, but, being Lynn, she plunged into her job, which was overseeing the distribution of supplies, continued on page 6



by John Smith

gifts and equipment, measuring the youths for their clothes, making lists of needs and becoming the unofficial photographer. The team's purpose was to provide health care expertise to improve the environment for care of the youths and the support of the staff. In a practical way this was done by upgrading equipment, repairs, consulting with the staff on aspects of health care and disability education, and supporting the daily physiotherapy program, while at the same time respecting Haitian culture and limitations. "Because the children are disabled they are not valued," Lynn said. "The challenge was to integrate good health care with what they can afford and sustain."

A typical day started with breakfast at 7:30, then a ride in the shuttle bus (not in "tap taps" – the rickety Haitian taxis) to Hope Home, which had been built to earthmobility and communication issues. The team worked on whatever was needed wheelchair repairs and modifications, programming electronics and DVD players, installing blenders for food preparation, making a skateboard for a kid with serious mobility issues, replacing batteries, designing and rebuilding beds, fixing toys and devices, sewing clothes and curtains (with a hand crank sewing machine!), consulting with the staff about each child's needs, painting rooms and adding art work - whatever it took to improve the lives of the kids and their House Moms. And of course there was lots of interaction with the youths. Creole was the usual language, with some French.

The team brought their own lunch, and in the evening they went back to the Guest House for supper, a debriefing, and

quake standards and so survived the 2010 earthquake. There they met the House Moms. each of whom look after about youths, seven who have a variety of physical and mental disabilities. with



planning for the next day. On Palm Sunday, they went to church and had some time off to swim and laze on the beach. The last day they gave a birthday party for the youths, who all got gifts, pictures and clothes, and even a piñata filled with candy. The House Moms dressed up and Gladys was there, so it was a joyous occasion. "I saw God in everyone there," says Lynn.

The simple and practical Christian faith-based approach of everyone involved was the overarching learning experience that Lynn brought home with her. Emmanuel invited the team to his modest home for supper one evening – a wonderful time of simple Christian hospitality. On the wall was the message "In God we trust". And for Lynn, that summed it all up. She returned just in time for the Good Friday walk at St. Stephen's, and admits she was still in a daze. "Although I was a blessing for the children, I also was so blessed by the experience."

Recipe Page

The Great Pumpkin

(A delicious loaf any time of the year)

We asked for a Harvest Recipe, and Leslie Pedlow has this one.

- 4 oz. Cream cheese, package
- 1-¼ Cup Granulated sugar
- 1 Cup Canned Pumpkin
- 1 tsp. Baking Soda
- ¹/₂ tsp. Salt
- ¼ tsp. Cloves

- ¹/₄ Cup Butter or margarine
- 2 Eggs
- 1 ³/₄ Cup All Purpose Flour
- ¼ tsp. Baking Powder
- ¹/₂ tsp. Cinnamon
- ¹/₂ Cup Chopped Walnuts (optional)

Put softened cream cheese, butter and sugar in mixing bowl. Cream together well. Beat in eggs one at a time until blended. Mix in pumpkin.

In another bowl combine all seven remaining ingredients. Stir until thoroughly mixed. Pour all at once over batter. Stir just enough to moisten. Turn into greased 9 x 5 x 3 inch loaf pan. Bake in 350° oven for 60-70 minutes until inserted toothpick comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes in pan. Remove to rack to finish cooling. Yield: one loaf



Stories From St. Stephen's Cemetery

Our Black Pioneers

There are definitely two, possibly three Black pioneers buried in our cemetery; and therein lies the mystery. The most prominent grave, as it bears a large upstanding sandstone monument, is that of Jane McMillan, wife of Jesse McMillan who was from Kentucky and had settled

on fifty acres on Telegraph Road (Island View Road) in 1858, where he grew tobacco from seed which he had carried with him from his home land. The original Shady Creek Church, a community church which welcomed both Methodists and Baptists was situated on McMillan's farm, and in addition to church services there was a Sunday School and many social activities. Jane is buried in plot 65 at St. Stephen's while Jessie is in the Shady Creek Cemetery on East Saanich Road.

Maria Whims is buried in plot 66 to the north of the McMillan plot; she died of consumption on May 21, 1870 at the age of 14. Her short life history will serve to tell the story of the large group of African-Americans who in the early 1850's joined

By David Scarth & Ruth McKay

the stampede to the California gold fields, drawn by dreams of wealth and by hopes of finding a less oppressive racial atmosphere.

Maria's parents, Hiram and Elizabeth (Eliza) were born in Tennessee, children of slaves. An 1850 United States census for Newton County, Missouri shows Hiram



40, Eliza 33 and their four children; John 9, Vina 6, Mary 3 and Hiram Clarke 1, living and working as freed slaves on the holding of a white farmer named John Weems. Another son, William was born in 1852 and shortly after this the Whims family joined a wagon train at St. Louis, Missouri for the long and arduous overland trek to the goldfields in California. This was to be a six-month journey across the great plains and through the

mountains where they were constantly set upon by hostile natives and endured both food and water shortages. The three oldest children; John,Vina and Mary did not survive the journey, buried alongside the trail with countless other settlers. Maria was born in California in 1856 and for the continued on page 9

Stories From St. Stephen's Cemetery continued

Whims family and hundreds of Black settlers the future finally held great promise; but this was not to be.

The oppression of Blacks intensified in California during the 1850's and by the Spring of 1858 many of them, including the Whims family, were ready to emigrate. The British colony of Vancouver Island in Canada was appealing for two reasons; Governor James Douglas, in need of both labourers and settlers, had welcomed the "Pioneer Committee" of thirty-five Blacks which had visited Victoria, with open arms. Of greater significance to the Black community was the discovery of gold on the Fraser River which would lead to the Territory's first gold rush; it is estimated that between 600 and 800 Black pioneers came to Victoria in early 1858, part of the thousands of prospectors seeking their fortune in Canada.

While most of the single members of the Black community headed for the Fraser River, others found jobs in boom town Victoria in order to buy land to farm. As most of these newcomers were deeply religious and attending church was an important part of their lives, many accepted the Rev. Edward Cridge's invitation to join his Anglican church in Victoria. This is likely where the Whims family met Fielding Spotts and his family. Spotts, who was born in Virginia, was working as a cooper in Victoria and had purchased a house lot on Pioneer Street (North Park Street) between Quadra and Blanshard.

In 1858 the whole Peninsula had been surveyed and divided into one hundred acre parcels. In 1860, when the price of "public" land was reduced to \$1 per acre, Fielding Spotts and Hiram Whims appear to have shared a parcel of land on Tanner Ridge just off the East Saanich Road, where they built cabins and farmed. Along with Charles Alexander they were active in community activities, including the construction of the original Shady Creek Church.

The Anglican Diocese archive records show that Maria Whims, age 14, died of consumption on May 21, 1870 and is buried in plot 66 in our cemetery, the only Anglican cemetery on the Peninsula in those days. While there was a suggestion that Eliza Whims, Maria's mother, also died about this time, there was never a designated plot for her...until recently. A pencil drawn cemetery plot plan dating to 1880 was found in the cemetery vault this spring during the move of records to the new Cemetery office. This shows a full burial for Whims in plot 64, to the south of the McMillan plot. More recent cemetery plot plans have designated plot 64 as "Unknown". This can now be changed; rest in peace Eliza.

The Parish in Pictures

Scenes from



Summer Camp

What are we learning about the Bible today?



Goliath: "You Israelites send me a mere boy to fight me!"







Susan and Lucy discover Aslan on the Stone Table before he returns in all his lion glory.

An Adventure rotation obstacle course!

The Parish in Pictures continued

Putting some finishing touches on the craft outside



Who will win? The Centaurs or the Centaurs?



How fast can you leap through this Adventure?





How to make a medieval rock garden

Photos by Len Fallan



Making Aslan faces with the Aslans

Parishioner Profile: Mike and Josie Dyer

by John Smith

od works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform. There is nothing better than the life journey of Mike and Josie Dyer to illustrate the wisdom of this saying.

Mike's childhood was marred by being shuffled between his birth mother Grace and

his Aunt Lillian, both living in dysfunctional relationships. Lillian, with her husband Ben, adopted him, and she became his "Mom". The emotional neglect and mental and, later, physical degradation and abuse he experienced led Mike to develop his defence mechanism of shutting down emotionally. At age nine Mike moved with his Mom from Cordova Bay to Duncan, where he became a Server at St. Peter's Quamichan, ending up as Head Server. Flying

became his passion, and at nineteen he got his pilot's license – "my escape." He moved to Victoria and apprenticed at Butler Bros. Machine Shop where, incidentally, he met Carl Schwazer, now a St. Mary's parishioner.

Josie's childhood was no better, living

in Campbell River in a dysfunctional household. The family sometimes attended Kingdom Hall, so Josie couldn't be a Brownie or Scout, but somehow she did get to go to the United Church Sunday School. She attended Training School to learn hairdressing. By the time she met Mike, Josie was a mother



on welfare with a small child, and part of a single mothers group that was hired to go on dates by a dating service. When Mike's Mom - described by Mike as "at the time a high-heeled snooty social climber" – first met Josie, "she thought I was a tramp!"

Needing a different date for the Butler Bros. Christmas Party than the person he had taken the year before "as people might start talking", Mike went to the dating service. The date was Josie! After the party

Mike told her that if they were to go out together, she couldn't smoke and had to go to church with him. The smoking part was easy so they started going to St. Stephen's together, where Ivan Futter was very welcoming and later became a strong support for them.

Mike had started going to St. Stephen's because it was the Gillan family church, his birth mother and his Mom being Gillan daughters. This pioneer family had a farm where Saanichton School now is, and Mike's grandfather Charles is buried at St. Stephen's. His grandmother is buried at Ross Bay, "so as to be as far away as possible from her husband!"

Mike and Josie got married at St. Stephen's in 1973, Josie bringing son Ted into the marriage, and Mark coming along three years later. Soon after they married, the Dyers bought the Schwazer's house in Sidney across the road from St. Andrew's Church.

In 1978, Mike, out of a job, heard of an opening at the Naval Dockyard, and rushed down to land the job of a machinist involved with all aspects of machinery repairs. He was the only job applicant, so Mike knew "God was looking after me." He became shop steward for a while, and then trained to get the necessary qualification to take sole responsibility for the Compressor House. It was a job he loved – "it was a God-given job for me" - until his retirement 32 years later.

Meanwhile, however, things were not good at home. Mike had no concept of people having feelings that he might need to recognize. Things got to the point where they separated for a while. Josie, always interested in what makes people tick, persuaded Mike to go with her to counselling, and so it was that God performed one of His mysterious wonders. Mike and Josie discovered their release through an extensive hypnotherapy program, supported by prayer. Mike learned how to package his pain in a hot air balloon and set it free, while Josie buried hers in a cement block.

So Mike gave up flying – apart from it becoming more expensive and regulated, he didn't need it any more. Flying got replaced by woodworking, and St. Stephen's has benefited from his woodworking skills. And Josie turned to making greeting cards with imaginative and heart-warming messages – (Mike calls her the resident cardiologist!). The wonderful results of their prayerful perseverance were demonstrable. One day Ted asked his mom, "How long have you had the new husband?" Josie said he had been around for a while, and Ted said, "Keep him – he's better than the old one."

Mike as a commissioned lay reader would arrive at St. Stephen's at 8:30 for the 11 am service in order to prepare and to enjoy the peaceful views of the valley. Mike has only recently – after 36 years -stepped down as lay reader, and his conscientious attention to the position is appreciated by everyone. Mike remains very active in the pastoral care ministry of the parish and Josie has established her special place in the parish community with her wonderful cards, her knitting and her baking.

Parishioner Profile *continued*

It's always a challenge to bring one's Christian faith into the workplace. Mike was able to do this by joining a prayer group at the Dockyard, and Josie has had many opportunities to do so as the hairdresser for residents at Resthaven Lodge.

In later years, Mike and Josie took Mike's Mom into their home to care for her, and they became very good friends. "She made the comment that since being at our house she had never laughed so much." About five years ago the Dyers and Mom moved to their lovely home on Tanner Ridge. Josie continued to look after Mom until she moved into a residential care facility shortly before she died earlier this year. Mike and Josie recognize that they will always be in transition – there will always be more to be done. Not long ago, Mike and Josie went to a retreat with an organization which had prophecy as part of its tradition. Mike and Josie were in a group session where the prophecy conclusion was that they exuded happiness. They thought "there must be something wrong – this isn't us." So they joined another group, and the result was the same. So we have in our midst these lovely people, Mike and Josie, a couple surprised by happiness.



The Boys in the Boat

Author: Daniel James Brown

I f you haven't yet read The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown, I strongly advise you to do so. It is an account of events set in the era of the Great Depression. The emotional heart of the story is a young man named Joe Rantz. Joe was abandoned by his family at the age of fifteen, and was

forced to work in logging and mining camps, and did other manual jobs. In doing so he built up strong muscles. He made just enough money to pay for his first year at the University of Washington. So winning a seat in the freshman eight shell in the University's rowing program, with its associated scholarship, was his only hope of remaining in college.

Joe and the other poor

boys in the boat worked long hours with many ups and downs. Eventually they, the underdogs from the West, were defeating the "preppie" boys from the Ivy League schools in the East, who had dominated the sport for years.

As well as an inspiring coach, Al Ulbrickson, the boys also had as a mentor the eccentric British boat builder, George Popock, who was a world class master boat craftsman. Brown tells of Popock's search for just the right type of cedar for the boats he built, eventually finding what he wanted at Lake Cowichan on Vancouver Island.

The team won the berth to represent America in the 1936 Olympics, and set out for Germany to compete. Hitler was

coming into full power by then and Brown examines not just the racing, but also the political environment of the time. Everywhere there were armed soldiers and saluting Das Fuhrer. The competition was fierce but in a very close race the Americans prevailed. The winning boat still hangs in the boathouse at the University of Washington.

This exciting and enthralling story grips you from start to finish. Maybe one reason why I enjoyed this book so much is because I have a granddaughter who is an Olympic rower attending the University of Washington on a rowing scholarship. She is now training full time for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in lightweight doubles.



A chronicle of some of the recent arrivals, departures and other events at St. Mary's and St. Stephen's

From the Parish

Many parishioners have enjoyed our wonderful summer here in Central Saanich, but a few decided to vacation in other parts of Canada, including the **Fallans**, who spent time at an Icelandic family reunion in Gimli, Manitoba. In case you didn't know, the word Gimli is Icelandic for Heaven. How lovely is that? **Rob Szo** and family stayed close by when he took his holidays in August, except for a trip south of the border to Seattle to take in some baseball. And in mid August **Derek** and **Betty Osman** were off on an Alaskan cruise and **Sue** and **John Smith** toured the Washington/Oregon coast in their camper van.

Members of the Parish enjoyed the weekly bike ride in July and August, along the Flight Path by the Victoria International Airport. Meeting at Holy Trinity Church, the cyclists would spend up to 45 minutes completing the 9.3 km route, enjoying the traffic free path as well as the fellowship of friends. Thank you **Heather Geddes** and **Gil Shoesmith** for initiating this. A special Evensong was held at Christ Church Cathedral, August 3rd, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of WW1. The Parish of Central Saanich was represented by **Nancy Choat**, **Jessie Kelly** and also **John** and **Sue Smith**, who sang in the St. Christopher's choir.

Thanks to **Jessie Kelly**, who instigated the updating of the First Aid Kits for both churches. The required supplies for each kit are not only in containers that are easily carried, but there are also spare supplies for these kits as well as CPR masks readily available when needed. Thanks Jessie! The Operations Committee of each church is responsible for keeping these kits up to date.



From St. Stephen's

Richard West has been in England where he celebrated his 70th Birthday with family and friends. He continued his travels to Iceland and Normandy, completing his celebration with a visit to New York to see his daughter, before returning home.

Doris Milburn passed away on June 19th. A Memorial Service was held for Doris on July 12th. As witnessed by the large number of people who attended, Doris was a long time and well known and loved member of the St. Stephen's congregation.

Two new parishioners; **Helen Currie** and **K.C. Bernz** have joined St. Stephen's congregation. Welcome to you both!

The major kitchen renovations continue with few glitches, so hopefully Soup's On! will be starting up the first Friday in September.

From St. Mary's

Susan and **Roy Pullan** will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on a trip to England in September, visiting friends and family. Congratulations Susan and Roy!

Canon Lorry and **Erica Harrison** will be enjoying a relaxing stay at the Kingfisher Resort and Spa in Courtney, the first part of September. This is a gift from St. Mary's congregation in celebration of Lorry's 90th birthday. When he told me the dates, Lorry wanted to be sure to extend thanks to everyone again for such a wonderful gift. St. Mary's Guild has a new President: Audrey Quackenbush, a long standing member of St. Mary's, who will replace the retiring president, Marjorie Denroche. Congratulations Audrey and here's to a well deserved "retirement", Marjorie, although we understand you will continue to be an active member of the Guild.

Mel McIlveen, who with his wife **Dorothy** were St. Mary's parishioners, has lived at the Victorian for the last few years. He passed away on July 30th and a Memorial Service was held at St. Mary's on August 8th at 10 am followed by a reception in the Hall.

Ruth Elders, who attended St. Mary's with her daughter Elizabeth Baxter, passed away on July 27th.

Amy Douglas, who attended St. Mary's and sang with the Choir until her move to Sidney Personal Care, died in July and a memorial tea was held in her honour at the Country Park Estates Club House on July 19th. Gil Shoesmith attended on behalf of the Parish.

Cathy Novak and St. Mary's choir member **John McAllister** will be joined in Holy Matrimony at St. Mary's on September 13th. We wish them all the best for a long and happy future together! St. Mary's can take some credit for this romance as John met Cathy at a Square Dance Club which he joined after seeing what a good time they had when performing at the Parish's 2012 Harvest Dinner! While the St. Stephen's kitchen undergoes major renovations, St. Mary's (in addition to snazzy washroom upgrades – thanks to Derek Osman!) also got its kitchen cabinet doors refurbished a couple of months ago. The story that goes with this is that when Len Fallan went to pick up the doors from Pacific Cabinets, he asked what the final bill was, and was told it would be negotiated. As the doors were being loaded into his truck, he asked again and was told, "Say a prayer for us". So that was the cost! Many thanks to **David Whitbread** and the kind people at **Pacific Cabinets**.

From the Editors' Desk

hings are hopping around here! We had a great summer camp – thanks to all who contributed their time and talents – (see The Parish in Pictures).

And now the Parish is launching a program which is an essential prerequisite to building on our strengths. In Rob's message you will read three questions. You will be asked those questions over the next few weeks, and you will be encouraged to think and pray about them and to respond to them. It all goes back to Archbishop Hambidge's message to us about stewardship being all about what our collective vision is for our church community. Once we discern that, we can then go to work to make it happen. Expect to be involved!

Thanks to all the contributors who put up with the early date for this issue, and met the deadlines, and thanks again to the ever polite-under-pressure John Beresford.

Sandra Scarth and John Smith, Co-Editors

St. Mary's Holly Fair - 2014 Saturday, November 29, 2014 from 9:30 - 2:00



The Holly Fair is an important fundraising event for St. Mary's and provides a venue for fellowship and a way to get to know each other better. We have started the countdown to this years's event and want earnestly to encourage you to become involved.

Starting in September, a special insert will be included in the St. Mary's bulletin to highlight particular stalls and offer information about how you might help in the preparations and sale. Such assistance will be most heartily appreciated.

The following list may help you in determining an area which particularly interests you and guide you in creating or setting aside items to sell.

Home Baking	Loaves, Christmas cakes, bread, buns, pies, tarts, scones, shortbread, Christmas cookies.		
Gourmet Pantry	Jams, jellies, chutneys, (Note: preserves must be in proper sealing jars); Christmas puddings; candy, brittles, fudge; soup mixes; nuts.		
Books	Fiction and non-fiction in hard and soft covers; children's books; gardening; cookbooks; CDs, DVDs.		
Garden Shop	Fresh produce, holly, flowers, small houseplants in good condition, flower arrangements, herbs and dried flowers, gardening paraphernalia.		
Handcrafts	Sewing, knitting, crocheted items (scarves, hats, sweaters, placemats, napkins), cutting boards and other woodcrafts, etc.		
Jewelry	Used jewelry in good condition; costume jewelry.		
White Elephant/ Attic Treasures	Crystal, silver, china, ornaments, candleholders, Christmas-themed decorations, ornaments and linens, other valuable "junk" (all in good used condition).		
Mystery Bottles	Items in bottles (wine, champagne, specialty oils and vinegars, fruit juices, bath products, etc. with a minimum value of \$4.00).		
Silent Auction	Goods and services donated by members of the parish and local businesses. New items only please.		
	For more information contact: Sue Smith (250-652-5392 or sueandjohn@shaw.ca) Anne Wing (778-426-3773 or catherine.wing@shaw.ca)		

Anglican Parish of Central Saanich Directory

Rector: The Reverend Robert Szo 778-679-8074 robszo@shaw.ca

Parish Council: Ex Officio		Szo robszo@shaw.ca ihoesmith gshoesmith@telus.net
Rector's Wardens:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	Lynn Fallan, lynn_fallan@hotmail.com Don Wilson, dwwilson@shaw.ca
People's Wardens:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	Derek Osman, derek.osman@shaw.ca Sandra Scarth, sandrascarth@shaw.ca
Treasurers:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	David Cooper, drecooper@shaw.ca Jen Buscall, jenbuscall@shaw.ca
Members:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	John Beresford, Nancy Choat, John Smith Margery Lord, Lynda Clifford, Bryan Waller
Synod Delegates:	St. Mary's St. Stephen's	David Cooper (Nancy Choat, alternate) Sandra Scarth, Don Wilson (Margery Lord, alternate)

Leslie Pedlow is at the St. Mary's office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 12:30

Tracy Stubbs is at the St. Stephen's office on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 1:00