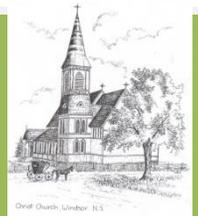


# Christ Church Chronicles

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## Rector's Ramblings

**A**t last, the winter is past. "Rise up, my love, my fair one and come away!" There is something quite wonderful about spring in the Valley, especially after what has seemed to be a long and difficult winter! Suddenly the blossoms are out!

The pear tree in the little "beggars' garden" has never been so full of blooms! Such things are God's big, little reminder to us of his goodness and mercy in the natural order. Perhaps we need to think about that in the midst of our fears and worries about the economy and the environment.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, has wisely observed that it is not so much greed as pride that is at issue in the economic turmoils of our present day, a pride that has to do with human arrogance and presumption about the finite world of the more and the less, a world of scarcity. We don't always want to be reminded of such things.

On the matter of the environment, he wisely recalls the biblical and spiritual wisdom that teaches us that it is God's world and not simply

ours to do with it what we will. These are salutary and important lessons that offer a way to think about things.



In truth, these things are part of the lessons of the Resurrection and the Ascension of Christ, without which we will not comprehend the mystery of Pentecost. The Resurrection of Christ offers hope and joy to a world weary and sad; it proclaims that the world and the body are not nothing but participate in the redemption of the world and our humanity. The Ascension of Christ brings that to its finest expression: the Son, returning to the Father, having accomplished his will, establishes a place for us with God. What more could one possibly seek, really?

Pentecost is the Church's birthday. No feast serves to recall us to ourselves and to our sense of mission more than Pentecost, fifty days after

Easter. It marks the coming down of the Holy Ghost upon the disciples gathered in the Upper Room; empowered, they set forth to proclaim the great good news of Christ's redemption of the world. His resurrection completely changes everything. Our struggle is to learn to live in the joy of Christ's redemption of the world.

Ascension and Pentecost signal the comings and goings of God with our humanity; Christ ascends, and the Holy Spirit descends. In these spiritual motions we discover the meaning of our lives. Our lives and our world find their end and purpose with God. The Holy Spirit ushers us into the fellowship of God-with-God-in-God: the fellowship of the Trinity. This is at the heart of our Christian life and worship. The repeated mantra of the Trinity season sums it all up:

*"God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God, and God in him."*





Palm Sunday marked our return to the Church after our winter sojourn in the Parish Hall. It was a very special day. Bishop Sue Moxley was with us for a special Palm Sunday liturgy that involved the Confirmation Class and various other members of the Congregation. The service began with the Blessing of the Palms in the Hall with the Bishop, followed by a procession to the Church for the Litany, which was interspersed with Lenten readings and meditations. The service wonderfully marked the culmination of the Lenten teaching programme of the Confirmation Class; namely, the memorization of a series of Lenten Scripture texts which framed the special Palm Sunday service.

On Easter Sunday, our eleven confirmands were received as communicants. They are: Kate & Claire Jurgens, Skye MacLeod, Kate & Lucy Burgess, Sabrina & Anthony Corradini, Liam & Patrick Kelley, and Brittany & Megan Balding. Confirmation will follow at a later date, pending the determination of the Episcopal itinerary.

**Ninety years young!** On May 11<sup>th</sup>, Bert Galley celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. A faithful parishioner, Bert has been the bell-ringer and sidesman at the 8:00am service since time immemorial. A veteran of the Second World War, Bert saw service in Italy.

He told me a story about huddling in fear with his commanding officer in the basement of a building while under heavy artillery fire, observing that this was the second time that he had ever been so nervous. His officer asked him, what do you mean? When was the first time? To which Bert replied, the day of my marriage! He was married at Christ Church. Congratulations, Bert, and soldier on!

### Lobsters and pigs!

*"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things: Of shoes - and  
- ships - and sealing-wax - Of cabbages  
- and kings - And why the sea is boiling  
hot / And whether pigs have wings."  
(Lewis Carroll)*

Whether pigs have wings or not, swine "flu"! And that put King's-Edgehill School and Windsor in the eye of the storm and at the centre of a lot of media attention. While no one was very sick, the concerns about contagion and illness are very real. Precautionary matters are the order of the day. Hand-washing is of particular importance. The whole swine flu worry has prompted reflection about communion.

Anglicans are "utraquists," meaning that communion is offered in both kinds, the consecrated bread and wine. People are free to receive in one kind if they wish, of course. The practice of intinction, dipping the host in the chalice yourself, is not encouraged (hands, again!).

As to "why the sea is boiling hot," well, that's to

cook lobsters!



The Fourth Annual Lobster Supper on the Mother's Day weekend, May 9<sup>th</sup>, was a great success!

The Newfoundland & Country Evenings held in the Fall and the early Spring continue to be enjoyable and toe-tapping occasions, much appreciated by performers and audience alike. This Spring's event on April 18<sup>th</sup> was well received.

Christ Church has acquired municipal heritage status. We are awaiting word on Provincial Heritage Status. Such things are an important part of the profile of the Parish and call attention to the significance of the building for the community of Windsor and for the Diocese.

The Christ Church Foundation Capital Campaign is underway. Commitment and encouragement from everyone in the Parish is part of the strategy for seeking other forms of support beyond the Parish. The Foundation exists for the well-being and future of the buildings and operation of the Parish.

We are now online, thanks to the labours of Scott & Judy Gilbreath. The site contains a wealth of material, including photos. We hope that our website will provide a means of communicating and staying in touch with parishioners and friends of the Parish. Find us at [www.christchurchwindsor.ca](http://www.christchurchwindsor.ca).



Fr. David Curry