



**ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH
IN MILFORD, ONTARIO:
1920-2020**



CONTENTS

HISTORY.....	1
Anglican Church in South Marysburgh.....	1
The first St. Philip’s church.....	1
St. Philip’s renewal.....	2
PEOPLE.....	5
Philip Clapp and family: donor of land.....	5
Dr. J. Howard Walmsley*, a WW 1 hero.....	6
Morden Walker: a hero of WW 2.....	8
Natalie McPherson.....	9
Debra McCaw*.....	10
Long-time StP members.....	12
In Memory Of.....	14
SERVICE.....	18
Influential Clergy.....	18
The Very Reverend Edward (Ed) Downey (1983-1993).....	18
Padre Allan (Al) Fralick (1984).....	19
The Reverend Canon Dr. M. Thora Rowe (1988-1995).....	19
Reverend Dr. Patrick (Pat) Patterson (1996-2005).....	20
The Venerable Dr. Robert (Bob) Hales (2007-2009, periodically to 2016)..	20
Reverend Dorothy Lancaster (2001-2016).....	21

The congregation..... 22
FURTHER INFORMATION..... 24

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HISTORY

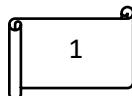
Anglican Church in South Marysburgh

Christianity and Anglican faith have a long and rich tradition in our area. The seeds were planted by the numerous explorers who travelled across, or temporarily resided, in the County starting in the 1600s - Champlain, LaSalle, Frontenac, and others. The first settlers - United Empire Loyalists - crossed Lake Ontario in 1784; they included British and German troops disbanded after the American War of Independence. In the late 1700s, Anglican clergymen served the area encompassing the present Parish of Marysburgh. These included Catechist Jacob Harvey (of Prayer Society in England), and around 1820 Bishop Jacob Mountain who visited *'every church in his Diocese'* (of Quebec to which Marysburgh then belonged). Partly because of its geographic location, Marysburgh was thus part of the vanguard of the Church of England and Ireland, now called the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Parish of Marysburgh was officially established in 1850 by Bishop J. Strachan of the Diocese of Toronto, and the first local priest (Rev J. Tooke) arrived in 1851. Since then, St. Philip's church in Milford and St. John's church in Waupoos have served as spiritual homes to several generations of mostly farmers, agriculture historically being the dominant industry and the way of life in the County.

The first St. Philip's church

St. Philip's church was originally built in 1830, as inscribed on the existing cornerstone. In the early 1800s a proper land registration system did not exist in Prince Edward County. It was common to erect public buildings once the land owner agreed, with the paperwork to follow. It is thus not surprising that the land transfer was legally completed only in 1849: it is a recorded fact that on June 16th



1849, Philip Clapp of Milford deeded to the Bishop of Toronto one-half acre, part of lot 25 first concession south of Black River for the purpose of building a church and for a burial ground. A Catechist named Jacob Harvey was appointed to the Parish of Marysburgh prior to 1850.

The original church was likely close to the Mill Pond (on lot 25) because the land



was more suitable for grave sites; a proper grave could not realistically be dug in the shallow soil around the present church location. The existing graveyard close to the Mill Pond also supports this conclusion: the last burial there (of a St. Philip's congregant) took place in 1905. In addition, remains of an old building foundation

close to that graveyard are still discernible. It is thus probable that the original, old frame church was subsequently moved to its present site. By 1920, the church became *"beautiful white frame building with lovely stained glass windows"*. Cowan (2005) provides more detailed information about the beginnings of the Parish and the St. Philip's church.

St. Philip's renewal

On Monday September 8th, 1920, lightning hit the church. Picton Gazette reported that *"the fire started in the belfry immediately after being struck with lightning. Owing to lack of water and fire fighting appliances it spread to the main building which was soon in flames. The memorial tablets, altar and ornaments were saved, but everything in the vestry was lost, including the register, altar linen, vessels, font, etc. ... The burning of St. Philip's Anglican Church means the loss of one of the old landmarks of the village."* The late Cecil Lobb of South Bay, a young lad at that time, watched as the firefighters heaved pews out through the stained glass windows. The memorial tablets, altar and ornaments (as well as

the bible, alms basin and collection plates) were saved but all else burned, including the historical records.

The Rector in 1920, Rev L.H. Webster, immediately set about building the new church. The corner stone was laid on Nov. 14, 1920 by the Right Rev E.G. Bidwell, Bishop of Ontario. The foundation corner stone is made of Italian granite. Welsh and Shaw Bros. were the builders. On Sunday, June 26th, 1921, the new church was dedicated *“to the honor and glory of God and in memory of St. Philip”*, with Bishop Bidwell officiating. Some of the lovely memorial windows, and other gifts to the church were dedicated on this occasion. The completed church was consecrated on October 29, 1925 after the loan was repaid (the loan papers were ceremoniously burned when Rev Webster was leaving the Parish).

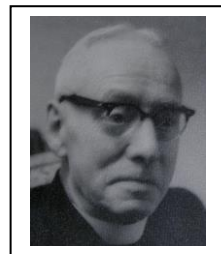


In 1940, the interior of the church was renovated for the first time, becoming *“a most attractive place of worship and a memorial to members of the congregation”*. The new work was dedicated by Bishop Rt Rev John Lyons; Rev. A.J. Anderson was Rector at that time.



Another renovation of the church (nave, sanctuary, vestry) was carried out in 1990. The walls were covered with drywall sheets and painted in light blue color, and the floor was covered with a red carpet.

The Hall and a small kitchen were added in 1954. The Hall resulted from a campaign inspired by Rev. E. Wrightson and carried out by a Building Committee that was headed by Donald Walker and included church wardens Keith Walker and William Armstrong. The Hall was financed by members and friends of the Parish of Marysburgh. It was dedicated by Rt Rev. Kenneth Evans, Bishop of the Diocese of Ontario. - The Hall was



renovated in 2008 (insulation of walls, drywall on walls and ceiling, wainscoting added) by Murray Guy and Josef Cihlar with the support of Kevin Cole, and rededicated by Rev. Dr. Bob Hales in March of 2008.

The original small kitchen was significantly expanded in 1986 when the adjacent hallway and closet space were also added. In 2011 the kitchen was renovated through repair of the lower part of the western wall, replacement of the plumbing as well as of the entire floor and one window, addition of fans, repair of walls, new lighting, installation of a central island and a dishwasher, etc.. In 2011, the bathroom was also expanded and made accessible to handicapped users. Murray Guy, Leigh Scott, Bruce Walker and Josef Cihlar did the work, and Joel Walker with his employees upgraded the electrical system.

A Memorial Garden was established in 2002 and the grounds surrounding the church were landscaped and improved, including the paving of the parking area.



The latest addition to the church building is an office for the priest, completed in 2013. Attached to the church building between the vestry and the Hall, it provides space to prepare services, plan events, and facilitate private conversations. It is supported by electronic equipment and links to the Internet. The office was completed by a small team (Murray Guy, Bruce Walker, Josef Cihlar) led by Joe Surman, a local contractor; Joel Walker again looked after the wiring. The work in both 2008 and 2013 was financed by donations of St. Philip's members.

PEOPLE

Over time, the historically large population in and around the Milford village experienced significant changes – decreasing due to the Depression in the 1930s; increasing during World War II; and decreasing again as farm mechanization resulted in fewer employment opportunities. In recent decades population changes have reflected an increase in tourists and people desiring to live in rural settings. Similarly to other churches, St. Philip’s congregation responded to these trends. Following the decline of the agricultural economy and its employment base, the church membership changed to include local business people, and in recent years increasingly retirees and visitors. Over the last few decades, it welcomed members from a variety of backgrounds - farming, homemaking, engineering, the arts, the military, science, health care, business and others. The 100th anniversary is an opportunity to look back at the lives of some noteworthy church members.

Philip Clapp and family: donor of land

The Clapp name can be traced to ‘Clapa’ in Denmark, however the 1st Clapp name can be found in Dorchester, New England. In 1630, five Clapp brothers with families arrived from England on the ship Mary and John and became the first Dorchester settlers. As staunch Puritans they felt oppressed in England and came to America to live in peace with religious freedom.

Joseph Clapp was born in Dutchess County, New York in 1762. A sailor in his early life, he came to Canada in about 1790 after his father died. He and his brother-in-law Sampson Striker travelled by sleigh across Lake Champlain, crossed the St. Lawrence River near Montreal, and then continued to Adolphustown: a 28-day journey from their home in Dutchess County. In March 1798, Joseph married Nancy Miller (originally from New York State). They took up a wilderness farm at Hay Bay where they had 7 children including Philip (born later in Milford).

In 1808 Joseph Clapp and family moved to Marysburgh where he purchased several wilderness farms as well as mill privileges. He prospered until 1812 when he joined the British army following the U.S. declaration of war against Britain. He died in February of 1813.

Following Joseph's death his son Philip took charge of the affairs and, owning about 1000 acres in the Milford/Athol area, became a very successful farmer and businessman until September 1832 when he was killed by lightning. He is the person who donated land for building St. Philip's church (see above). Philip also gave the land for the Anglican Rectory (now beside the Milford fairgrounds) as well as the land for the nearby Mt. Tabor Methodist church. His son Philip Jr. was born in 1830; it is thus not surprising that our church is named after St. Philip.

Many descendants of the original Clapp family that settled in Hay Bay live in our area. At present, David and Arthur Clapp are directly descended, and Dr. Robert Clapp of Picton can also be traced to that early Loyalist family.

Dr. J. Howard Walmsley*, a WW 1 hero

The part of Athol where the Walmsleys resided was settled by the Irish in the early 1800s. Howard's great grandfather James Walmsley came over from Belfast, Ireland in 1815.

Howard was the son of the James Walmsley and his wife, Florence Davis. Having been born in October 1890, his mother passed away two years later and left Howard to be raised by his father and his paternal grandparents.

Following the completion of medical studies, Howard joined the Canadian Army medical corps in WW1, served as surgeon in France, was seriously wounded in aerial bombing in Poperinghe (Belgium), hospitalized in England,



and then joined the Canadian Artillery in Surrey, England. Dr. Walmsley returned to Prince Edward County in 1920 to practice medicine. As a doctor he was beloved by his patients, family, friends and neighbours. The stories are still told of this great man and his service to this community.

While living in Athol Township Dr. Walmsley and his family were members of St. Philip's Church. He and his wife Marian Creeggan had four children, including the current St. Philip's parishioner Elizabeth Robb. Elizabeth's grandfather, Rev. A. H. Creeggan was the Rector of The Parish Of Marysburgh during 1894 – 1900. Her uncle, Jack Creeggan, was the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Ontario. Elizabeth's aunt, Isabel Creeggan was Choir director at St. Philip's for many years. Isabel married The Very Reverend Ed Downey, formerly Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa and in the period 1983-1993 an Assistant Priest at St. Philip's.

A medical event illustrates Dr. Walmsley's dedication and care for patients and neighbours. The Bellwoods, Tom and Mary, farmed on the East end of the Waupoos Island. In the 1920s and 1930s, the island was a remote, poorly accessible place and in the winter the road led over the ice. When Mary Bellwood became sick, Dr. Walmsley was sent for; making house calls was a way of life for physicians at the time. He travelled over the ice driving a horse and cutter, and stayed with the Bellwoods for two weeks to take care of Mrs. Bellwood; her sons George and Howard recall this event as a very scary time in their life. When Mary's health deteriorated further, Dr. Walmsley decided that she had to be taken to the hospital in Picton (then located on Hill Street). With no other options being available, he packed her up in his cutter and set off across the ice to the mainland. It was early spring and the ice was becoming soft. As they neared the shore, the horse, cutter, and both passengers fell through the ice and under water. Dr. Walmsley could stand on the bottom and was able to carry Mary Bellwood in his arms to the shore. She stayed in the hospital for 11 months, but successfully recovered and lived a long life. Thomas and Mary Bellwood were

loyal members of St. John's church and are buried in the church cemetery in Waupoos.

Dr. Howard Walmsley died on December 27th, 1969.

** Much of the information in this article came from the book A Prince Edward County Yarns as told by Dr. J. Howard Walmsley and edited by David R. Taylor. Elizabeth Robb reviewed the text and provided additional information.*

Morden Walker: a hero of WW 2

Morden Walker was born on a farm on Scott's Mill Road in South Marysburgh. It was a family property for several generations: his grandparents on both sides Herbert Lucien and Minnie (Clark) Walker, William and Bertha Maude (Hill) McKinley, as well as his parents James Cecil and Victoria May (McKinley) Walker.

Morden spent most of his life on the farm, but when WW 2 broke out he was keen to participate. Following an initial negative response ("*Go home where you are needed on the farm*"), in 1942 he was accepted for basic training in Cornwall and for further training in Petawawa. He continued training in Farnborough, England where he specialized in operating heavy equipment, bridge building and explosives. Following these preparations, Morden was assigned to the First Field Park Co., Royal Canadian Engineers to await the invasion of north-west Europe. They landed on Normandy beach 10 days after D-Day and battled their way through France and Belgium into Oldensberg, Germany. In October 1944 he received a citation from Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery for 72 hours under fire while operating a bulldozer to stabilize river embankments on the Leopold Canal in Belgium.

Morden returned to Canada in November, 1945 and was honourably discharged in January 1946. His medals include The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (1943), Defence Medal (1945), 1939-1945 Star British and Commonwealth Forces

(1946), and The France and Germany Star (1946). In July of 1947, he married the love of his life, Helen Seely of Cherry Valley (also in the picture at right).



Morden was the first baby to be baptised in the new St. Philip's church building in Milford, one that his Grandfather helped to build in 1920. A life-long member of St. Philip's, he also served on the Church Vestry as chairman of the Property Management Committee in the 1940s. The stained glass window on the East wall behind the choir pews is dedicated to the memory of his grandfather Herbert and his father Cecil (see below); it was maintained by Morden and continues to be cared for by the congregants of St. Philip's.

Morden Walker died on December 23, 2003.

Natalie McPherson



The late Natalie McPherson was a long-time, dedicated member of St. Philip's Anglican Church. She and her husband Sandy 'discovered' the County on one of their boating trips and later chose to settle here. Natalie was active in church affairs as well as in the wider community. She was also an avid spinner and weaver, making beautiful fabrics and articles of clothing. As a very active ACW member she contributed many of her handcrafted items to St. Philip's Christmas Bazaar.

Natalie had some famous relatives important to Canadian history. Susanna Moodie and her sister Catherine Parr Trail were Natalie's 3rd-great-aunts. Susanna wrote "*Roughing it in the bush: or, Forest Life in Canada* " and "*Life in*

the Clearings Versus the Bush” among others, and her sister Catherine wrote *“The Backwoods of Canada ”* and *“Canadian Crusoes: A tale of the Rice Lake Plains ”*. Two other sisters, Agnes and Eliza Strickland co-wrote *“Lives Of the Queens of England”* and *“Lives of the Queens of Scotland”* in the mid-1800s. Suzanna’s other sister Jane wrote *“Life of Agnes Strickland”*. Not to be left out, a brother Major Samuel Strickland, Natalie’s 3rd-great-grandfather born in 1804, wrote *“Twenty-seven years in Canada West: or, The Experience of an early Settler ”*, a book popular to this day.

What makes those writings special is that Susanna and Catherine wrote their books while living in a log cabin in the backwoods of Douro Township (at Lakefield) near to what is now Peterborough. They made good friends with the local Indians whom they came to love and respect. A very touching story is told of their Indian friends, men and women, standing on the shore bidding them farewell with tears running down their cheeks. With her family Suzanna later lived in Belleville and also visited Picton, with a ‘most pleasurable’ trip to the Lake on the Mountain.

Natalie died in 2006.

Debra McCaw*

I met Debra McCaw my first day at Queen’s University in September of 1970. She was my roommate. I can honestly say she changed my life the year we met as she introduced me to Bruce and she took me to St. Philip’s for the first time!

Deb was loyal, generous, hard working and fun loving. She was determined and she could be difficult but she loved her church, her family and her friends and you knew it. If anyone in the community was in need and Deb heard about it she would find a way to help. Whatever Deb did she gave it her all.

St. Philip's was Debra's family church and she was baptized and confirmed here. Her paternal grandmother, Leila McCaw, was a Sunday regular and Deb shared her love for the little church. Over the years Leila and Deb's mother Dorothy both played the church organ. For a time her father Jim was the lay reader. When Deb and Barry married they settled in the county and Deb came back to St. Philip's. She had been away to get a Bachelor of Science at Queen's where she studied math and computer science at a time when a computer filled a whole room. She was always carrying around cards filled with holes that somehow made sense to her. She went to Vancouver to get a Masters degree and worked in Winnipeg and then Waterloo, but her heart remained in the County. She and Barry married in 1979 and soon built a home in Athol. She immediately came back to St. Philip's. When our daughter was born she took over my class in the Sunday School. She became a warden and was the central treasurer. After her father, Jim died in 1999, Deb took on his work as treasurer of St. Philip's and had planned to help me take on that position.



When Deb and Barry's two sons came along the other children were older and out of Sunday School. Debra found two new families and kept the Sunday School going. Over the years she hosted many Sunday school picnics at her pool and she led the children in making crafts for the Christmas tea and bazaar. Deb helped to establish and run the parish softball team for the five years it existed. She played on the team, even though all the other players were much younger. Whenever something was happening at St. Philip's Deb was ready to give a hand. She was there to help when Rev. Pat Patterson, Marg Ceh, Jean Burrows and I get the outreach committee active again. She was there with her boys and Barry for the canoe trips and wagon rides right from the start.

Sadly Debra and her son young Devin died in a tragic car accident only minutes from our home on County Road 10 on Thursday, December 2, 1999.

The following is from the memorial service bulletin for Debra and Devin: *“Debra will be remembered always as one who loved deeply, spoke honestly, and served faithfully. Barry, Ian and Devin were the joys of her life. Her devotion to family, work and community was an example to us all. May we all strive to be as compassionate, selfless and giving.”*

God keep your true and faithful servant, my friend and her beautiful son, forever safe in your love. Amen

* As remembered by Paula Walker

Long-time StP members

Traditionally, most of St. Philip’s congregants spent their whole life in this area - were born, baptized, confirmed, had families, participated in church events, and passed away under the ‘umbrella’ and with mutual support provided through the church community. Some of them are still alive, albeit in advanced age. The long association with the church and contributions to the church life of such people are evident from two photographs below (Cihlar, 2013). The first shows a youthful group at their confirmation; the second is an award ceremony by Anglican Church Women in recognition of lifetime service. From the names shown in each case it is evident that 1944 was a year when St. Philip’s gained life-long supporters and contributors. In addition to the three ACW women on both photographs (Shirley McCaw, Phyllis Walker, Mary Perry), two others (Jesse Moore, James McCaw) were life-long members serving the church in various capacities; and Vernon McCaw, while he spent his life away from the County, remembered the important influence of the church on his life by a substantial donation to St. Philip’s in his will.



1944(spring): Confirmation. J. Cantrell, Vernon Douglas McCaw?, Jesse Moore (nee Armstrong), Mary Perry (nee Armstrong), Carmen Leverne Brown, Phyllis Walker, William Merlin McKinley, Shirley May McCaw, James McC. Bishop John Lyons.



2007(Apr22): ACW awards event. Shirley McCaw, Dorothy Dunn, Shirley Guy, Janet Weller, Phyllis Walker, Mary Perry.

In Memory Of

St. Philip's treasures numerous donations of items large and small that were given over the years by church members or their relatives. As in other churches, various motivations are involved: honour God, enhance the worship events, make the church more beautiful, remember loved relatives or friends, honor the contributions of previous members of the congregation. With few omissions that could not be documented, the list with the stated dedications includes:

- ❖ Church Bell: A.M.D.G. (*Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*, To the greater glory of God): The bell was presented by The Young People of St. Philip's Church Easter 1922.
- ❖ Sanctuary Window: *Erected by William and Ida Anderson to the Glory of GOD and in memory of their two daughters, Flossie Head who died Feb 15th, and Mabel Hicks who died Nov. 20th 1920.*
- ❖ Rear Window: *A.D.G.M. in memoriam D.D.McKibbon and Family.*
- ❖ Side Window: *A.D.G.M. et in memoriam Edward Cook and Family.*
- ❖ Side Window: *To the Glory of GOD and in loving memory of Charles A. McDonnell 1830-1915, Hannah S. Bongard his wife 1835-1927, S. Evva Burlingham daughter 1855-1927. Erected by Lt. Col. Alexander McDonnell, 1860-.*
- ❖ Side Window: *A.D.G.M. et in memoriam Herbert L. Walker 1865-1926. Presented by his widow M. Agnes Walker and his son Cecil.*
- ❖ Side Window: *To the Glory of GOD and in loving memory of Clayton and Leila McCaw. John 20: 14-17. Dedicated Easter 1989.*
- ❖ Side Window: *Philip Baptized the Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8: 38. To the Glory of GOD in loving memory of Keith, Donald and Clifford Walker. Dedicated June 2001.*
- ❖ Altar Cross and Vases: *This altar cross and vases are dedicated to the Glory of GOD and in loving memory of Albert McCaw who died Aug. 25, 1918.*

- ❖ Altar Desk, Credence Bracket and Alms Basin: *This altar desk, credence blanket and alms basin are dedicated to the Glory of GOD and in memory of James and Catherine Walker.*
- ❖ The Bible: *Presented to St. Philip's Church, Milford, Ontario by Janus and Lianne to commemorate 40th wedding anniversary of their parents Josef and Rosemary Cihlar May 15th, 1971.*
- ❖ Prayer Desk: *To the Glory of GOD and in memory of Mary and Andrew James and William Reid.*
- ❖ Credence Table - Lectern - Pulpit: *Given to the Glory of GOD and in loving memory of Milton Walker by his family 1960.*
- ❖ Brass Plaque: *To the Glory of GOD and in loving memory of William M. Rolfe Seaborne incumbent of Marysburgh 1903-1912.*
- ❖ Brass Plaque: *To the Glory of GOD in loving memory of Private Benjamin Minter Seaborne 47th Battalion C.E.F. eldest son of the late Rev. Wm. Rolfe Seaborne killed in action Regina Trench Somme, France November 10-11th, 1916 aged 30 years "Greater love hath no man".*
- ❖ Silver Paten and Bread Box [each marked]: *Given in memory of Rev. Joseph Cantrell by Christ Church (Belleville) Women's Auxilliary and Men's Club.*
- ❖ Plaque in Parish Hall: *This serving room was erected to the Glory of GOD and in memory of Jane Anderson - Christina Miller - Ellen Anderson by their brother Thomas W. Kinney June 1954.*
- ❖ Communion Rail [brass; transferred from All Saints' Church, Redan, to St. Philip's Church, Milford, in October 1972]: *To the glory of GOD and in loving memory of George and Mary Burnett by their daughters Jane, Mary and Charlotte. [George & Mary Burnett are the 2nd-great-grandparents of Elizabeth Robb (see above). Marilyn Burnett Walker is also a 2nd great granddaughter (her mother Marion Burnett Walker is a great granddaughter)].*

- ❖ Altar Missal: *To the glory of GOD and in loving memory of Josephine M. the beloved wife of H.S. Clowes, born May 10th 1887, died Jan. 22nd 1950.* [In diocesan archives since 1968.]
- ❖ Prayer Desk Prayer Book: *To the glory of GOD and in memory of George and Elizabeth McKinley. Dedicated June 3rd, 1923. Presented to St. Philip's Church by Andrew and James McKinley.* [In diocesan archives since 1968.]
- ❖ Other furnishings and ornaments:
 - Hymn Board: rescued from the 1920 fire. Repairs paid for by Edith Miller.
 - Sings storage box: donated by Josef and Rosemary Cihlar.
 - Two Brass Collection Plates: rescued from the 1920 fire, along with Walker alms basin.
 - Altar Linen: probably made by Mrs. Webster, wife of the Rector at time of the fire in 1920.
 - Font: donated after the 1920 fire.
 - Chalice: donated after the 1920 fire.
 - Two brass Candlesticks for the altar: donated by Leila McCaw.
 - Red Frontal: donated by the Rev. Joseph Cantrell, rector 1941-1950.
 - Red Hanging behind the altar: The Guild.
 - Bishop's Chair: transferred from All Saints' Church, Redan.
 - Three Frontals, green, white, and purple: made and donated by Mary Greig, 1981.
 - Sacristy Chest: Anglican Church Women and John McLean, 1982.
 - Marysburgh Parish Banner: made and donated by Rodger Greig, 1982.
 - Fans in ceiling of church: donated by Sally Cowan, 1982.
 - Lavabo Bowl: donated by Nancy Freeman, 1982.
 - Two Lavabo Towels, two Corporals, Dust Cover, and Purificators: made and donated by Mary Greig, 1981 to 1985.

- Home Communion set: in memory of Mae Blackburn, mother of Eleanor Johnston.
- Exterior sign: donated in memory of Howard Johnston.
- Drapes in the Hall: provided by Eleanor Johnston and Shirley McCaw.
- Kitchen stove: donated by Eleanor Johnston.
- Christmas crèche: made and donated by Bruce Walker based on a design by Arnold and Elizabeth Robb.
- Bookcase and Coat Rack: made by Bruce Walker and paid for by Valerie and John Jackson.

❖ The most recent addition is the Memorial Window above the front door:

The window above the outer door commemorates the 100th anniversary of rebuilding St Philip's our appreciation of contributions of all congregations, and as church members with worship and service.



Church to express the allegiance and previous St Philip's our gift to future hope of continued

To the Glory of God, in

*memory of Vernon McCaw and with gratitude for the support of many other St Philip's alumni
November 15, 2020.*

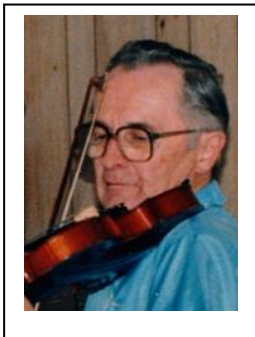
SERVICE

Influential Clergy

Over the last 100 years, St. Philip's congregation was guided by a number of incumbents (Cowan, 2005) who spent months to years serving the church community through interim or full appointments. Among these, two played leading roles in establishing the infrastructure: Rev. L. H. Webster, who led the rebuilding of the church following the 1920 fire; and Rev. E. Wrightson, during whose tenure the Hall was built. However, several others have left mark on the congregation in more recent past as Christian educators, inspired preachers, spiritual leaders, and caring individuals. From recent past, they include the following ministers:

The Very Reverend Edward (Ed) Downey (1983-1993)

Ed Downey was born near Ottawa in 1918. He lived and worked on a farm until he went to the Trinity College in Toronto where he completed a degree in theology in 1946. He was ordained in the same year, served in several parishes in the Ottawa Valley, then in the Diocese of Niagara, and in 1970 was installed as Dean and Rector of the Christ Church Cathedral in Ottawa. In 1984 he retired to live at Morrison's Point in the County. He brought with him his live-long knowledge as a brilliant scholar and preacher, and rich experience from working in various capacities and settings. He served as honorary assistant at St. Philip's while his wife Isabel (born Creegan, sister of a former bishop of this diocese) led the church choir for a number of years. He was generous in sharing his deep knowledge of the bible; his sermons were always insightful, interesting and inspiring. Both Downeys participated in the social life of the Parish and became close friends with many. He passed away in 2005.



Padre Allan (Al) Fralick (1984)

Al Fralick was born in Halifax in 1925. When 18 years old he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and was commissioned as a Pilot Officer. After the war he received a Bachelor's degree in history and economics from the University of Halifax and a Master's degree in theology from the Kings College; he was ordained as an Anglican priest in 1952. Padre Fralick served in Nova Scotia until 1958 when he joined the Royal Canadian Army as Chaplain. He then served at various locations in Canada (including Picton) and overseas until 1980 at which time he and his wife Geraldine moved to Milford and joined St. Philip's. In 1984, he became a temporary Rector at St. Philip's and was instrumental in successfully guiding the congregation through a period of uncertainty. He died in 1993.



The Reverend Canon Dr. M. Thora Rowe (1988-1995)

Rev. Thora was the first woman to receive a Master of Divinity degree from Wycliffe College, Toronto and an honour certificate from the Anglican Women's Training College. She was the first clergy woman representing the Diocese of Ontario at the General Synod, and one of the pioneering women in ordained Ministry in the Anglican Church of Canada. She took charge of the Parish of Marysburgh at an uncertain time, and through her commitment and diligent work was able to increase participation in the church activities as well as the level of optimism about the future. In addition to her official responsibilities, she helped to organize and actively participated in many social functions and with her husband John became an integral part of St. Philip's social life.



Reverend Dr. Patrick (Pat) Patterson (1996-2005)

The Reverend Canon Dr. Patrick Patterson, was born and raised in Victoria BC, obtained his undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria. He left for England and studied for three years at Wycliffe Hall Oxford, earning his M.Div. degree. He then served for three years as a curate in a parish 'across the Mersey' in Bebington on the Wirral. Returning to Canada he served parishes on the west coast before coming to Ontario.

Pat was the priest for the Parish of Marysburgh from 1996 until 2005. He came to us from St. James, Kingston. While he was here he married Beth at St. Mary Magdalene in Picton and the whole parish was invited! Pat and Beth's two daughters were born in Picton. When Pat was with us he was a part time priest as he spent some time each at Wycliffe College and the University of Toronto working on his PhD; he received the degree in May of 2013. Pat was a great teacher and his sermons were always focused on what God has done for us in Christ. Pat's many wonderful Bible studies in the rectory were well attended. He was always eager to visit people in their homes and encouraged lunch invitations. Pat and Beth and their daughters returned for the annual Black River canoe trip for several years after he became the Rector of St. John's Church in Elora, Ontario.



The Venerable Dr. Robert (Bob) Hales (2007-2009, periodically to 2016)

In recent decades, the leave of an incumbent at times brought a period of uncertainty through which we were led by an experienced interim minister. Reverend Canon Dr. Bob Hales was one of these, after his long career still nurturing such parishes and helping them to prepare for their next incumbent. Bob and his charming wife Faye became instant friends with the Parishioners of Marysburgh and remain so to this day.



Bob liked to use drama in his sermons and many times would recruit one of us in the pews to take part. He would make a phone call, usually on Saturday, and ask if you could play a part in his one act play on Sunday morning. It was usually a character in the bible that he wanted us to play. It was a very effective way to involve the congregation in the morning service. He enthusiastically supported the renewal of our Hall in 2008 and led its rededication. A talented photographer, Bob produced wonderful greeting cards based on his pictures. Some of these were obtained during spring and fall trips to the Waupoos Island with a group of men led by George and Howard Bellwood who spent a day exploring the Island. Bob Hales would take copious pictures of the group and the many beauty spots on the Island, using them to publish a calendar as a reminder of the visits.

Reverend Dorothy Lancaster (2001-2016)

Rev. Dorothy was in charge of the wonderful Prince Edward County Seniors ministry which she took over from the late Ted Goodier. Dorothy led the Parish of Marysburgh Women's Bible study during her time with us and often filled in at our Sunday services. She was incredibly generous to our parish. Even after moving to Toronto she would often visit and lead our services. Her study was a safe and comforting place for the women of the parish to meet and explore our faith. The annual retreat at Ailsa Robinson's cottage with Dorothy leading an outdoor service of Holy Eucharist was always a highlight of our year. Dorothy is a fine example of a person living their faith for all to see. Dorothy recently suffered a stroke and is recovering at her home in Toronto.



The congregation

Care for the well-being of an Anglican church community is a task shared by the incumbent and the people. It also includes care for the buildings and the ground, administrative tasks, social activities, etc. As in many rural churches, social events and friendships have been hugely important to St. Philip's over the years. Traditionally these have been prepared for the community but some also for the congregation alone. They have been planned, organized, supplied and executed by members of the Anglican Church Women (ACW) or the St. Philip's Outreach Committee. Over the decades, the congregations and recipients of the proceeds greatly benefited from the talents, leadership and dedication of the members of these two groups; St. Philip's photographic archive representing the last 50 years (Cihlar, 2013) brims with pictures of such events. It is these two groups, with the support of the rest of the congregation, that have earned one of our Bishops to label St. Philip's with the honorific 'The Little Church That Could'. For the recent years, their initiatives include:

- ❖ Annual fund-raising events: Spring and Fall Rummage Sales, Pork and Corn Roast, Christmas Tea and Bazaar
- ❖ Turkey (Fowl) Dinners
- ❖ Spring Smorgasbord and Strawberry Socials in the past
- ❖ World Day of Prayer
- ❖ Annual Regional Deanery meeting
- ❖ Memory Book: ACW project, part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, edited by Alfie Deyo, Sally Cowan and Paula Walker.
- ❖ Annual financial Support for The Children's Aid Society, Picton Food Bank, Hospice Prince Edward, L'Arche Canada, Guatemala Stove Project
- ❖ Fun Times: Mardi Gras/ Valentine Party, St. Patrick's Day party, Seder Supper
- ❖ Regular Events and Projects:
 - Annual Seniors Services in senior residences
 - White Gift Sunday

- Salvation Army Christmas Shoe Box Campaign
 - Carol Singing/sleigh rides
 - Black River Canoe Trip
 - Bible Camp
 - Calendar Sale
 - Pot Luck Supper and Movie Nights
 - Milford Fair Float
 - Men's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (also fundraiser for the Diocesan Refugee Committee)
 - Annual Lenten Collection for Henry Budd College of Ministry
 - Parish Softball team (1995 to 1999)
 - Primate's World Relief and Development Fund monthly collection (PWRDF parish representative)
 - Special Occasion cards to congregation and community members
 - Altar Guild for Sunday services
- ❖ Special Projects:
- An Inconvenient Truth slideshow at the Regent in April 2007
 - HIV/AIDS event at Picton United Church
 - Year of Afghanistan in 2009 (person-to-person support of Canada's Armed Forces members)
 - Fundraiser for Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan
 - The Night of the North movie night
 - Kairos Workshop - the blanket exercise
 - Fundraiser for the Vocational School in Atokor, Kenya
 - Art sale as fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity
 - SpongeBob Tea Party as fundraiser for Buy-A-Net
 -

A Women's Bible Study began with Rev. Thora Rowe during her time with us and later continued for many years with Rev. Dorothy Lancaster. This was a parish group which often included women from the wider community. The highlights

included annual retreats at Ailsa Robinson's cottage with an outdoor service of Holy Eucharist led by Rev Dorothy. Peggy Hallward continued leadership of this group.

News on St. Philip's people, events, activities and plans for the last two decades has been captured in the St. Philip's Newsletter, issued three times a year: Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas. Each newsletter contains a message from the incumbent; reports from wardens, ACW, Outreach, building committee, and treasurer; and frequently also writings by St. Philip's members that are relevant to the period covered, personal reflections, poems, or the like. It was initiated by Valerie Jackson as Editor in 2001. After Valerie and John moved to Kingston in 2015, Josef Cihlar continued the editorial work. Since that time, the newsletter has also had a significant photographic record of the various events.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Archives of the Diocese of Ontario:

<https://www.ontario.anglican.ca/resources/archives>

Cowan, W.G. 2005. East and West of the Rock: A history of the Parish of Marysburgh, Prince Edward County. 76p. (Available from the Author).

Cihlar, J. 2013. St. Philip's Church Story in Pictures: 1850-2012. 355p. (Available from the Library and Archives of Canada and the Archives of the Diocese of Ontario).

Prince Edward County Archives: <http://www.pecarchives.org/>