



St. Thomas Times

Newsletter of St. Thomas Anglican Church
28 Church St. Shanty Bay, Oro-Medonte, ON L0L 2L0

The people of St. Thomas seek to live by the power of the Holy Spirit and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus in creative and Christ-like relationships with God, our brothers and sisters, and our neighbours throughout the world.

Spring 2015

The Rev. Sandor Borbely – a Brief Spiritual Bio

My long journey toward priesthood started in 1988, in my senior year of high school. After graduation, I went to the local diocesan seminary (1990-1994); however, I longed for more than what the diocesan seminary was able to offer. My desire for a deeper spirituality and a deeper experience of God's presence launched me on a quest that led to the religious order of the Society of Jesus. Between 1994-2007, I was a Jesuit (Roman Catholic monk). During this time I received a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in Munich (1997), and a Bachelor of Theology (2003) and Masters in Sacred Theology (2006) from the University of Toronto. I was ordained as a deacon in 2003, then as a priest in 2004, and worked as an Associate Priest at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Toronto. In 2007, I left the Jesuit order and started worshipping with Anglicans in 2008. I officially became Anglican in 2011 and got married that same year. Two years later I was received as a priest in the Anglican Church of Canada.

In 2011, I started working as a Pastoral Associate at Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora, where I had been actively involved in various parish ministries and the faith formation of adults and youth. I then continued my priestly ministry as an Associate Priest at St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Alliston (2013) as well as at All Saints in King City (2014). Since September 2014, until my appointment to St. Thomas, I have been working as an Honorary Assistant at Trinity Anglican Church in Bradford.

I like reading and have a passion for learning new languages. I also like listening to and playing music, watching movies, biking, hiking, swimming, and skiing. I love to talk about all things spiritual, as well as discussing the latest technological innovations, trends in science and philosophy.

My lovely wife Emese (pron. "Am-a-shah") has two grown-up children, Abigel and Robert, both of whom I love as my own. Emese and I found in each other our providential soul mate in 2007, and, from our very first encounter, faith and spiritual conversation have been an integral part of our relationship. Ethnically, both my wife and I are Hungarians, born in the Carpathian Mountains of Transylvania, and we are proud to call Canada our home. Besides English and Hungarian, we both speak Romanian and I also speak German.

Like my place of origin, I am rooted in tradition but changing and growing with the world around me. Most of all, I strive to grow into the person God calls me to be, desiring to follow Jesus in the power of the Spirit.

continued on page 2

Feeling very blessed, I am looking forward to coming to St. Thomas and am hoping to use all my God-given talents to serve everyone I meet – whether by the ministry of presence, fellowship, lending an ear to others, worship, music, pastoral care, parish administration, or by offering retreats, guided meditations, facilitating spiritual conversations, and, of course, administering the sacraments – all in order to foster a deeper experience of God’s life-giving presence in the midst of our everyday lives.

May the Giver of Life bless us all with peace, joy, and hope,

Rev. Sándor Borbély (pron. Shan-dor Bor-bay)



Sandor and Emese Borbely

The parishioners of St. Thomas Shanty Bay warmly welcome Rev. Sandor and his wife Emese. They have quickly adopted our church and have begun to contribute greatly to our ministry. Please join the congregation on Sunday, April 19th to officially welcome them to St. Thomas. Refreshments will be served following the 10:30 service.

The Wardens’ Pew

The first quarter of the year 2015 has found St. Thomas in the midst of change. We have said fond farewell to Rev. Sharon and warm welcome to Rev. Sandor as Interim Priest. We have sadly come to accept Geoff Mulholland’s resignation as an organist and are grateful that Ernie Greenwood is willing to assume that role.

To some change means new beginnings, interesting challenges, fresh insights. But others long for well-worn paths and dependable outcomes.

Whatever your inclination, the fact is that here we are, changing priests and organists in an atmosphere of new hope. Our recent financial crisis caused us to seek help from our Bishop, Peter Fenty. His counsel has led us to this crossroads and it is up to all of us at St. Thomas to be welcoming of this situation and supportive of our new leadership.

Our wardens have worked in the interests of the congregation to overcome a huge financial deficit and settle the parish on a more realistic path back to health with a balanced budget for 2015. Ted and I will continue to give St. Thomas our best leadership as we, together with all of you, experience new beginnings.

So lets all of us get behind St. Thomas with renewed energy and commitment. It is our duty and joy to ensure the viability of our beloved ministry. And thanks be to God.

Peter Clarke, Rector’s Warden



Tom Lapp delivered the sermon and assisted with communion at the Easter service of worship.

On her last day with us, Rev. Sharon shared a few moments with the children at the end of the Easter service.

The congregation gathered in the Parish Hall to thank Sharon for her work with us and to wish her and husband Don every blessing.

Sharon is entitled to remain in the rectory until the end of July. So don't be surprised to see her walking Angel in the village!

Introducing Ernie Greenwood

For some years now, St. Thomas has been blessed with three musicians who play the organ for our 10:30 service. Jan Cumming, Geoff Mulholland, and Brooke Rothwell have each contributed beyond measure to the quality of Sunday services.

As many people know, Brooke Rothwell is suffering from cancer and has had to resign. Geoff Mulholland, having graced the keyboards for 30 years, also has indicated that he would like to relinquish his duties.

Thankfully, Jan is still able to play, but she is available for only one service per month. Enter Ernie Greenwood...

Ernie was born on a farm near Stratford. For thirteen years he was involved with a materials handling company before he and his wife, Jan, began their own financial consulting firm called Corallife Inc. They are associated with the brokerage company, Page and Associates.

Musically, Ernie began with the piano at 7 years of age and later played with a band. In 1980 he became full time organist and choirmaster at Trinity United Church in Uxbridge. During his third year there he invited members of the Toronto Symphony and 72 singers to present Handel's *Messiah* in three performances.

In 1990 Ernie moved to Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora as supply organist. Every six weeks Ernie returns to Aurora where five or six musicians and some 25 singers get together as Trinity Unplugged. Ernie hopes to introduce the group to St. Thomas some day. Sounds like great fun!

Ernie has survived two heart attacks, and during the second one he was clinically dead for a time. Out of gratitude and generosity Ernie and the Rotary Club raised funds to equip all the fire trucks in Aurora with defibrillators and to train the staff in their use.

Ernie has a winning philosophy: Don't just celebrate your birthday, celebrate every day. Wise words from someone who knows.

Welcome Ernie and Jan Greenwood to St. Thomas Shanty Bay.



Outreach

By Davina Doorly

Reaching out...moving from our own walls and comfort zone... that is the nature of the will and energy at St Thomas' Church Shanty Bay!

April brings the promise of warmer weather making winter a past memory. However this past winter broke many records for low temperatures and clients from Out of the Cold used the services in record numbers.

St Thomas's teams formed again starting in November going until April, to make a hot Sunday meal for 35 people. Our many thanks go to the leaders and their teams. The hot meals provided usually consisted of roasted meat, potatoes and 2 or 3 vegetables. It is made and delivered hot to Collier Street Church, ready for the clients to sit together and enjoy the meal.

Please stay tuned to the church bulletin. We will have a time in May to come together to meet our team members. Carol Forget, our contact at "Out of the Cold" would love to come and tell us more about the program and say Thank you to the teams at St Thomas.

St Thomas also undertook support for the Busby Van by making muffins once a month. The Van drives around Barrie giving service and supplies to those known in need and living on the street.

Our Sunday ventures are enjoyable. There is a trusty team of adults (Donna, Norm and Carol) who support our younger muffin makers. Muffins made at home are also dropped off ...thank you to the home bakers. The Shanty Bay Girl Guide group became an active force! They are a delightful, eager and energetic group of young girls . We are so happy to have them join us. All working together we averaged 10 dozen muffins that were received gratefully by the street van.

Our last Muffin making will be Sunday May 25th, 2pm till 4pm. Healthy hearty muffins are welcome or please come and join us for the last muffin making of the season.

The Garden of Eatin' is resting but with these April showers will be warming up to nurture vegetables. Stay tuned to the Sunday bulletins for further work day plans. If you have not been able to help in the past please consider joining a group of keen experienced and inexperienced gardeners alike to help the garden grow.

The produce, nurtured and harvested goes to the Salvation Army. Fresh vegetables are delicious and nutritious and are a welcome addition to the Salvation Army's meals that they so generously provide for the many folks who are in need of meals.

[James 2:14-17](#)

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.



Members of the Altar Guild decorated the church for Easter

Altar Guild

By Marilynn Forbes

The Altar Guild is always welcoming to new members; if you are interested, please speak to Marilynn Forbes.

Each month, altar Guild members take turns preparing for communion, cleaning up following communion, changing the frontals and hangings as the church season dictates, maintaining cleanliness of the altar and the care of the linens and vessels and the arranging of flowers for all church services.

The Guild relies on donations of money from weddings, funerals, memorials and special occasions. If you wish to have special flowers in memory of loved ones or in celebration of special events and anniversaries, please speak to Marilynn Forbes or email her at marilynn_forbes@bell.net. All donations to the Altar Guild are most gratefully received and are essential for providing flowers and new linens when needed.

Kelly Scaglione's Ministry

When the van arrives at the Barrie bus station from Penetanguishene, Kelly Scaglione can be found nearby. She is there for a very specific purpose: to assist the passengers to make the transition to life outside.

For she is greeting former inmates, newly released after serving terms at Penetang's Central North Correctional Centre. Each former prisoner is equipped with a clear plastic bag containing his belongings. This makes it easy to spot them as former inmates and Kelly's object is to minimize this stigma. Her ministry is named Restoring Dignity and Hope.

Kelly offers each an opaque bag for their clothes, new socks or mitts, shoes or boots, Tim Horton's gift cards, toiletries, in fact whatever she has been able to collect from willing friends. Equally important, Kelly gives each person a little restored dignity, a sense of self-worth and hope.

These former inmates have been given bus tickets to their hometowns. It's while they await their transportation that Kelly tries to ease their transition by providing a caring hand and practical support.

Restoring Dignity and Hope Loonie Auction Saturday May 9th

Members of St. Thomas have adopted Kelly and her mission. On Saturday May 9th beginning at 7 pm sharp, there will be a fundraiser at the Parish Hall to support her work. The format is a Loonie Auction of a large number of exciting donations, such as a hand-made afghan valued at \$120, a framed \$50 bill, a kayaking experience for four, a 2 ½ hour cruise for two, gift certificates, and a whole lot more. Dessert and coffee will be offered free to the first 60 guests to arrive. Auction tickets are \$10 for 12 tickets and \$20 for 25 tickets.

This evening will be a wonderful way to get behind Kelly's vital ministry and a lot of fun for everyone. Hope to see you there.

Treasurer's Report

The following is our 1st Quarter financials. Currently we are \$8,410.55 under our estimated budget. While this does seem daunting we do have a plan going forward.

Beginning in April, our Clergy expenses will be greatly reduced as we now have a part time Interim Priest instead of the full time Incumbent.

With this plan in place we will begin to see improvements in our financial status beginning this month.

Your presence at worship and your continuing financial support are of utmost importance as we move forward.

Yours in Christ
Catherine

**St Thomas Anglican Church
Oro-Medonte (Shanty Bay)**

1st Quarter

	Actual	Budget	\$ Over/Under Budget
Total Income	23,162.94	26,742.56	-3579.62
Total Expenses	-31,573.49	26,914.21	4459.28
Net	-8410.55	171.65	-8238.90

FundScrip

If you could support our church in meaningful ways simply by buying groceries or filling up the gas tank, wouldn't you want to do that?

FundScrip works this way. Decide how much you are likely to spend on, say, groceries, in a month. Write a cheque for that amount to St. Thomas and receive in return gift cards in your chosen amount. You then present these cards to the cashier at your favourite supermarket to pay for your purchases.

The benefit to St. Thomas is that a percentage of the value of the cards is paid back to the church. Last year we raised \$647 in this way, funds that are valuable in reaching our goal of balance.

The first Sunday of each month is designated for participating. Cheques are received by Jenny or Sally MacDonald and the cards will be delivered on the following Sunday.

Gift cards are available for a very wide selection of businesses, including department stores, specialty shops, movie theatres, gas stations. There are forms available at the back of the church or the office that outline the many opportunities to participate. Some people have used FundScrip to buy gift cards for Christmas or birthday gifts.

Let's make 2015 the year we collectively support our ministry at St. Thomas in this painless way.

Fellowship

St. Thomas supports a strong tradition of fellowship. As one enters the church for worship there are small knots of friends catching up on the week's news. Passing of the Peace during the service allows more interaction, as most of the congregation crowds into the aisle to greet fellow parishioners.

Then it's off to the Parish Hall to refresh ourselves and continue conversations and deepen friendships.

There is a list on the bulletin board by the kitchen where parishioners can sign up to provide refreshments. Coffee, tea, cream and sugar, and fruit juice are kept supplied by Julie MacLeod, while refreshment volunteers present cookies, loaves, or other treats to a grateful congregation.

The 8 o'clock service also serves its members similar hospitality.

If you would like to help out as a refreshment provider, just sign the list. If you want assistance in the kitchen, just ask Julie or any of the other providers and they will show you the ropes. Welcome and thank you!



We are grateful to Julie MacLeod for these photos and to Peter Clarke who along with Julie took the pictures at Easter that appear on pages 3 and 6.

