

More history after the departure of Fr. Jenö Kohner ...

... In January 1970 Fr. Jenö Kohner left to take up his ministry in Chateaugay. During his years with us Fr. Kohner had not only given us an appreciation of Anglican Liturgy but also introduced us to new forms of worship.

Fr. Kohner was succeeded by Fr. Derek Dunwoodie. In June of 1971 Fr. Dunwoodie returned to his native Ireland. After a short interregnum Fr. Gerry Edmondson was sent to us by the Bishop.

Since the building of the church, the parish had been having grave financial difficulties though a strong spirituality prevailed. Fr. Edmondson, together with his wardens; Colin West, Ray Scheer, and the majority support of the advisory board invited Mr. Tony Mawer to supervise a Stewardship Campaign in January 1975. It was most successful. At this point the Bishop placed Fr. Edmondson in Granby and appointed Fr. Murray Henderson to St. Michael's. "Life in the Spirit Seminars" were introduced by Fr. Murray in 1976. Through this medium many people deepened their faith. Prayer groups and Bible study groups increased.

In the spring of 1979 the diocese sent us Fr. Lorne Tardy who was a deacon but was ordained shortly after arriving. Fr. Lorne's skill with youth ministry reached our young people. In 1981 Fr. Lorne was succeeded by Fr., Harry Shepherd. In April 1982 Fr. Henderson left us to take up duties in Knowlton. Fr. Shepherd took on the responsibilities of the parish during the interregnum. In January 1983 Fr. Gary Heniser was inducted as rector. He returned to his native U.S.A. in June of 1984.

In November 1984 Fr. Barry Clarke was inducted as Rector. He was involved in all phases of our church life. Bishop Hutchison

assigned many students and assistant curates to work with Fr. Barry. Ron Clarke was Assistant Curate from July '86-June '87. Marc Vincent came in May '88. John Paul Wadlin from September '87-April '88, then as Assistant Curate in October '88-March '89. Paul Woehrle was with us from September '89-91.

In July of 1991 Paul Jennings arrived as Assistant Curate until February 1993. Then Rick Gariepy came to work with Fr. Barry until the fall of '93. To our regret, in October of 1993,, Bishop Hutchison moved Fr. Barry to St. Paul's, Lachine. In the ensuing months we were fortunate to have our Honorary Assistant, Canon Frank Toope, Canon John McNab, and Canon Dr. Donald Meloche take our services.

In late October 1994 Bishop Hutchison appointed the Rev. Alex Cameron as our rector. Fr. Alex has continued and reinforced the evangelical spirit of St. Michael's. We have also been fortunate to have Tamara, his wife, leading our music team.

In April of 1995 we, and many others, were devastated by the murders of Fr. Frank and his wife, Jocelyn Toope. Fr. Frank had been our Honorary Assistant since his retirement from St. Mary's Church in Kirkland. Amid our shock and horror at the event, we do give thanks to God for their lives - lived for Christ and His Church.

This brings us to 1996 having had a look at our roots and going forth day by day knowing many Priests. Parishioners have come and gone. One thing has lived on and grown, our Faith! We give thanks to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and rejoice in His faithfulness and abiding presence.

Praise the Lord.