

## Thorndale Anglican Mission

When I first thought about writing about Thorndale Mission I wondered whether it should be factual or anecdotal ... Here it is a mixture of both.

We were very isolated in the late 1950's. No Pierrefonds Blvd, where Jacques Bizard is was just a field with a stream running through it. To get to an Anglican Church we had to go up to Gouin Blvd, then east to St John's and west to St Charles, then only two lane roads.

A group of us met at Ed Smith's house to discuss whether we could have a mission in our area. Ed Smith became chairman and Betty Morris our secretary. Present at the meetings were Dick Tonge, Ken Nicholson, Bud Wylie, Jim Wright, Bill Canube, Bill Martin, Phyl Robertson and myself, Edith Stewart, The Rural Dean, Ab Hawes, chaired a meeting in October 1961 to discuss setting up a mission. Services started in December of that year. Phyl Robertson who had been superintendent of a Sunday School previously was put in charge of the Sunday School, I, a member of an altar Guild for over twenty Years was put in charge of the Altar Guild.

The Presbyterian Church was already holding its services at Thorndale School so we joined them there. We co operated very well. One Mission would set up the chairs etc and the other would put them away. The only hitch was if another organisation would rent the gym for a dance and we would then have to

set up at two o'clock in the morning! Fr Bill McCarthy, who was at St Barnabas and Fr Paul Busing, Diocesan Missioner took our services until Fr Jenö Kohner was appointed Bishop's Missionary in 1963.

The Rectory was built first and our mid week services were held in Fr Kohner's playroom.

In 1967 we said goodbye to Thorndale School and began a new life at St Mikes

*Edith Stewart*



## Finding our way to St Mikes

In September 1993 our family of five moved back to Montreal from thirteen years in Edmonton. A friend, Cynthia Smith, told us about St Mike's and how welcoming and friendly everyone was when she was a child, youth and adult. Cynthia wrote to Irene Marteinson, letting her know of our move to Dollard des Ormeaux including our phone number. I had been given Irene's number and within two weeks of our move, Irene called and said she would be happy to pick us up and bring us to St Mike's. She brought myself and my two daughters to church. Cynthia was right everyone was so friendly. I am so grateful to Irene for introducing us to St Michael's in spite of my taking a few years to attend regularly

*Dale McCall*