

NICK'S NEWS



20 Questions

*...with St. Nicks' new
director of music,
Carmine Lappano*

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself. Where are from originally? What is your family background?

I was born and bred in Toronto. My parents are both from a southern region of Italy called Calabria. Therefore, I have been raised in the culture of good pasta sauce, spirited conversations (or arguments containing plenty of stubbornness), a lot of opera, and of course, quite a bit of soccer!

2. How does a Roman Catholic end up being a music director at an Anglican church?

Excellent question! I have been lucky to play and sing in churches of many denominations of Christianity. The Anglican Church is the one I feel most close to. I guess I must have lived in England in a previous life, or something like that. In all seriousness, making music in a Christian family of faith is all that matters to me.

3. What inspires you?

Love inspires me. Love of my faith. Love of my family. Love of my friends. It is easy to be inspired when you love, and are loved.

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Michael's Message

Remember your interior journey at Christmas

Dear Fellow Travellers,

One of the many images used to describe our life on this planet is that of travel. Life can be seen as a journey which is ultimately from birth to death.

While we take this life-long journey there are many other trips that we take: school; relationships; vocational or professional; faith. Each of these may have its own set of distinct characteristics.

First of all, let me say that I'm very grateful to be here, at St. Nicholas, Birch Cliff. I have no idea about the length of my stay, but I am pleased to be here for this part of my own journey.

I hope to get to know some of you during my time here.

And I want you to know that I hope to be as available to you as you need for your own journey.

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Focus: All it takes is five minutes a day

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One of our common yearly journeys is nearing its time for ending and new beginning. As you very likely know, our church calendar year begins with the First Sunday of Advent which falls on Nov. 27 this year.

Advent can certainly be a wonderful time of year. No matter what age you are, the days and weeks leading up to Christmas, are often filled with all sorts of activities.

Sometimes, depending on our own character and interior life, Advent can build up to a deafening crescendo that actually causes a great deal of stress and strain. I'm sure that many of us are all too familiar with the hustle and bustle of Christmas

shopping, card writing, special cooking and baking, special decorating, and of course, socializing, that seems to take up so much of our time during the four weeks leading up to Christmas.

For far too many people this seems to leave little, if any, time for the other kind of journey that we ought to be on during these weeks: the interior journey.

The interior journey can add so much to the preparations we make to celebrate Christmas. It can be as simple as taking just five minutes every day during the season of Advent, blocking out all the exterior noises, allowing ourselves to focus on being in God's presence in a special way, and discerning

where that may lead and what kinds of thoughts and feelings it might evoke.

Let's not allow the journey of Advent and the celebration of Christmas to become one jumbled mess this year.

As I'm sure you all know, the 12 days of Christmas actually begin on Dec. 25, and end on Jan. 6, the Feast of the Epiphany.

I encourage you to keep the two separate and distinct. And in so doing, our preparatory journey during Advent and our celebratory journey during Christmas-tide will each be enriched and enhanced.

May God guide, bless, and enrich each of you and our common journey together!

...More Carmine

4. Who or what have been your musical influences?

I think that I am influenced by many musicians or styles. Whether they are musicians I have had the privilege of working with in person, or musicians of the past. I love all types of music, and they have all formed me to being the type of musician I am today.

5. What's on your iPod?

Actually, I do not even own an iPod! However, if you asked my wife this question, she would roll her eyes and say that the CD carrying case in my car probably has a recording of the Kings College Choir under the direction of David Willcocks, next to an Eminem CD.

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WARDENS' REPORT

Dear Parishioner:

These last few months have certainly been busy for your Wardens and members of Executive and Parish Council. We are appreciative of your prayers and support over these past months.

Father Kevin

Robertson announced that he has accepted a position at Christ Church Deer Park, and his last Sunday with us was Sept. 25. Kevin had been our incumbent for 6 1/2 years, and was a wonderful pastor, friend and spiritual leader.

Our bishop, **Patrick Yu**, has appointed **Michael Pollesel** as our Interim Priest in Charge, and it has been a pleasure and privilege to have Michael in our midst during this period of change and transition. Michael was most recently the General Secretary of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, a position from which he has recently retired.

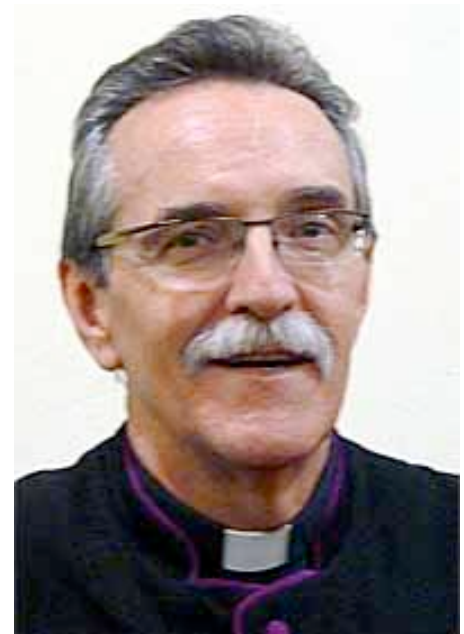
Michael is pleased to be back in parish ministry and especially so here in Scarborough, where he spent many years earlier in his ministry. We warmly welcome Michael, and please introduce yourself if you have not already done so.



On Sunday, Sept. 18 we held a special vestry to elect the members of the Parish Selection Committee (PSC), who are responsible for working with the Bishop in selecting our next incumbent. This committee consists of **Doug Goss, Sonia Halloran, Andrew Reeves, Shawn Carter, Freda Gearing, Pauline Glasgow** and **Julia Hanson**. We expect that a new incumbent will be in place by late Spring of 2012.

Joan Waters-Garner and **Bill Goodfellow** announced their retirement as Co-Directors of Music.

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We welcomed two additions to our St. Nick's family - Carmine Lappano (top) and Rev. Dr. Michael Pollesel.

A TIP of the HAT!



* To our ministry team, musical directors, choir, servers, chalice bearers, sacristans, sidespeople, greeters, readers, intercessors, altar guild members, for making our worship services so meaningful.

* To all those involved in the wonderful new gardens taking shape on the church lawn. To all those involved in the ongoing maintenance and care of all of our property.

* To all our church school teachers, especially those who kept church school running each week during the summer.

* To all those who participated in our annual Bazaar, but most especially to those who organize and run this amazing event !

* To those who hosted the farewell receptions for **Father Kevin** as well as for **Joan Waters-Garner** and **Bill Goodfellow**.

POETRY

By Joan Clarke

The strong north winds begin to blow
Soon it will bring the pure white snow,
Bright coloured lights will then appear
Telling us Christmas time is near.

Christmas Carols soon fill the air
And Church bazaars are everywhere,
Folks are rushing from store to store
And wreaths are hung upon each door.

Once more the Christmas Story read
A manger for a Baby's bed,
With cattle looking on nearby
A shining star high in the sky.

On the hillside, shepherds abide
As Angels appear by their side,
Singing the praises and the joy
Of the birth of the Baby Boy.

Through the years, we do celebrate
The news the Angels did relate,
The Son of God was born today
His radiance did light the way.

6. You're a big soccer guy. To encourage more scoring, don't you think it would be a good idea to make the nets bigger?

How about a smaller ball?

7. What's your favourite team and player?

I am such a student, and fan of the game, I really do not have a favourite team. I enjoy watching the great teams like Barcelona, and Manchester City, because they are full of talent and skill. I suppose I do follow the Italian National Soccer Team, for obvious reasons. My favourite player today is the great Lionel Messi. The only issue with him is that he is not Italian.

8. You're a full-time teacher, father of two young boys and music director at St. Nick's. What do you do with the three minutes of free time you have every day?

I read about sports online. Yes, I read your columns!

9. Have you ever had a mullet?

Absolutely! Haven't we all? Unfortunately, I was asked (by my wife) to burn any pictures showcasing my mullet, to spare the scalding of retinas of all those who would have the misfortune of beholding such a terrible visual.

10. Do you ever fantasize about being a rock star?

What do you think I'm thinking about while I am playing the Offertory hymn?

11. Your wife is a music teacher and choir director as well. Do the two of you walk around the house singing to each other?

I can assure you, if I am walking around the house singing, my wife asks me to stop, immediately.

12. What is your guilty pleasure?

Timbits, (ask the choir).

13. What is your pet peeve?

Punctuality, or lack thereof (ask the choir, again).

14. Are the Leafs for real this year?

I think all the variables are going to determine it. Will Reimer be back soon and find his form from last year? Will Kessel keep scoring? Will Phaneuf play the way he played the first 10 games for the whole season? Will Ron Wilson teach his team how to kill penalties? Wow! I am glad I do not have to right about that stuff!

15. What book is on your nightstand?

The Tenth Insight by James Redfield is on my nightstand right now. I have been trying to read it for a long time, but have not gotten far. I loved the prequel, *The Celestine Prophecy*.

16. What sports do you play aside from soccer?

Basketball and squash. I picked up the game of Squash when I was in my undergrad at U of T. Basketball is the most recent. I fell in love with the

game, and started playing a few years ago.

17. What have you found most rewarding about working at St. Nick's?

Working with the choir. They have been such an enthusiastic, eager group of musicians, and I am very pleased with what we have been able to do already in such a short amount of time. They also laugh at my jokes.

18. What is your idea of a perfect evening?

If you asked me this question 10 years ago, it would be completely different. I will leave that to the imagination. At present time, I would say that a perfect evening would entail a wonderful meal with my wife and two sons, reading my sons stories before bed while lulling them to sleep, and knowing that I am lucky to have a beautiful home and a beautiful family that I get to enjoy every single day.

19. Have you ever played in a band?

In high school! I was the drummer of a rock band. The mullet was cut by then, thank heavens.

20. What is your favourite song of all-time?

That is a hard one. Can I give you two? I mean, I really could give you about 50, but I am sure anyone could do that. How about Billy Joel's *Honesty* and Elton John's *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road*?

WARDENS' REPORT

They were a wonderful team and led the choir and our music ministry for over three years. While they may have retired from "the bench" you can still see Bill in the choir most Sundays and Joan in the congregation. It is wonderful to have their presence with us each week.

We are pleased to have welcomed **Carmine Lappano** as our new Director of Music and organist. Carmine has been with us since the beginning of September and if you haven't already done so, please introduce yourself to Carmine. We look forward to Carmine's talent and enthusiasm in leading our music program at St. Nick's.

Please remember to wear your name tags, as both

Carmine and Michael have a lot of new names to try and remember!

Our annual bazaar was another resounding success! Many thanks to all who contributed to this amazing event. Not only did we raise over \$14,000, we also opened our doors to the wider community. Many thanks to the leaders and planners of this event, as it is a year long effort.

Our vacation Bible camp in August was another great success. Special thanks to **Deb Chapman** for organizing and running this. This is a special ministry that involves our parish families but also a great many children in the community that are not members of St Nicholas. This is outreach in so many ways, and

we are blessed to have this happen in our midst each year.

Our own St Nick's Knights won the Scarborough Anglican Youth Softball Tournament this year. Thanks to the team and their loyal fans who have cheered them on the whole season.

We should always be reminded of how blessed we are at St. Nicholas to have the inspirational leadership from our ministry team. Their leadership empowers and equips us all to serve the Lord and live the Gospel.

The Churchwardens thank our ministry leaders and all Parishioners for the time, talent and treasure each of you devote to our Parish life.

The Churchwardens -
Doug Goss, Sonia Halloran, Anne Moir and Brian Todd

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 18
(Advent 4)

8:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. - Sung Eucharist with Church School

7 p.m. - A Service of Lessons and Carols

Saturday, Dec. 24
(Christmas Eve)

4 p.m. - Family Eucharist

7 p.m. - Family Eucharist with Pageant, followed by a Birthday cake!

11 p.m. - Traditional Eucharist with Candlelight

Sunday, Dec. 25
(Christmas Day)

10:30 a.m. - Sung Eucharist with Christmas Carols

Sunday, Jan. 1 (The Naming of Jesus)

8:30am - Holy Eucharist
10:30am - Sung Eucharist

Friday, Jan. 6
(Epiphany)

7 p.m. - Sung Eucharist