

The Centennial of St Nicholas Church: A
Report to Vestry, 2010

*From the Past, Into the Future: St Nicholas Church, Birch Cliff, 19/2-
20/2*

Background

Time does fly. At Vestry two years ago, discussion began. Our 90th anniversary was carefully examined as an organizational model. At last year's Vestry, parishioners were again invited to submit ideas on events and speakers suitable for our grand anniversary. To begin reaching a wider audience, a section has been opened in our church's website. Arlene McGuire a member of our 8:30 a.m. congregation, has joined David Roberts as a centennial co-chair. Two members of Parish Council, Sonia Halloran and Joanne Hodder, have joined us to form a Steering Committee.

Another vital undertaking has been our canvass of Toronto-area churches that have celebrated anniversaries. These meetings and surveys yielded a wealth of ideas on events and planning. This past fall, the many ideas, from parishioners and the other churches, were compiled and reviewed by Parish Council. Its members helped by commenting on which events and ideas could work at St Nicholas. From the results, Council asked the Steering Committee to propose a framework for a centennial programme for St Nicholas.

Proposed Programme

The appended programme was approved by Council earlier this month (January). It outlines key dates and events for 2012. They will be integrated with our regular activities, many of which can take on the centennial theme. There will also be a number of features that will run over the course of the year, from a special centennial logo to property enhancements such as tree plantings and memorial plaques. It is possible that new ideas and initiatives may come forward between now and 2012; these will be referred to the appropriate working sub-committee. To implement the programme, five sub-committees are proposed: Event Logistics, Communication, Heritage, Budget, and Music.

We Need Your Participation!

In the spirit of getting things get done at St Nicholas, we believe that volunteers will come forward to serve on, or even head, the sub-committees. Your help is essential. Speak to a member of the Steering Committee, the rector, or the wardens. To provide a forum for detailed discussion, a meeting will be held in February to review the sub-committee assignments, how we see the committees working, and to give you the opportunity to join us as we move toward 2012.

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Proposed Programme

"From the Past, Into the Future: St Nicholas' Church, Birch Cliff; 1912-2012"

Dates and Events in 2012:

- 15 January -- anniversary launch, special speaker
- 9-10 June - gala social at a banquet hall or club. rededication service honouring key historic dates, speakers, home-coming of clergy and parishioners, floral festival
- 9 August (Thursday) - special service recognizing dedication of church site in 1912
- 29 September - fall kick-off. recognition of other historic dates, speaker
- 8-9 December - closing patronal celebration and service, speaker

These proposed dates are based on the 2012 calendar and our charting of events through a normal year at St Nicholas. Dates of regular importance (for example, All Saints' Day, Remembrance Day, bazaar, strawberry luncheon, Open Doors weekend) could also have an anniversary emphasis, as can our other social and religious events.

Sub-Committees (5):

The Steering Committee recommends sub-committees to handle

- *Event Logistics:* planning, transportation, property enhancements such as tree planting (with memorial plaques)
Communication: advertising, letters of congratulation, website and newsletter liaison
- *Heritage:* brochure on history (with calendar of significant dates), memorials, and windows; archival display; plaques; logo design and use (stationery, bulletins, website); memorabilia; photography
- *Budget:* finances, fund-raising, prizes
- *Music:* regular services, two or three special events

Suggested Budget for Centennial Activities: \$10,000 (to be paid out of the 2011 and 2012 budgets). This amount is based not on secured estimates but on the costs of our 90th anniversary and recent celebrations at other churches.