

**Clergy comment**

**Sackcloth and Ashes**

By Richard E. Ruggie  
 Anglican Minister of St. Alban's Church  
 Glen Williams and St. Paul's Church, Norval  
 Today, Ash Wednesday, is the beginning of Lent. Though the season is as well known as Christmas and Easter, it has not grabbed the popular imagination as much as Christianity's great festivals. We prefer happy celebrations to quiet reflections, and sackcloth and ashes are not popular attire for modern people.

The penitential flavour of the season dates back to the sixth century, when the Lombards were invading Italy. The church thought that if people showed enough remorse, God would deliver them. Fasting and diligence in prayer (and the sackcloth and ashes) were the signs of that remorse, and they became entrenched in Lenten observances. We still try to win God's sympathy: when a great fire destroyed part of the city of Montreal in 1852, the civic fathers declared a fast. Another was declared just a few years ago in Italy, after a volcano erupted. If times are tough, people thought, it must be because we've been bad, and God is punishing us.

**SOME WAYS**

There are some ways that we are indeed responsible for the ills that beset us. Modern man has made greed legitimate (to listen to the lottery ads, you would think that greed was a patriotic duty). Our personal and national grasping for things we cannot afford has thrown individuals into bankruptcy and countries into inflation. We demand the best municipal services and improvements, then complain when taxes rise. We haven't learned to live within our means; we haven't learned the point of the tenth commandment — not to covet the things that look so attractive until they have to be paid for. But more than that, we haven't learned to accept responsibility for our attitudes, to admit the consequences of our grasping.

That irresponsibility is typical of human beings. It dates right back to the Garden of Eden, with Adam blaming Eve for his disobedience and Eve trying to shift the blame to the serpent. We enjoy the credit for good things we are involved with, but when hard luck befalls us, we don't like to acknowledge that it may partly be our fault.

Ash Wednesday is the time for our spirit to put on sackcloth and ashes, for us to own up to our failures and shortcomings. We shy away from harsh words like sin, but in moments of honesty, we stop deceiving ourselves. The Greek word for sin means literally "missing the mark" and we miss the mark of being all that God intends us to be.

If Lent is a time for repentance, it is also a time for forgiveness. We don't repent in order to put ourselves down, but in order to step back on the right path, to return to our pilgrimage. If you have an upset with a friend, and you feel uncomfortable in one another's presence, so that you cannot work together or enjoy life together, the first thing to say is, "I'm sorry." That's hard to do, but when you've said that, it clears the air so you can start afresh. In Lent we say we're sorry in God's presence, so we can hear his forgiveness, and set our anew in his company and his strength.

**CHORISTERS GRANT**

The approval of a \$7,144.00 grant to the Oakville Senior Choristers was announced Monday by the federal government. This grant which falls under the New Horizons Program with the National Health and Welfare Department, will enable the senior citizens to continue to entertain at senior residences and clubs in the surrounding area. There are four groups in the Oakville Seniors Residence on Lakeshore Road, that will make use of equipment and facilities: the sing-along on Wednesday evening; the Music Listeners on Friday evening; the Sunday Evening Hymn Sing and the Impromptu Sing-alongs. There are approximately 200 participants in this project.



**ULRICH'S EAGLE**

Guest speaker Ulrich Watermann and his eagle, Odin, enthralled men and boys at the Father-Son banquet for the 4th Georgetown Cubs and Scouts Tuesday evening as he talked about eagles and other birds of prey and how he uses them to keep the runways of Toronto International Airport free of birds which could damage the planes. Last year he took a contract to perform the same service for the air force base at North Bay.

**Obituary**

**Acton's Lena Mann**

Well known Acton resident Edith Helena (Lena) Mann died at her home Feb. 24.

The former Lena Buck, was born at Gore Bay, Manitoulin Island, and came to Acton as a young girl. She worked in Wiles' confectionary store and Hassard's Drug store before her marriage. In later years she operated the Cameo Shop on Main Street and opened the first claims office in Acton for Unemployment Insurance Commission in the early 1970s.

Mrs. Mann was deeply involved with Knox Presbyterian Church and sang in the church choir until the time of

her death. She also taught Sunday School and served as treasurer of the Sunday School for a number of years. She organized the church's junior choir more than 25 years ago and conducted it for a number of years. She was a life member of the Alert Evening Auxiliary and still active in the Ladies' Aid. She was treasurer and pianist for Acton's Golden Agers and also belonged to the Sunshine Club of Rockwood. She was an avid gardener, and loved to quilt and cook.

Mrs. Mann leaves son, Kenneth of Ottawa, and daughter Linda (Mrs. Bob Paul) of Acton as well as seven grand-

children. Also surviving Mrs. Mann are her sister Pearl (Mrs. Marvyn Graham) of Elmville and brothers Albert of Hanover, Martin of Vancouver, Herbert of Owen Sound, George of Midland and William of Guelph. She was predeceased by her husband Alex, in January 1977, and brothers Richard, Kenneth and Dr. Austin Buck.

Funeral services for Mrs. Mann will be conducted from the Shoemaker Funeral Home this afternoon, Feb. 28 at 11 a.m. by Rev. Chas. Beaton. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

**Constant world crisis desensitizes us to war, writer urges vigilance**

By Gerry Landsborough  
 Herald columnist

**VIEWPOINT**

From a psychological point of view you can only live under "Crisis" conditions for so long before you become accustomed or conditioned to the crisis. As people we speak of war in a disassociated manner - war in the middle east, war in Viet Nam, war in Cambodia - war in these places seems far away, remote. When we watch the evening news the war that is brought into our living rooms takes on a John Wayne movie image - not quite real to us after all "the good guys will win in the end."

powers" issue strongly worded statements our false sense of security is shaken and we "toy" with the word war. I say toy because our youth have for more than two generations been free from war. It is not a reality to them.

Unfortunately in reality the good guys don't always win. Might (dollars) power (dollars) force (dollars), these are the winners in war.

In Canada today there are many refugees who know what "war" is in a way Canadians can not. War is the greatest perverter of men. All men. No nation leaves the battlefield clean or conscience. As a nation of people we have not been prepared for war. We rely on our credit cards and the fact that the supermarket will always be stocked with goodies.

The United Nations has defined a refugee as "anyone who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion is unable to return to his homeland."

**CONSIDER HOLOCAUST**  
 How many of us have considered nuclear holocaust in relation to our individual lives?

We are psychologically unprepared to defend "freedom" in the jungles of a remote (to us) nation.

We have pampered ourselves far beyond what we deserve since 1941. In the past few years our vigilance has become "It can't happen again and even if it does it won't be here - there are too many safeguards".

We have become smug in our secure free world. Perhaps we are too smug - too secure?

We must remember the words of John Curran spoken over 200 years ago "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance".

We accept detente today as a nation walking on eggs not wanting to make any waves, trying to be in and out a door at the same time. We thunder our indignation at the invasion of the Viet Nam with the likeness to a boomerang and we wonder if anyone takes us seriously?

So much is traded off in today's world that the free world loses sight of who the enemy is - the enemy is any threat to "freedom" - wherever and who ever the threat comes from.

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

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**REALTOR**

<b>EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN!</b> Let me show you the charm of this beautiful solid brick 2 storey with formal dining, eat-in kitchen, and 3 bedrooms. New plumbing, wiring, R-12 insulation. Bathroom, and kitchen completely modernized with solid pine cupboards. All original woodwork. Give your antiques a home. Call Trudy Simmons 877-0173.	<b>TOUCH OF CLASS</b> This custom built home has 5 bedrooms, two fireplaces, large kitchen with eat-in area. Big bright home, solid oak floor in rec room with brick fireplace, two large bathrooms, all on 1/2 acre. Lincoln size double garage, has many more extras I'd like to show you! Give Mike a call today 877-0173.	<b>BRICK BEAUTY</b> 3 bedroom bungalow situated on a 60x110 fenced lot with mature trees. Special features include rec room with bar, den, cold room, work shop, laundry, garage, broadloom and much more. A must to see. Call 877-0173.	<b>HOME ON THE RANGE</b> Massive custom brick home has broadloom throughout, 3 walk-outs, 2 balconies, 2 car garage, bright homey family room, 3 baths plus numerous special features. All this situated on rolling 28 acres with a view for miles. Don't miss this one. Call Finn 877-0173.	<b>PARK ROYAL</b> Charming brick 2 storey on a park sized double lot. 2 fireplaces. Exterior fully renovated, new furnace, hydro, 2 water heaters. Presently duplex but could easily be converted to attractive homestead. Call Finn 877-0173.	
<b>COUNTRY SPLENDOR UNDER \$40,000.</b> Let me show you the charm of this 18x36 inground pool, beautifully landscaped, huge living room with fireplace, dining room with sliding glass doors to sundeck, 3 bedrooms & more. Don't be disappointed by a sold sign, call Susan for the rest of the details. 877-0173.	<b>DYNAMITE CHARMER IN COUNTRY</b> Sparkling clean only 2 years old with spacious rooms and quality throughout. Features include eat-in kitchen, separate dining, large master all on 1/2 acres. Call Trudy Simmons 877-0173.	<b>LISTED AT \$54,900.</b> Bright sun room, newly refinished inside, two washrooms, large lot in older area of town. 3 bedrooms up and 2 more in a finished basement. Great area for children. Call Mike for more information 877-0173.	<b>THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY</b> Is all that is needed. To view this most beautiful home with it's 3 bedrooms, elegant living and dining room. "Rustic Excellence", rec room with fieldstone fireplace. The lovely deck and flower gardens on this huge lot are just an extra. Call Tillie now - today. You won't be sorry. It's only \$62,900. 877-0173.	<b>YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED</b> When you see this brick bungalow located in Acton on a huge treed 56x133 ft. lot. There is also a 1 car garage, beautifully finished rec room with fireplace and to top this all off - a reasonable price - \$53,900. Call Susan for further information. 877-0173. P.S. To Mom - School is just a stone throw away.	<b>PARTICULAR PEOPLE PREFER PARK AREA</b> Especially with a treed 99x132 ft. lot. As a setting for this brick bungalow with 2 car garage and stone fireplace enhancing the large living room. Extra bedroom and bath for your guests. In the \$80's. Call Reg Cooper 877-0173.
<b>YOU GET A GORGEOUS VIEW</b> From the main floor finished family room of this 5 bedroom home on super 160' deep lot backing onto conservation. Among the many features are separate dining, main floor laundry, 3 baths, and central air. Why not see for yourself. Call Trudy Simmons. 877-0173.	<b>HERITAGE HOME</b> This is truly a beautiful part of Georgetown; big beautiful spacious rooms, to do the best for your "Fine Furniture", and situated on an extra large lot, with mature trees. Don't wish you had! Call Tillie now. This list price is only \$49,900. 877-0173.	<b>ELEGANT SIDESPLIT</b> With 60 x 140 ft. lot plus two car garage, family room with walk-out, 3 bedrooms, full basement. Sound interesting? The price is surprising too, talk to Susan. Excellent financing and reasonable taxes. 877-0173.	<b>LOVE IS</b> Putting your family in this lovely 3 bedroom bungalow. The rec room is beautifully finished with wet bar, big bright kitchen with walk-out to large deck. All on extra large lot and tastefully decorated. Listed \$52,900! Call Tillie today. 877-0173.	<b>DINE IN ELEGANCE</b> Attractive 3 bedroom bungalow affords luxury living at a reasonable price - \$58,900. Extras include broadloom, garage, fireplace, choice of colours and 5 year H.U.D.A.C. Warranty. Call Finn at 877-0173.	<b>BARGAIN!</b> \$64,500. for 7 room backsplit on 34 acre with new 3 level building (33'x28') ideal home business, handman, trucker, but hurry at this low asking price. Call Reg Cooper at 877-0173.
<b>75'x125'</b> Country sized lot serving village location. Bungalow offers broadloom throughout, fireplace, garage and much more. Call Finn at 877-0173 today.	<b>SCENIC LAND</b> Perhaps the last 50 acre parcel very close to Georgetown with workable and scenic land. Ideal horse farm OR country estate at this low asking price in the \$80's. Call Reg Cooper 877-0173.	<b>LOOK AT THE LOT SIZE</b> 75x125 This brick bungalow has new broadloom throughout, sliding door from dining room to patio, large one car garage. This area is a must for the country lovers. Call Mike Adams for more details. 877-0173.	<b>HIGH COST OF QUALITY HOMES GOT YOU DOWN?</b> Let me show you this custom built solid brick bungalow with fireplace, all on country sized lot. Prices start in the low \$50's, and you still have time to finish your choice. 5 year H.U.D.A.C. Warranty to buyers. Call Trudy Simmons today at 877-0173.	<b>BARGOON 1979</b> A few still left of these large custom brick bungalows. 3 large bedrooms, big bright kitchen with walk-out to country size lot. These special homes are on a 5 year H.U.D.A.C. Warranty. You pick your colours, and quality broadloom, much more to say, all located in the country. Call Mike today 877-0173.	

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