

# Letters to God reveal youths' hopes and fears

By JIM RYAN  
Herald Special

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 20, 1991  
Mk. 10:35-45

Here are some more letters from young adolescents to God.  
Dear God,

How are you? As you probably know I am doing pretty good. I'm keeping myself busy and trying hard at school. I hope I do very well this year even though it is a lot harder for me. Anyways I want to thank you for some things that are very important to me. Thankyou for my wonderful parents they have been really helpful with my dancing and cheerleading by putting forth the money and not saying a bad word about it. Also just the fact that they are always both there for me when and wherever I need them. I couldn't ask for two better parents than them. Thank you for my three brothers and my sister-in-law and the great relationships

I have with them. By the way I would like Karen (sister-in-law) to have a baby sometime in the near future so if you have anything to do with that could you please help?

Talk to ya later,  
Love Becky.

Dear God,  
Hi, it's me, Jennifer. Sometimes I get in fights with my step-father and my mom gets really upset because she's trying to please me and my stepfather. I try to get along with him, but it doesn't work. Help, please. I have another problem to God, sometimes I feel I don't know who my friends are. Sometimes its hard to say who is. There's one of my friends who feels the same way, but I know I can always count on her. Sometimes I feel she's my only friend. Help me find out what's wrong, and if I'm doing anything wrong. Help me be a better person and do good in my school work.



Religion and Reality  
by  
Jim Ryan

Thank you,  
Love always,  
Jennifer.

Dear God,

Hi God and how are you today. I hope you are doing fine and everybody else up there. Today is a very gloomy day outside. It has been raining the whole morning, at this very moment it doesn't look like it is going to clear up out there.

Well since I have left Marian

Academy things have changed also down here. Not that many friends yet, nobody to go out with on weekends. Hopefully all that will change soon. But overall this is an excellent school and very high in spirit.

Alright Bye for now Take care of everybody up there.

Yours sincerely,  
Darren.

Dear God,

Well it's Friday, finally it's been a pretty tough week, it's weird this week it was like school was a place of pleasure and relaxation rather than home. My Dad has been away all week like usual, my sister has been away at school and for some odd reason my mom and I were fighting. I don't think she trusts me anymore and honestly I don't think I've done anything to make her lose faith in me. It hurts, I'm a good student always getting good grades, I have a lot of nice friends, I'm a good person and I'm not on drugs, I don't smoke, I don't drink and I definitely don't sleep around or cause trouble, shouldn't she be happy to have someone like me, to be totally honest I live well up to the name "goody two shoes."

Right now there is only one other problem. All week people have been talking about suicide and drugs. Those two topics are very touchy with me especially when they're both in the same conversation. I am a very sensitive person and the incident involving a friend when I was in grade six still bothers me and it's almost been 3 and a half years. I wish I didn't think about him anymore, I mean after all he's dead right? Well then now come I can't get him off my mind lately. It's not like we were best friends, I didn't know him that well, he was dating my sister but it was her first boyfriend that I can remember and that I got attached to. It still hurts so much.

Why do people have to do that? I don't understand. I mean everybody considers it, in hard times but we never go through with it. Why do you have to let them die? Why can't you stop them?

I know these questions are pointless because you can't answer them but I just want you to know how it feels to the people left behind.

Luv always,  
Jennifer.

## Many reasons for giving thanks

By REV. MARGARET MURRAY

St. Stephen's Hornby and St. John's Anglican Stewarttown  
'National Thanksgiving' - Is that a contradiction in terms? In our Canadian muddle, can we be thankful all at the same time? Does National Thanksgiving actually include the notion of being thankful for our nation?

We are often critical of the press for the negative focus in the stories presented as news. I wonder if we, as Canadians, are not sometimes pre-disposed towards a negative view of things.

After four days of wonderful weather, I made the comment: "Isn't it a gorgeous day?" The other person responded, "Yes, but it can't last." We went on to talk about what would probably happen to our weather, instead of enjoying the gift of a beautiful day!

The Earth has been very generous this year - offering us her bounty and abundance a consistent two weeks ahead of schedule. But don't get carried



### CLERGY COMMENT

away in enjoying that. Don't forget: winter will probably come two weeks early too!

But then, why should we be cheerful? Things are in a mess. The government is up to no good - internationally, nationally, provincially, regionally, locally.

-G.S.T.  
-Constitutional give-aways  
-strikes requiring back-to-work legislation

-too many minority rights issues

-too much money being squandered on social assistance for those who are looking for a 'free ride'...

Never mind the fact that most of us have more than enough. We would rather pat ourselves on the back for good behavior and rationalize the look of hunger we

see in someone's eyes.

Never mind the fact that our communities are safer than U.S. communities and much safer than the spots where armed guards walk the streets and the night air is shattered by the sound of terrorist bombing.

Never mind the fact that we value the union-management process when it is our contract being settled but we want government to intercede in the labor disputes which cause inconvenience in our lives.

Never mind the fact that we don't want to be in the minority - racially or otherwise. We are still quick to criticize the governments' struggle to establish justice for all.

Never mind the fact that even with the G.S.T., we enjoy a standard of living far above the majority of the countries in our world.

And that is why so many people would like to be Canadians. The grass is greener on our side! For once, let us set aside our negativism. Break with tradition - Be Thankful!

## Special Thanksgiving service

By BETTY SOJKA  
Herald Special

The Thanksgiving Sunday service at the village church, was a time to reflect on home, family, agriculture, and the many things in our lives to be thankful for. The



Junior Choir set the tone for a lovely service, with the hymns

### Bible Digest

"Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice." Philip- pians 4:4.

Get your joy from Jesus. He never changes. When you do that continuous joy will be yours.

"Let all your things be done with charity." 1 Corinthians 16:14.

Whatever you say or do, make certain that it is seasoned with love. This is one of the best testimonies that a Christian can give.

"Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." Psalm 27:14.

Waiting can be one of the most frustrating enterprises of life.

Waiting on the Lord can be most rewarding. Be patient. God has a plan for you.

"Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men." 1 Corinthians 1:25.

Since this is the case, we should be well-advised to put our trust in Jesus and not in ourselves and others. Only He has all wisdom and power.

*It is written...*

Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men.

Isaiah 29:13

*It is written...*

Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

Psalms 33:8

they sang.

The congregation did not forget the less fortunate as they arrived laden with food donations for Georgetown's Loving Christ Food Bank.

The 4-H Club is turning up some really interesting facts about dairy products. The group studied the different kinds of cultures needed to make items such as yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, etc. Members compared animal fat contents, and just how much air is used in products to create that light texture. At their last meeting, members made butter and an ice cream pizza. The pizza is to be sampled at a following meeting, needing time to set. A taste test was conducted, with the group identifying a number of unlabelled samples of dairy products. Members scored pretty high in correct answers.

November 2, 1991 has been set for the Annual Turkey Supper to be held at the United Church. Take outs will be available again this year. Tickets can be purchased by calling Eileen McEnery at 877-3721, and Alma Sinclair at 877-6050. Adult cost is \$8.00. This is an event not to be missed.

A sponsor is needed for the October newsletter. Please call Betty Sojka at 853-3691 or leave your name at the Ballinafad General Store. The cost is the purchase of 100 stamps. Your help would very much be appreciated.

Folks are reminded that the Halloween Dance tickets are now on sale at the Ballinafad General Store at a cost of \$7.50 per person.

### the HERALD CHURCH DIRECTORY

To advertise your church's special services, call our Advertising Department at 877-2201 and ask for Kim Harvey!

#### ANGLICAN

St. Alban's Anglican Church, 19 St. Alban's Dr., Acton ..... 853-2711  
Summer Service: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.  
St. Alban's The Martyr Anglican Church  
537 Main St., Glen Williams ..... 877-8323  
Service Times: Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

#### BAPTIST

Acton Baptist Church, 8 Mill St. E., Acton ..... 853-0090  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Christian Education 9:45 a.m.  
Maple Avenue Baptist Church, 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown... 873-9211  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Family Bible Hour 9:30 a.m.;  
Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m.; Evening 6:30 p.m.  
Mountainview Baptist Church, 1 Mountainview Rd. S.,  
Georgetown ..... 873-2184  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Children's Program 10:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
Location of LOVE IN CHRIST FOODBANK - Open Wed. mornings

#### CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

Georgetown Alliance Church, Main St. S., Georgetown ..... 873-0249  
Service Times: Sunday 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

#### LUTHERAN

Immanuel Lutheran, Windsor & Carole Sts., Georgetown ..... 877-1172  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

#### UNITED

St. Andrew's United Church, 89 Mountainview Rd. S.  
Georgetown ..... 877-4482  
Worship 9:45 a.m.  
St. John's United Church, 1 Guelph St., Georgetown ..... 877-2531  
Worship 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School 11:00 a.m.

#### NON-DENOMINATIONAL (PENTECOSTAL)

### ALL PEOPLES CHURCH DELIVERANCE CENTRE

41 Finchgate Blvd., Bramalea (S.W. Corner Finchgate Hwy. 7)

- Bible Study
- Worship • Deliverance

Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 8:00 p.m.

We Provide:  
• Children's Church  
• Nursery Service  
English-to-Italian Translation

Pastor: George A. LeRoy  
792-2176

#### NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH

"WHERE LIVING APOSTLES ARE ACTIVE TODAY"

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

SERVICES:  
10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays - 8:00 p.m.

#### HALTON HILLS CONGREGATION

150 Main St. South, Acton

Rector: Rev. Stephen Wagner  
853-4627  
"A Hearty Welcome To All"

#### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Windsor Rd. & Carole St.

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Fritz Schmitt, Pastor  
873-0264