



## *Parish of French Village Clergy*

*John Stannage 1834-1858*

*Assistants:*

*Edwin Gilpin Jr. 1849*

*Henry Mitchell Spike 1850-1851*

*Thomas Day Ruddie 1852*

*William Rupert Cochran 1852-1854*

*John Pearson 1854-1856*

*John Ambrose 1858-1870*

*J. O. Ruggles 1870-1878*

*Philip H. Brown 1878-1892*

*Lawrence Amor 1892-1900*

*F.P. Greatorox 1900-1902*

*Samuel Trivett 1902-1911*

*Innes E. Fraser 1912-1926*

*William H. Knickse 1927-1937*

*John F. Rudderham 1938-1943*

*Horace MacLean 1943-1949*

*Gordon H. B. Rutter 1950*

*Carmon W. F. Stone 1951*

*Dr. Rees Wright 1952-1953*

*Col. William Rippon 1954-1968*

*John C. Earle 1968-1980*

*James Pike (Priest-in-charge) 1980-1981*

*Michael Boyd 1981-1982*

*Roderick J. Gillis 1982-1986*

*Melvin Langille 1986-1990*

*Charles Sidney Black 1990-1997*

*Mark Marshall 1998-2011*

*Paul Findlay (Priest-in-charge) 2011-2012*

*Brianna Andrews 2012-*

## *Biographies of Former Clergy*

### **Rev. John E. Stannage**

Born in Jersey, England, and ordained in 1834 at St. Paul's Church, French Village. He did outstanding work by traveling back to his homeland obtaining gifts and money for his mission. He organized and helped to raise a fund, around the year 1850, to the amount of \$7,000. It later became an endowment fund for St. Paul's and St. Peter's parishes from which a stipend is paid annually. Rev. Stannage married Eliza, daughter of N. Lecain in St. George's Church, Halifax, by Rev. R.F. Uniacke.

*-Served Parish 1834-1858*

### **Rev. John Ambrose.**

.A., D.C.L., zoologist; born at Saint John, N.B. 25<sup>th</sup> Sept., 1823; son of Richard and Katherine (Phillips) Ambrose died Sackille, N.S., 12<sup>th</sup> September, 1898. He was born one month after the arrival of his parents from Cove of Cork (Queenstown), Ireland. Although originally from England, his ancestors had resided in Ireland for generations. Was educated at Truro and at King's College, Windsor. (B.A. 1852; M.A. 1856; D.C.L. 1888) For over forty-four years laboured successfully as a clergyman for the Church of England at St. Margaret's Bay, Digby, Liverpool, New Dublin and Herring Cove. Was editor of 'Church Work' and 'The Halifax Church Chronicle', and also was a governor of King's College. Married, 30<sup>th</sup> June 1853, at Liverpool, N.S.A., Charlotte Ann Barss (U.E. Loyalist descent). During a busy life as a country parson, he found in natural history a recreation, although not claiming to be an authority on the subject He was an original member of the Institute and was proposed as a member of the first council, but as he lived at a distance from Halifax, he could take but little active part in it's work; and in 1890 was elected a corresponding member. He published six papers in it's Transactions, all relating to either the fishes or birds of St. Margaret's Bay, where he was stationed for thirteen years and so had ample opportunity of gathering from the fishermen much information regarding the inhabitants of the deep.

*-Served Parish 1858-1870*

### **Rev. John Owen Ruggles. M.A.**

Once Vicar and Rector of the Parish of Horton. Son of Israel Williams and Mary (Owen) Ruggles, of Annapolis, and great-grandson of General Timothy Ruggles, the noted Loyalist, who settled in Nova Scotia in 1783. He was born in Annapolis County, Feb. 8, 1840; entered King's College, Windsor, in 1854; received B.A. 1859 and M.A. in 1863; Ordained Deacon in 1863, and Priest in 1864. From 1863 to 1871 he was Vicar and again from 1878 to 1888 Rector of Horton. (Between these years he was Minister for St. Paul's Parish, St. Margaret's Bay). He married his first cousin, Catherine Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Owen, Barrister of Lunenburg, and had ten children., He was a devoted and faithful Priest of the Anglican Communion and died suddenly at Windsor in the performance of Clerical duty Sept. 23, 1895. He is buried in the Anglican Churchyard at the "Three Mile Church" near Halifax.

*-Served Parish 1870-1878*

### **Rev. Samuel Trivett**

Born in England on April 6, 1852. He was expected to follow in his father's footsteps of winemaking, but instead offered himself for training in the Ministry of the Church of England – for this he was disowned by his family. He was ordained Deacon and Priest in 1878. He lied as one of the more interesting personalities of the Anglican Church in the Province of Alberta in forking with the Blood Indians. He lived with great personal sorrow and hardship. He made mistakes. He was devoted. He was put on trial and driven away. In Nova Scotia he served the following parishes: St. Barnabas, Blandford (1896-1899); Stewiacke (1899-1902); St. Paul's, French Village

(1902-1911); Milton (1911-1914); Guysborough (1914-1917), Oakfield (Chaplain to the Laurie family 1919-1925). He died December 22, 1931, at the age of 79. Mrs. Trivett died in 1950 at the age of 92. Both are buried in Camp Hill Cemetery. The Bell of St. Margaret's Church, Tantallon, is inscribed; "Samuel Trivett, Rector, Easter, 1907".

*-Served Parish 1902-1911*

**Rev. Horace MacLean**

(obituary)

Born in North Sydney; died at Middleton, March 18, 1983, age 71. He was graduate of King's College. Served in the Parishes of Neil's Harbour, French Village, Digby, St. George's, Sydney and Windsor. Buried St. James Anglican Cemetery, Bridgetown.

*- Served Parish 1943-1949*

**Rev. Canon Carmon W. F. Stone**

Born in Bridgewater, 1903, died October 3, 1970, age 67. He received his early education in Bridgewater and later earned his B.A. and B.D. from the University of King's College. Canon Stone served as Parish Priest in Port Medway, Hubbards, and St. George's, Halifax. In 1946 he joined the faculty of King's and in 1948 he became a full-time associate professor. That year he moved with his family to Hubbards. He served as professor of Liturgics and also instructed students in Pastoralia, Dogmatics, Homilistics, Greek Testament, and Religious Knowledge. He served the College as Clerk of Convocation until his death. An authority on The Book of Common Prayer, he contributed to its understanding and appreciation at both the Diocesan and National Church levels, serving the latter in the revisions of the Prayer Book (1959). In 1964 he was installed as Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of All Saints. He is buried in Pine Hill Cemetery, Hubbards.

*- Served Parish 1951*

**Rev. Wilfred Rees-Wright, D.D.**

(obituary)

Dr. Rees-Wright is remembered in the Halifax area for his help in the design and construction of the Planetarium at the Nova Scotia Museum of Science. Before returning to England in 1957, he was Anglican Rector at French Village and Bedford, Halifax County. A scientist as well as a religious leader, Dr. Rees-Wright was educated at the University College of North Wales at Bangor, graduated in 1923 in biological subjects and continued to earn his Master of Science Degree in the Department of Agricultural Zoology. He was an Exhibitioner of the University of Wales and held a Demonstratorship in Bangor before his appointment as Assistant Lecturer in Zoology at the University of Manchester, the position he held until he entered St. Michael's College, Llandaff, to take Holy Orders. From a Curacy in Broughton, near Wrexham, he became Rector of Lochgilphead (Argyle) and later Vicar of Berdon in Essex. In 1948 he was appointed Professor of Biology in the Memorial University of Newfoundland at St. John's, and later relinquished this scientific post to resume clerical duties, moving to Nova Scotia. Funeral services for Rev. Rees-Wright were held in Hollybush Church, Worcester, England.

*- Served Parish 1952-1953*

**Rev. Michael S. Boyd**

(obituary)

It is with great sadness that his family announces the death of the Reverend Michael Stephen Boyd, 61, of Halifax, on Thursday, January 31, 2013. Born in Windsor, Michael was the second son of Eric and the late Margaret (Smith) Boyd. He was a graduate of Acadia University and the University of Toronto, Trinity College. Ordained as a priest of the Anglican Church of Canada in 1976, Michael served parishes in Digby, French Village and Hantsport, retiring in July 2012 after serving St. Andrew's Parish in Hantsport for 31 years. Michael had a

great love for his family, Anglican liturgy, choral and organ music, movies and summer sojourns in Petite Riviere. He is survived by his father Eric, and his step-mother, Mattie, Bedford; his brothers, John (Deborah), Halifax; Barry (Krista), Vaughans; and Jim, Belleville, Ont.; and his sisters, Anne (Ron) Huestis, Bedford; Carolyn (Bill) Armstrong, Avonport; and Florence (David) Bartol, Bedford; as well as thirteen nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his mother, Margaret (2003); and his brother, Reg (1982).

A Memorial Service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 5, 2013, in St. George's Anglican Church, 2222 Brunswick St., Halifax. A reception will follow. Interment will be held in Maplewood Cemetery, Windsor.

- *Served Parish 1981-1982*

### **Rev. Canon Rod Gillis**

A native of Glace Bay, NS, Rod graduated from St. Francis Xavier University (B.A. 1975) and The Atlantic School of Theology (M. Div., 1978). He was ordained deacon for the Diocese of Nova Scotia in 1977 and Priest in 1979. Prior to his appointment to the Parish of French Village, Rod served as student deacon at Emmanuel Parish Spryfield (1977-78); curate at Holy Trinity, Bridgewater with the Conqueralls (1978-79) and rector of The Parish of St. Andrew's, Neil's Harbour (1979-1982)

The Rev. Rod Gillis took up responsibilities as rector of the Parish of French Village in July 1982. During his time as rector he was a member of the St. Margaret's Bay Peace Group, an adjunct faculty member at Atlantic School of Theology for two terms, a member of the Program Committee of St. Margaret's Regional Council, and Regional Dean 1984-1986. The French Village Branch of the Canadian Mothers' Union was started during his incumbency. Rod's wife Wendy was one of the original members. The Parish also participated in the Anglicans in Mission Campaign of the National Church. The lay readers' program was expanded and the Book of Alternative Services was introduced. Upon arrival in the parish the Gillis family had three children, Ian, Anna, and Neil. The oldest two children started school at Tantallon Elementary. Their youngest child Peter was born in 1986 and baptized at St. Paul's French Village, just weeks prior to the family's departure for St. Michael and All Angels Parish in CornerBrook, Newfoundland in late September 1986.

The Gillis family returned to the diocese where Rod served as Rector of St. James, Mahone Bay (1988-1992), St. John's, North Sydney (1993-1998) during which time he also served as archdeacon of Cape Breton. He was appointed rector of St. James, Armdale in August 1998 with additional responsibilities as archdeacon of Chebucto 1999-2004. Rod was made a Canon of All Saints Cathedral in 2004. The Rev. Canon Rod Gillis retired from parish ministry at Armdale in 2012.

- *Served Parish 1982-1986*

### **Rev. Canon Melvin Langille**

As a theological student at AST, Father Melvin had the honour of serving in the parishes of All Saints' Cathedral, Halifax; St George's, New Glasgow with St Augustine's, Trenton & St Alban's, Thorburn; St Margaret of Scotland, Halifax; the seven wonderful congregations of Tangier Parish; and the Parish of Falkland (Herring Cove & Portugese Cove). Ordained Deacon in 1982 (2 May) he was posted to be director of the Anglican Youth Camp, Mason's Point while at the same time being Deacon-in-Charge of the Parish of Falkland. He then went to assist for a time in the Parish of Ship Harbour during the illness of their parish priest. January of 1983 saw him posted to the Parish of St John the Evangelist, Lower Sackville (including Good Shepherd, Beaverbank & St Nicholas, Hammond's Plains). Ordained priest on 24 April 1983, he continued on in Lower Sackville for a couple of months until Bp. Hatfield appointed him Rector of Lockeport & Barrington Parishes (Holy Cross, Lockeport; St Peter's, West Green Harbour; Holy Trinity, Jordan Falls ; St Paul's, Birchtown; Resurrection, Churchover & Ascension, Barrington Passage) which was effective on 1 July that year. Effective 1 January 1987

he was appointed Rector of French Village Parish (St James', Boutilier's Point; St George's, Head of the St Margaret's Bay; St Margaret's, Tantallon & St Paul's, French Village). He was appointed to the Parish of St Andrew, Cole Harbour as of 1 September 1990 and from there, on 1 December 1996 to the Parish of Holy Trinity, Yarmouth with St Stephen's, Tusket. During his time in Yarmouth he was appointed Regional Dean of South West Nova Region.

In 2003 Fr Mel answered a call to take up the East Sutherland Parishes (St Finnbar's, Dornoch; St Columba's, Brora; St Maelrubha's Mission, Lairg and, later, St Gilbert's Mission on the west coast of Sutherland) in the Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness, Scotland. He was the first fulltime, resident priest to serve Sutherland since the suppression of the Episcopal Church after the Battle of Culloden in 1746 (Episcopalians were Jacobites). Piping, Gaelic and knowledge of Scottish and Episcopalian history served him well. As in Nova Scotia, Mel has served on an assortment of committees and boards within the diocese and in Scotland, the province. He was also elected, by his fellow clergy, to the Office of Synod Clerk in 2006 and this brought with it a Canonry. He held this office for a full term and stepped down long enough to be re-elected to another Canonry and so continues on the Chapter as an advisor to the Bishop. In August of 2009 the Bishop appointed Mel to be Rector of the Black Isle Joint Charge (the Black Isle is neither black nor an isle but that is another story!) which includes St John's Church, Arpafelie; St Andrew's, Fortrose & St Regulus', Cromarty. Congregations are small in the north of Scotland but they are full of energy and committed to ministry and outreach. Fr Mel is active with the community in a number of different ways including teaching the bagpipe and Gaelic language. He remembers his time in French Village Parish with great fondness and is so happy to have kept in contact, over the years, with people from French Village and all the parishes he has had the honour of serving.

- *Served Parish 1986-1990*

### **Rev. Canon Charles Sidney Black**

Canon Charlie Black was born in Toronto 1932, attended Regal Road Public School in Toronto, Earl Haig Collegiate Institute in North York Township, University College U of T, Huron College in London Ontario. He was ordained Deacon and Priest and served the parishes of Ilderton, then Listowel before joining the Royal Canadian Navy as Chaplain in 1966. Retired from the RCN in 1988, appointed Rector for the Parish of French Village 1990-97. Married to Shirlie Armour in 1958 and has five children, Richard (Abbotsford BC), Michael (Calgary AB), Maureen (Newmarket ON), Catherine (Dartmouth NS), Peter (Brookside NS), and five grandchildren. Since leaving French Village he has served several other parishes in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, is now a Chaplain at the Atlantic School of Theology, and Chaplain to the Nova Scotia Naval Officers' Association, and the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust (HMCS Sackville). He is currently Honorary Associate Priest at the Church of St. Andrew, Cole Harbour.

- *Served Parish 1990-1997*

### **Rev. Mark Marshall**

A native Haligonian, Father Marshall completed his M.Div. from AST in 1994. He was made Deacon at the Cathedral Church of All Saints on the Feast of Edward the Confessor that same year, and was ordained Priest at Trinity Church Digby in March 1995. Father Mark was rector of the Parish of Digby and Weymouth from 1994-1998. In April 1998 he became rector of French Village where he served until 2011. He is presently rector of The Anglican Church of the Apostles Halifax.

- *Served Parish 1998 - 2011*