

Greetings:

The Season of Lent started on Ash Wednesday and will end on Holy Thursday. At the beginning of this forty days of penitence, the ashes placed on our foreheads reminded us that we are dust, and that our bodies will return to the dust. Some Christian traditions stress the importance of giving up something for Lent, but we might also hear about another approach, to add a Christian discipline to our rhythm of life.

Two disciplines associated with Lent are prayer and fasting. One perspective is that we grow in our relationship with Christ by communicating with him; and that we learn more about ourselves by giving up those things that may distract us from our association with Christ. This Lenten discipline of self denial could help us to identify what prevents us from a deeper relationship with God, and what stands between us and our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Lent, with its focus on repentance, is a time to examine the foundations of our spirituality. Here at St. George on Yonge, a Lenten series *"It's All About Jesus"* is offered to help us refocus our devotion to our Lord, our Saviour and our friend. The dates, times and scripture readings are provided elsewhere in this newsletter.

So, as we continue our journey of faith during this sacred season, may we be models of the Christian life with an emphasis on self denial and generosity to others; and may we recommit to following Jesus, and find clearer meaning and purpose for our lives together in Christ.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23-24

Leonard ✚
Rev. Leonard Leader



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Community Connection

The ability to connect with each other and with those around us is at the core of everything that is done by a parish such as St George. It is not enough to simply be a place that like-minded people can gather together each week and worship God in a method that all agree with. Each of us comes to the church from a different path, each with unique experiences and skills which are both natural and those which may have developed over years. Each of us comes to church for a different, personal, reason. So does the newcomer, or explorer, that comes to us each week out of their own need, their own curiosity, or their own customs or lifestyle. We recognise that we are a diverse group here at St George, and as such, by being an open, accepting and welcoming community we can meet the new person each week and hopefully show them a safe and warm place that they can call home as well.

There are a number of ways that we can connect with those around us, to let them know that we are here, so to speak. Some such ways currently in use are by means of the electronic sign at our front door, the worship at 8 am in the warm weather outside on our front steps, the lighting of the Easter Fire on our doorstep, the monthly outing at the local Pub, the Poetry Café events, the ESL classes, as well as the wonderful concerts and public events that are held in our sanctuary.

Some other things that we could possibly do, if the desire to join in was present, could be 'Movie Afternoons' with a classic or popular movie being shown in the parish hall with light food and drinks which would have some sort of positive message or moral that could be discussed. Another option could be a group that could read/discuss a 'weekly' reading electronically, exploring what it possibly means to various individuals with needed assistance or guidance offered by clergy such as Leonard, Connie or Morning in order to allow members (and possible non-members) to keep in touch and connect as well as promoting reading and understanding of scripture for all.

Please let myself, Leonard or the wardens know if you would be able/interested in participating in or helping with any of these activities, or if there is something that you think that we could do as well.

Connection to the community around us is not just the job of the clergy, or of any small group of individual volunteers, but is a central focus of all if we are to be a truly Missional church in this area.

Submitted by Doug Heyes



From the Wardens

We thank the congregation for placing your trust in us, to oversee the work of the church. We look forward to continuing to work with our dedicated Priest-in-Charge and staff team and our hardworking volunteers.

Growth needs to be our focus at this time and we are happy to have the Director of Congregational Development, Janet Marshall, helping us develop our Mission Action Plan, which will provide a focus in our planning. With help from our many teams and ministries, we can be a place that will attract new people to our worship and events.

Thank you for sharing your time, talents and treasures with your church family.

Kwan Luk, Lorraine Baillie and Aili Maki

Vestry 2019

On February 24th we assembled in the Parish Hall to look back at 2018, forward to this coming year and recognize the contributions of so many who are involved in various ministries at St. George on Yonge.

Thank you to everyone who attended; to those who made, seconded and voted on motions; to those who asked questions and made comments; to everyone who contributed reports that form a record of our accomplishments.

Special thank you to Max, Kien, and Egan who stepped down from their positions but will continue to support the leadership. And to Geraldine for capturing the meeting in her well written minutes.

Children's Ministry



St. George Sunday Children's Program –

takes place during the 10:30 a.m. service. There is one class for all children 3-11 years old.

We continue to look for people interested in becoming part of our Children's Ministry. Please contact Kathy Baillie or Leonard Leader if you could help us out.

Calendar of Events

ESL Conversational Classes: Tuesdays, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.

Separate beginner- and intermediate-level sections are offered. No registration needed.

Wednesday Morning Group: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Join us for refreshments and conversation. Topics often include travelogues, seasonal studies, and guest speakers. All are welcome. Speak to Ann Beecham for more information.

Mandarin Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Proverbs Class: Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Mandarin Bible Study: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Study Series – "It's All About Jesus"

- Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 p.m. at the Frog & Firkin - Luke 15:1–3,11b–32
- Thursday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. at St. George - Luke 22:14–23:56

Music at St. George Presents the Cornell University Choir on Friday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

Taizé Service: The first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by the St. George on Yonge Mandarin Fellowship. Bilingual in English & Mandarin. A quiet service of song, prayer, and reflection that is meditative and contemplative. Upcoming dates are **April 4 and May 2**. Everyone welcome!

Food Bank: The second Sunday of each month is "Food Bank Sunday" and we will try to fill our shopping cart. Upcoming dates are **April 7 and May 12**. The cart will be presented at the Altar along with the offerings that day as a symbol of our gift in reaching out to the hungry in our community. When you are shopping remember to pick up some non-perishable canned goods. And remember Jesus saying "When you did it for the least of these, you did it for me."

Creating Palm Crosses: We invite you to join us in making Palm Crosses on level "M" on **Wednesday, April 10** at 10:30 a.m. Lessons will be given for beginners. All thumbs? No worry; join us for the coffee, tea, and fellowship!

The Altar Flower Request Form is available from the Ushers. If you would like flowers placed, please complete the form and place on the offertory plate or mail to the office in an envelope with a donation **at least 2 weeks in advance**. Suggested donation is \$50. Thank you.

The Altar Guild will Decorate our Church for Easter season. If you wish to contribute for the purchase of lilies, please complete the "Altar Flower Request Form" (which is available from the Ushers) and place on the offertory plate in an envelope with a donation **by Sunday, April 14**. Thank you.



Are you on facebook??
St. George on Yonge is there too!!

Be sure to look us up and "like" us at ...

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeonyonge>

Community Commemoration of the van attack.

Tuesday, April 23 There will be a community commemoration of the van attack. Ceremonies will be held at Mel Lastman Square and Olive Square at 1:30 p.m. and again at Mel Lastman Square at 6 p.m. Plans are being made to have community dinners in a number of places, including here at St. George after the evening gathering. Further information will be available soon.

Pub Knights: Come join the Knights on the 4th Thursday every month. The longest journey begins with just one small step. Take that first step and join the Knights for spirited conversation, a cold beverage, and great food at the "Frog & Firkin" (4854 Yonge Street, across from the Sheppard Centre on Yonge Street). The next dates are **April 25 and May 23**.

Diocesan Confirmation Service: Sunday, April 28 at 4:30 p.m. at St. James Cathedral, 65 Church Street (at King Street East), M5C 2E9.

Episcopal Visit: The Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson, our Area Bishop, will be visiting us on **Sunday, May 5** at the 10:30 a.m. service.

From the Office

Bulletins along with recordings of the service (sermons and announcements) are available on our website. Click on the "Latest Sermon" or "The Sermon Archive" links on the front page. Bulletins are available through the "Next Service" link on the front page; from there you can look at past services. If you cannot make it to the service, we hope you will feel connected to us via these tools!

Holy Week and Easter at St. George on Yonge

Sunday, April 14 Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. Communion with distribution of Palms
10:30 a.m. Communion with distribution of Palms
& procession & children's ministry



Monday, April 15 Monday in Holy Week

7:00 p.m. Communion Service



Tuesday, April 16 Tuesday in Holy Week

7:00 p.m. Communion Service with anointing
prayers for healing



Wednesday, April 17 Wednesday in Holy Week

12:00 noon Communion with Reflection on the
Way of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Communion with Reflection on the
Way of the Cross



Thursday, April 18 Maundy Thursday

7:30 p.m. Communion with washing of the feet
& solemn stripping of the Sanctuary



Friday, April 19 Good Friday

9:30 a.m. Family service remembering the death
of Jesus
11:00 a.m. Solemn service of the Passion
with "Stations of the Cross"



Saturday, April 20 Holy Saturday

8:00 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter with renewal of
baptismal promises & 1st Eucharist of
Easter



Sunday, April 21 Easter Sunday

8:00 a.m. Communion celebrating the
resurrection
10:30 a.m. Sung Communion celebrating the
resurrection with children's ministry



Wednesday, April 24 Easter Wednesday

12:00 noon Communion Service followed by lunch
provided by Delmanor Senior
Community



Concerts



Plan to attend one or more of our upcoming concerts. Bring family members, neighbours and friends.

Friday, March 29, the Cornell University Chorus will be presenting "Visions and Dreams" We will be their first concert of their Canada Tour. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20, available at the church office or at the door.

Sunday, April 7th "Music for the Soul", featuring works by Mozart, Beethoven, Sondheim, Bernstein, Leonard Cohen and 5 Hebrew Love Songs. Musicians include James Wallenberg, violinist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Ticket prices will be Adults \$20, Seniors/Students \$15.

Staff

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Leonard Leader
Honorary Associate	The Rev. Canon Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD
Assistant Curate	The Rev. Morning Wang
Organist & Director of Music	Michael Leach
Parish Administrator	Craig Gustafson
Custodian	Philip Ikhuoria

Did you know...

we will be celebrating our 100th Anniversary in 2022?

Let's start thinking about what we would like to do. We are looking for someone interested in organizing the archives.

Did you know...

we received a \$5,000 donation from our developer to be put toward the mortgage?

Thank you Julie.

Did you know...

we help 35 people in our gift program each month?

Thanks to Sangeeta, Ruby and Roshni for their work in this ministry. Thanks to all those who donate to the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Did you know...

as part of our marketing campaign, we have sent out postcards to the condos in our immediate neighbourhood?

Three have gone out, and a fourth will be mailed before Palm Sunday for Easter.

Many thanks to Anne Wynter for her beautiful, creative designs, and to Max for organizing their distribution.

Please read the following revised guidelines:

Guidelines to prevent Anaphylactic Reactions

St. George on Yonge is a **nut-sensitive** and **seafood-sensitive** facility.

There are children in the daycare who have **Anaphylactic Allergies** to:

- Peanuts
- Tree Nuts

There are members of the congregation who have **Anaphylactic Allergies** to:

- Peanuts and tree nuts
- Fish and Seafood

Contact with food containing the above ingredients can be **Life Threatening**.

Food products containing peanuts or tree nuts are prohibited throughout the building at all times.

For parish and outside events: If fish or seafood are planned to be served, the Hospitality Coordinator or Parish Administrator need to be informed ahead of time. These foods need to be kept separate from all other food and should be labelled. The parish will endeavour to limit the amount of seafood/fish brought for events.

Your co-operation is extremely important in this matter.



NO...
Peanuts / tree nuts
Fish / Seafood

Community Notices

Yonge Churchill Child Care Centre: Before and after school programmes are available! Please see the flyer on the Welcome Desk for contact information.

Free Daily Devotional Books are Available in the Library that help readers spend time each day in God's Word. Large and Regular Print: Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer. It is also available via e-mail, cassette, and braille. It is also available in Spanish.

www.forwardmovement.org/subscriptions.aspx
Regular Print: Our Daily Bread is published by RBC Ministries. Each daily thought is designed to draw the reader into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ

and to evoke responses of worship, love, trust, and obedience. It is also available on radio, podcast, e-mail, and mobile. For social networking users, it is available on Twitter and Facebook. It is available in more than 40 languages. **www.odp.org/about**

The Anglican and the Anglican Journal are updating their subscription list. If you wish to continue to receive the newspapers, here are four ways to renew:

- Go to **anglicanjournal.com/yes** and fill out the form.
- Email **yes@national.anglican.ca** with your name, address, phone number, and ID number.
- Phone 1-866-333-0959.
- Fill out the notice in The Anglican or Anglican Journal and mail it to Anglican Journal, 80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2.

If you do not choose one of these options, your subscription to both papers will end with the June 2019 issue. The Anglican and Anglican Journal will continue to be posted online each month.

Don Valley Refugee Resettlers

In case you were not aware, Saint George on Yonge is a member of the Don Valley Refugee Resettlers (DVRR). DVRR is a group formed from Willowdale area churches that sponsors and settles refugees. Max Wynter and Aili Maki are the St. George's representatives who attend the DVRR meetings and help out. We raise funds through the sale of honey and amaryllis bulbs, and by donation. We use the funds raised to support refugees sponsored through AURA (The Anglican-United Refugee Alliance). The AURA office helps with the paperwork required to get refugees into Canada.

When we know we have a family on the way we shift into high gear, collecting gently used furniture and household items to set up the apartment which we rent for the family. We support the refugee family financially for the first year and help them with all aspects of adjusting to life in Canada. This can include things such as completing the basic paperwork required to get health cards, applying for social assistance, opening a bank account, to enrolling in appropriate English classes, learning how to use the TTC and learning how to go shopping and set a budget. Learning English is a high priority, as it's much easier to find good jobs with less of a language barrier.

While our financial obligation to a refugee family only lasts for one year, we often stay in touch well beyond the one-year date, and sometimes provide advice or emergency assistance.

Our newest family arrived on Valentine's day. They are a Syrian couple – the eldest daughter of the Syrian family that arrived in 2017(?) and her husband. They are now settled into their own apartment and are being enrolled in English classes.

Last year we had a family of four arrive from Eritrea. They have a sister who came to Toronto as a refugee herself a few years back, and with her help they have settled in remarkably quickly, even finding employment before the first year has ended. Of course, it helps that they already knew some English before landing!

How can you get involved? You can donate money or furniture, or you can help more directly. We often need people to help with transportation to appointments, translation (especially at this time we need Arabic speakers available during office hours - we rely heavily on one lady and don't want to burn her out!), government paperwork etc., as well as muscles for moving furniture on moving day. If you think you would like to get involved, speak to Aili or Max, and we will let you know when the next meeting is scheduled, and get your email address onto the distribution list so you can see what needs doing when.

Shout Out to...

our responsible counters who take their role seriously and get the job done.



Shout Out to...

our faithful ushers who play such an important role in our worship services. They would appreciate having some new members join them.



Shout Out to...

Kathy and Debbie for taking care of our children during worship.



Shout Out to...

the members of the Altar Guild, who week after week prepare for worship and clean up afterwards. Thank you for your dedication.



Shout Out to

To our readers, intercessors, anointers, chalice bearers and choir for the roles you play in worship.



Shout Out to

To our hospitality team for providing a time to socialize with a hot cup of coffee or tea.



THANK YOU! (Other teams will be featured in future newsletters)

Services

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Said Eucharist (BAS 1962)
	9:00 a.m.	Mandarin Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (BAS)
Wednesday	12:00 noon	Worship at Midday

BAS 1962 (Book of Alternate Services) uses the 1962 rite which is the traditional language as in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

Mandarin Fellowship is offered in the Sanctuary. We hope our Mandarin Fellowship can be a "harbour for love," where we seek truth together, while experiencing and receiving the abundant grace of God.

衷心欢迎您来到圣乔治教会大家庭，我们的国语团契每周日上午9点举行主日聚会。

盼望国语团契可以成为一个爱的港湾，在这里我们一起寻求上帝的真理，一起经历上

帝的同在，一起领受上帝的恩典。

BAS (Book of Alternate Services) uses contemporary, inclusive-language

The next edition of the newsletter will be coming out sometime in the fall. **Deadline** will be decided closer to the date. Email articles to the editor: Kathy Baillie at fambail@hotmail.com



**REMEMBER,
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
AT ST. GEORGE ON YONGE CHURCH**

**"To nurture our relationships with God in Christ,
with one another, and with our community."**

**We're on the Web! See us at:
www.StGeorgeonYonge.ca**

5350 Yonge Street, North York