

St. George on Yonge – June 19, 2020

Father's Day and National Indigenous Peoples Day edition

To our St. George on Yonge Parish Family and Friends,

***Please join us for worship this Sunday**

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** Our Sunday service is being streamed live on the St. George on Yonge Facebook page at **10am ET:** <https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeonyonge/> **Watch with your fellow parishioners!** The entire video will also be available on the page immediately after. Please invite your friends and family and let's watch, pray, sing and react together! Last week's service is available for you to watch again at your convenience here: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/stgeorgeonyonge/videos/>

* You can continue to access the services at <https://stgeorgeonyonge.ca/sermons>

*The bulletin is attached.

*Please remember to maintain your offering, and consider using PAR if you have not already signed up; the Envelope Secretary can help with this. Anne Baillie at family.baillie@sympatico.ca The link to CanadaHelps is on our website, however we encourage Parishioners to donate more in their usual fashion as the church pays 3.75% for credit card charges.

NEW THIS WEEK: We can arrange to pick up your donation and save you a stamp. Leave a message on the church voice mail.

* Happy Birthday to all those born in June. Let us know if there are any milestone birthdays to acknowledge.

* Please look at the Bishop's letters from this week, attached.



VIRTUAL CHILDREN'S PROGRAM – Sunday, June 21st at 11 a.m.

Hey parents and kids, please join me for a virtual children's time this Sunday morning at 11:00. It would be great to see as many of you as possible. We'll have a story and some virtual activities, but sorry, you'll have to provide your own snack.

To join by phone – Call **647-374-4685** When prompted to enter the Meeting ID number, enter **4136849381** Then press #. If prompted to enter a participation ID, just press # and stay on the line.

To join by computer, tablet or smart phone – Go to the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136849381> You may have to download Zoom.

Thanks and hope to see you on Sunday!

Kathy



*June is **Indigenous History Month** and Sunday is **Indigenous Peoples Day**. Please look at the message from Melanie Delva, Reconciliation Animator with the Primate's office. It contains links to many resources. You can find it at the end of this email.

As well, you can watch the service online on Sunday, June 21 starting at 2PM Eastern Time on our [website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#). The Order of Service along with additional resources are available at www.anglican.ca/nidp.

Message from Bishop Kevin

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for continuing to include me in your regular emailings. I always appreciate seeing what is happening in the life of the parish, and noting the many activities and events going on at St. George on Yonge - even in the midst of a pandemic! I also appreciated the inclusion of your communications from the Diocesan Bishop this week, namely his letters of June 10 and June 12.

Friends, be assured of my prayers for all of you as you gather in worship this week. May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, keep you in His perfect peace.

Blessings,
+Kevin



VIRTUAL LEMONADE ON THE LAWN – Sunday, June 21st at 1 p.m.

Join us for a virtual social time this Sunday. If you have a reading, song or something else to share, that would be terrific.

To join by phone – Call **647-374-4685** When prompted to enter the Meeting ID number, enter **4136849381** Then press #. If prompted to enter a participation ID, just press # and stay on the line.

To join by computer, tablet or smart phone – Go to the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136849381> You may have to download Zoom.

If you would like to practise signing on, or need any further information, please contact Lorraine at 905-881-1465 or lbaillie@rogers.com. On Sunday if you have any trouble getting on, please call Lorraine.

Bring your beverage and treats to the chat!

Thanks to Geraldine for hosting last week. Nancy and Michael are hosting this week. Volunteers for future weeks would be appreciated.

Reminders

- *Please share stories, photos that have warmed your heart or ideas you have found helpful in this challenging time.
- * Devotional resources – Please contact the church office if you would like a copy of Daily Bread or Forward Day by Day.

Church Contact Information

Even as parts of the province move into Phase 2 of COVID-19 management, the church remains closed. If you need to contact the office, please e-mail or leave a voice message. The church phone number is **(416) 225-1922**.

Office	Ext. 501	office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca
Leonard Leader	Ext. 515	leonard.leader@stgeorgeonyonge.ca
Michael Leach	Ext. 504	

Prayer Requests – Margie Lyttle 416-512-6265 mmlyttle@hotmail.com

Important Links

- *For regular updates on COVID-19 from Toronto Public Health, or for updates on the impact of COVID-19 on City services, please visit www.toronto.ca/covid19. This link will also connect you to Provincial and Federal information.
- *For information and updates from the Diocese, please visit www.toronto.anglican.ca

**"But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."**

Isaiah 40.31

Message from Melanie Delva, Reconciliation Animator with the Primate's office



Dear friends,

I realize that using all-caps in the digital realm is considered “yelling”, but I feel this is appropriate to at least raise my voice for...

HAPPY INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH/NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY (June 21)!

It may not seem like there are a lot of things to celebrate these days, and the heinous acts of racism across the country and the world are laying bare what Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) have been trying to tell the rest of us for - ...well...forever, really. I would like to encourage us by uplifting the work, witness and presence of Indigenous peoples today.

National Indigenous History Month was adopted by unanimous motion in the Canadian House of Commons in 2009. June 21 became National Indigenous Peoples Day by [Proclamation](#) of the then-Governor General in 1996. That said, the Proclamation did not come about in a vacuum. It was the tireless, decades-long labour of Indigenous peoples in the National Indian Brotherhood (the pre-cursor to the [Assembly of First Nations](#). Read the story [here!](#)), the late [Elijah Harper](#) and the Sacred Assembly of 1995, and the thousands of Indigenous peoples involved in the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples ([RCAP](#)) that led to the creation of a day devoted to recognizing and celebrating the vast and brilliant diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada.

With June 21st landing on a Sunday this year, and National Indigenous Peoples day now appearing in our church calendars, many are asking how they might use their Sunday services to celebrate the day. I am so thrilled that for the first time, Indigenous Ministries (IM) will be organizing, recording and making available [a special Indigenous Peoples Day service](#) featuring song, prayers, readings, reflections and blessings from Indigenous peoples across the church. The service will be “released” online on June 21st, but in understanding that some churches may want to use it as their Sunday service or as part of it, the service will also be “pre-released” to those interested in doing so. There are also a number of liturgical and worship resources available through [Indigenous Ministries](#) of the Anglican Church and the [United Church](#) of Canada.

While you're planning your services, don't forget to pray for and uplift the ministry of Indigenous folks in your area. The [Toronto Urban Native Ministry](#), [Indigenous Ministry of Rupertsland](#), [Urban Aboriginal Ministry](#) are just a few examples located in urban centres. That said, many Indigenous lay leaders and clergy work in rural and remote parishes and ministries. Most are unpaid. Many use their own resources to fund their ministries. This is an ongoing concern that the [Jubilee Commission](#), and both Indigenous and non-Indigenous leadership are attempting to address.

If this is a need that you would be able to assist with financially, I encourage you to [consider a gift](#) to Indigenous Ministries (IM), who use these funds to help these unpaid ministers of our church in addition to suicide prevention measures, translation of texts that many of us in the Church take for granted as being in our language, training for ministry and countless other ministries. Having witnessed first hand what IM does with a dollar, I know your gift will go far.

National Indigenous Peoples Day – also June 21st!

There are always an incredible array of events, gatherings, circles, concerts, art shows etc. celebrating the day. I was really encouraged to see that though the in-person events are almost entirely cancelled, folks have found really creative ways to celebrate virtually. In fact, in some ways, these events are more accessible to some than they have been before. Here are just a few that I found, but encourage you to do some research as well:

- Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival ([Virtual Edition](#))
- Aboriginal Peoples Television Network ([APTN](#))
- The [Downie-Wenjack](#) Fund
- [Regina Public Library](#)

National Indigenous History Month

Many (if not most) of us who were raised in non-Indigenous Canada and did our education through the Canadian system, we did not learn much of anything about Indigenous peoples. For me, they simply disappeared from my textbook after confederation. Then when I first became aware of the fact that I knew nothing, I began to read books from the library, never questioning whose perspective the stories were written from. While many of us may be able to search online “Indigenous History” and get information in milliseconds, do we always know or

check whose voice/perspective the story comes from? I encourage you to not only explore some Indigenous history, but also to make the extra effort to make sure it is coming from Indigenous voices.



If you're looking for a good place to start, try heading over to look at the website of the [Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada](#). This incredible resource is a partnership with the [Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami](#), the [Assembly of First Nations](#), the [Métis National Council](#), the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#) and [Indspire](#) and covers all kinds of topics from pre-contact history, traditional dress and food, language, governance to current experiences, treaty negotiations and FAQ sections. Or, if you want to learn about the Indigenous nations around you, this is a great time to head over to [Native Land](#), learn more about the nations in your area, and find out more information.



But what about our church? How much do we know about the history of Indigenous history in

the church? Gratefully, Indigenous Ministries has a section on the [history of their work](#) to give us a snapshot, and for an even more in-depth look at the over-arching story of self-determination, check out [Our Story of Self-Determination](#). Also, you may not be aware that [Anglican Video](#) has been walking alongside the Indigenous Anglican Church, documenting their stories, gatherings and services for decades. They have a treasure-trove of documentary feature films as well as other recordings on their website. I highly recommend [Topahdewin: The Gladys Cook Story](#), [The Seventh Fire](#), as well as any of the films of Sacred Circles—since it is a month of Indigenous history, starting with [Share the Dream](#).

Our friends at KAIROS have also named June [Indigenous Women's Month](#) - highlighting and celebrating Indigenous women working to make change in Canada and the Global South. Through profiles, spotlights and by sharing inspiration, KAIROS aims to raise up those working to live in a good way, and to improve society for future generations. I am grateful to our partners there who have been so intentional about focusing on Indigenous women – often the most targeted in the process of colonization and oppression.



How are YOU doing in this time? I pray that you are well. Let me know what you are up to and if there are ways that I can support you and/or your community in seeking justice and right relationships in these times.

Please take care; be safe; remember the Promise.

Melanie