

St. George on Yonge – February 12, 2021



And for some - Happy "Pal"entine's Day – when we can celebrate our friends!
(This year from a distance of course)

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

THE 'I READ IT' QUIZ

Congratulations to DeeDee and Chris B who knew that our next coffee hour is this Sunday (February 14th) at 1:00.

Who is going to get their answers in this week? Don't be shy! Submit them to office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca and we will congratulate you in the next issue.

- 1) What do people run with in the UK on Shrove Tuesday?
- 2) Who is filling in for Leonard while he's taking a well-deserved break from February 8 – 16th?
- 3) For *A Fast For the Earth: Lent 2021* what is the fast for the first week?

Message from Bishop Kevin:

Good evening friends at St. George on Yonge,

Once again, thank you for sharing your weekly links and announcements. There is always so much going on in the life of your community, and I always appreciate reading about it!

Blessings as we prepare for Lent in the coming weeks.

+Kevin

SHROVE TUESDAY

Did you know...that Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday?... that pancakes have a very long history as far back as 1439?... that in the UK people run with frying pans? If not, check out the ***Interesting Tidbits of Information*** attached.



Imposition of Ashes



Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are not permitted to hold an Ash Wednesday service as normally done, however, we are proposing two alternatives for the parish family. The Diocese is planning on holding an Ash Wednesday service on Feb 17 and we invite you to check their website for further details. (See next section about the Cathedral Ash Wednesday service). Also, on Thursday Feb 18 during the evening prayer service held on Zoom

there will be an opportunity for you to make the cross on your foreheads with water, your finger, or St George on Yonge blessed ash as an act of penance. For those who are able to come by the church on Wednesday Feb 17 between 10 am and 2 pm, blessed ash will be available at the front door for pick-up.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JAMES ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

There will be an [Ash Wednesday service live-streamed from the Cathedral on Wednesday, February 17 at 12:30pm](#). Bishop Andrew Asbil will preach and preside. Due to the pandemic, there will be no imposition of ashes. This year's practice, which will invite everyone to trace the sign of the cross on their forehead with the Bishop, will be explained at the beginning of the Ash Wednesday service. You can watch the live-stream on the [Diocesan Facebook page](#) (you don't need an account to watch).

[Ash Wednesday Service Leaflet](#)

A FAST FOR THE EARTH: LENT 2021



The Bishop's Committee on Creation Care, Diocese of Toronto, created the resource "A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021". For our Lenten journey, we are invited to follow the fasts for each week, outlined in the resource package attached to the weekly update.

As part of our Thursday evening prayer, we plan to discuss how we are practicing the fast; and share ideas and encouragement. We will also discuss what was hard, what was rewarding, and how this fast has impacted our commitment to living faithfully as servants of creation.

If you are able, please join us on Thursday Feb **18** at 7:30 p.m.

A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021

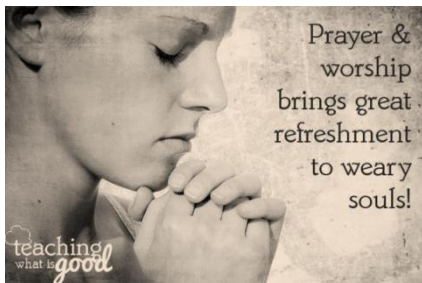
Week 1: Meat Fast (February 17-20)

"God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.'" Genesis 1:29

It seems that God's original plan was to hang out in a garden with some brand new vegetarians. Only after the flood does meat-eating enter the story.

This short first week of Lent, we are giving up meat, since much of the meat we consume degrades creation, destroys ecosystems and causes pain and distress to animals. Plan to continue your meat fast every Friday during Lent.

EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom

Thursday evenings – next service is on **February 18th, 2021**.

Time 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.

An opportunity to invite family and friends interested in evening worship.

Interested in being a reader? Please respond to this weekly update or call Rev. Leonard at 416 225-1922 x515.

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. **You must use a passcode 1922**

Please note that you will be put into a virtual waiting room when you first go to the link.

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. **You must use a passcode 1922**

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Annual Vestry Meeting last Sunday. It was great to see so many people and hear from everyone who contributed to the discussion. Your involvement is very much appreciated. If anyone tried to get onto the meeting but was not successful, please let the office know.

Special thanks to all those who are continuing in leadership roles and those who have taken on new roles.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Black Heritage Service will be online

The Diocese's annual Black Heritage Service will be held on Zoom on Feb. 28 at 4:30 p.m. The service, which is in its 26th year, is usually held at St. Paul, Bloor Street but will be held online this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. The theme, "God's People: Grounded in Faith, Filled with Hope, Called to Action," reflects the context of the Anglican Church's response to the issue of anti-Black racism and bias. A new feature of the celebration will be a moderated dialogue between Bishop Andrew Asbil and two young members of Black Anglicans of Canada, Aleshia Johnson and Brittany Hudson. The service, sponsored by Black Anglicans of Canada, will be available on [Zoom](#) and streamed live on [YouTube](#).

As it is Black History Month, it is time to learn about some of the black people who have been a part of building our country.



Elijah McCoy:

Born in Colchester, Ontario, on May 2, 1844 to parents who had escaped from slavery in Kentucky and arrived in Canada via the Underground Railroad, Elijah McCoy showed an early interest in machines and tools and an aptitude for mechanics. At a time when it was difficult for Black people to obtain training in the United States, his parents sent him to Edinburgh, Scotland to study mechanical engineering.

Upon his return to North America, he took a job as a fireman with the railroad in Michigan. The "fireman" was the person who shoveled the coal to power the locomotive and who lubricated the moving parts during frequent stops. Elijah soon saw that he could put his knowledge and education to work by improving this lubricating process. He developed and patented a particular type of lubricating cup that dripped oil onto the moving parts of

a train while it was in motion. While the origin of the expression is probably somewhat older, it is said that buyers of the lubricating oil cup asked specifically for the “Real McCoy” because it was extremely reliable and they wanted no substitutes.

That was just one of the products he developed and patented. For example, in response to his wife’s desire for an easier way to iron clothes, he invented and patented the portable ironing board.

Elijah McCoy held more than 50 patents, not just in Canada and the U.S. but also in France, Austria, Germany, Great Britain and Russia.

Information as offered on <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month/black-canadians.html>.

We are asking for stories about Black History to be submitted to be included in our weekly Parish Updates during the month of February. Please submit to the Church office at office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR VIRTUAL WALKATHON



Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold (www.miotc.ca) reached out about their Coldest Night of the Year Virtual walkathon being held on February 20th 2021. Some of the sites have set up teams and are raising funds, so they reached out to see if our site can do the same; either by being a participant or sponsoring others among the congregation.

This year it is a **virtual walkathon** which means you register and raise funds online, and then walk anytime in February, anywhere you want. You might want to think of setting a specific goal, such as to walk 5 or 10 kilometers since this is not a specific planned 'walk'. The amounts can be accumulated over time (i.e. 1 - 2 kilometers each time) so long as they are tracked and logged. Then on February 20th, they are having an online celebration!

For more information and to donate or set up a team go to www.cnoy.org/location/richmondhill

PLEASE JOIN IN FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP: The Sunday service for February 14th is being streamed live on the St. George on Yonge Facebook page at 10 a.m. ET: <https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeonyonge/>

Watch with your fellow parishioners! And please comment so we know who is joining in.

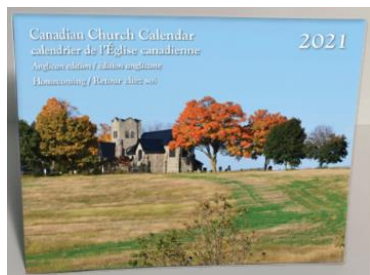
The entire video will also be available on the page immediately after. Please invite your friends and family and let's watch, pray, sing and react together while being physically apart! Since you'll be in your own homes, you can belt out the hymns if you like!

You can continue to access the services at <https://stgeorgeonyonge.ca/sermons>. Services for previous Sundays can be accessed from the website by clicking on *Sermon Archive*.

You can hear the sermon by calling the church phone number and choosing option 8.

Please note: Rev. Leonard will be away from the parish from February 8th to 16th. We welcome back Rev. Carol Friesen who will be the celebrant at our Sunday worship.

CHURCH CALENDARS



There are still some 2021 Church calendars available for **only \$6 each**. **But wait!** Since 1/12 of the year has passed, you can now get your own calendar for just a one-time payment of \$5.50. Don't wait until 1/6th of the calendar is no longer useful. Please let the office know if you are interested in purchasing a calendar and we will make arrangements for you to pick them up from the Church. There is also a possibility of having them delivered depending on where you are located. Email the office at office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY



Opportunities for the children to connect with us and each other while staying safely apart!

Calling all **6-11+ year olds**. We are having our Zoom program this **Sunday**, February 14th at 11:30 a.m. (this will continue weekly in February). We will hear a story, we may attempt to sing a song or two, and do some activities related to the story. (Please note that if there are any children older than 11 and they would like to join in – you are most welcome!).

Calling all **3-5 year olds**. We are having our Zoom program this **Saturday**, February 13th at 11:00 a.m. Join us for a short time of prayer, stories, and activities filled with faith and fun!

Please email Sarah (3-5 group) or Kathy (6-11 group) to let them know that you are interested in joining in. Stay tuned for more information on the 12+ age group.

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. **You must use a passcode 1922**

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. **You must use a passcode 1922**

You can reach us at:

Sarah: sarah.layman@stgeorgestoronto.ca

Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

ATTENTION ALL FAMILIES!

Don't miss out on picking up your DIY Shrove Tuesday Kit!

Kit contains: pancake mix, a devotional family prayer, spatula or whisk, and a Lenten devotional that you can follow together for the six weeks of Lent. **Note:** Take a photo or two of you and your family making and enjoying your pancakes and send them to Sarah at sarah.layman@stgeorgestoronto.ca and she'll put them together in a slideshow that we can share during our service to help us all feel a little closer together.



Last chance for pick up: Still time to come and pick up your Kit on Shrove Tuesday (February 16th). Please contact the Office if you will be able to come that day to pick it up.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR – This Sunday, February 14th



(drinking actual coffee is optional)



(eating chocolate is optional – but highly recommended)

Sunday, February 14th for a special Valentine's Day Coffee hour. It's the same as the regular coffee hour except we are suggesting you have some chocolate with your beverage and wear something red or pink. And thanks to Geraldine for being our host this week. Join in and check out her hot pink top!

It's a lovely way to connect with others which is so important in these challenging times. We hope to see some new people. Who's going to join us for the first time?

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. **You must use a passcode 1922**

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. **You must use a passcode 1922** If you would like to practise signing on, or need any further information, please contact Lorraine at 905-881-1465 or lbaille@rogers.com. On Sunday if you have any trouble getting on, please call Lorraine.

Bring your optional hot beverage and chocolate treat to the chat!

Host: Geraldine Sperling. Thanks again Geraldine!

We are looking for people to be hosts. This simply involves welcoming those who take part, and making sure everyone has a chance to speak and to interact with other participants. It's a pleasant and rewarding time for everyone, including the host. Please let the office know if you can help out.

NEW SECTION! PHOTO GALLERY



Geraldine and Alan Sperling's trip to the Holy Land in 2017 took them to Bethlehem. The first photo is in the Church of the Nativity, a shrine over the spot where Jesus was born. The second is in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, showing the place where Jesus was laid to rest. And the third is a statue of St. George and the Dragon, in the outside wall of Church of the Nativity.

Do you have any pictures of interest that we could share? Please submit them to the office for consideration.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

In these COVID-19 times, anyone needing to be at the church, for any reason, must sign in a log book as required by public health directives for contact tracing. People must inform Rev. Leonard or the Office Administrator or a Churchwarden why they need to visit St. George.

OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is officially closed at this time because of COVID restrictions. We will be checking emails as well as phone messages so please don't hesitate to reach out when needed. Rev. Leonard is on call for emergencies.

The church phone number is **(416) 225-1922**.

Office

Ext. 501

office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca

Rev. 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

“And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.”

Mark 9:4