

Parish Update - St. George on Yonge – May 28, 2021



When you look at things from a different angle you never know what you might find. A lovely tulip in the shape of a star.

“Sin and evil are realities worldwide. We are responsible for ours individually and collectively, within our nation, our institutions, and our church. We are called to lay down our lives for one another and for what we believe in. This is the hard edge of resurrection, the practice with all our hearts and souls, minds, strength of forgiveness and reconciliation, restitution and atonement – in a word, the gospel. We have all been forgiven so many times that we cannot begin to count: everybody, for everything, all the time, no exceptions to the rule. And some things are infinitely harder to forgive than others. The scars are always there, and they must be looked at and faced with the Spirit of God.”

Megan McKenna: *And Morning Came, Scriptures of the Resurrection*

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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who** submitted a memory?
- 2) **What** new section are we now featuring?
- 3) **Where** had Leonard and Felicity previously travelled to that they will be presenting at the Seniors' Fellowship on Zoom?
- 4) **When** is the next Coffee hour? Hope you will join us!
- 5) **Why** is May 29th a special day for some members of the parish?

Did you find all the answers? Congratulations! Now you know!

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KEVIN (May 21st)

Dear friends at St. George on Yonge,

It has been almost a month since I was with you in person, and I continue to give thanks to God for your good and fruitful ministry in this ongoing pandemic. I hope your Special Vestry Meeting went well, and I look forward to hearing the outcome of your ongoing plans regarding your turning circle and access way.

Blessings as you celebrate the Day of Pentecost this Sunday. May the Holy Spirit come to enliven, transform and renew the Church! Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

Blessings,
+Kevin

PLEASE JOIN IN FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP: The Sunday service for May 30th, Refugee Sunday, 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.

NEW SECTION: MEMORIES

I always remember the church walks from up here in the north and ending at St James Cathedral. I believe it was the Anglican Church who organized it as the checkpoints, where your card/sheet was stamped, were all Anglican churches. One gave the lunch, usually soup and sandwich, and the others had drinks and snacks. We met a lot of friendly people and saw different areas of Toronto as it meandered through the city (no easy going just down Yonge St!). St George's organized rides back for their walkers. Upon arrival at St James you received your final stamp, water and snacks. St John's were there providing first aid (mostly blisters). One year I got to soak my feet and have a slight foot massage which was a treat. I believe we had pledges but I can't remember what the money went towards. It was a great day-out enjoyed by all.

From Robin Clennett

Leading up to our 100th Anniversary, it would be great to hear more wonderful memories of St. George's. Do you have anything to share? Please submit to the Church office (office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca).

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR –May 30th



(Note: having an actual plant by your computer is optional)

Come and join us for Coffee Hour on May 30th at 1:00 p.m.

Coffee Hour is a great way to connect with others, so important in these challenging times. We hope more people will join in – everyone is welcome!

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

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. **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. **Passcode 1922**

“LET EVERY MAN TAKE HEED HOW HE BUILDETH” (1 COR. 3:10)

“Our business is not to build quickly, but to build upon a right foundation, and in a right spirit. Life is more than a mere competition as between man and man; it is not who can be done first, but who can work best; it is not who can rise highest in the shortest time, but who is working most patiently and lovingly in accordance with the designs of God.”

Joseph Parker

Submitted by Dorothy Ewer



May 29 – Margie
Blessings on your special day!



May 29 - Congratulations to Felicity and Leonard on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary
(Picture from their 40th anniversary celebration)



With their children (at their 40th celebration)



With children, spouses and grands at
St. George on Yonge

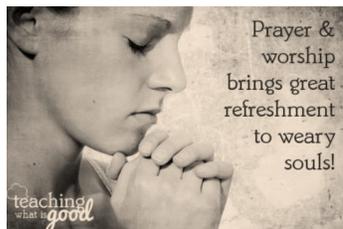
Are there any other special celebrations or birthdays to be recognized?
Please let us know.

SENIORS' FELLOWSHIP

Not to be missed! Tanzania travelogue by Felicity and Leonard Leader | Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.
Please join us online or on the phone. For optimal experience, join by computer, tablet or smart phone so that you can enjoy the view – Go to the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4136849381> You may have to download Zoom. **Passcode 1922**

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EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom.

Thursday evenings – next service is on – **June 3, 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.

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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, May 30th** at 11:30 a.m. (this continues weekly). 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**. **Save the date!** We are having our Zoom program **Saturday, June 5th** at 11:00 a.m. Join us for a short time of prayer, stories, and activities filled with faith and fun!

You can just join in at the right time, no registration needed, but if possible, let Sarah (3-5 group) or Kathy (6-11 group) know that your child will be there.

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

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You can reach us at:

Sarah: sarah.layman@stgeorgetoronto.ca

Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

NEIGHBOURLINK NORTH YORK

Please find attached a one page informational sheet about Neighbourlink North York.

In spite of the pandemic and so many closures God has made it possible for Neighbourlink to reach out and touch lives in our community. Through Zoom and appropriate distancing we have been excited by the opportunities that have opened up to serve Him.

We would like to invite your congregation to also be part of this ministry to the community and to join Neighbourlink in prayer. We would love to share what God is doing in a regular newsletter. If God lays it on hearts for volunteers to be involved in the food bank in Willowtree, bible study groups we call Groups of Hope

with single moms, or just to walk with an individual needing support, encouragement, and the love of God. Also if there is an opportunity for our Executive Director Lily Cheng to share more with your congregation we would welcome that.

Neighbourlink continues to cherish your prayers and support and we look forward to hearing from you.

GARDENING UPDATE



More planting has been done, getting more and more colourful each day.

Thank you to those who made a special donation for the plants and some equipment that has been purchased.

AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION AND APPRECIATION - TONIGHT



Friday May 28th from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Zoom

Please register to join: (To register, place the cursor (arrow) on the below link and left click. If this does not work, right click and then choose 'open hyperlink'.)

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8htcFAkGSJWajj2Y1jORqg

Programme

Choral Evensong from All Saints' Church - Community Centre, Toronto

Premiere showing of the FaithWorks 25th Anniversary video

A Message from the Right Reverend Andrew Asbil, Bishop of Toronto

Life on the Frontline - a visit with some Ministry Partners -

Appreciation and Recognition

STEWARDSHIP REMINDERS TO PARISHIONERS:

- If you are not already donating using PAR, please seriously consider switching to this method of intentional giving, to assist during this time of exceptional need. Envelope Secretary Anne Baillie at family.baillie@sympatico.ca or 416-225-2570 will be happy to give you more information and help you with the application.
- This is a time when people are not attending in-person worship services, but the need for clergy and pastoral support continues in difficult times and is even greater
- Presenting virtual church services is complex, with greater time commitments, technology costs, and soloist fees
- The Office Administrator's role is as busy as ever during the pandemic
- The church still has utilities and maintenance expenses so the daycare can continue to operate, and in turn make contributions to the church

THE GREAT CANADIAN GIVING CHALLENGE – BEGINS IN 4 DAYS!



What is the Great Canadian Giving Challenge?

The Great Canadian Giving Challenge is a month-long initiative to encourage people to donate during a slow time of the year for fundraising. Historically, this has been the month of June. CanadaHelps wanted to change that so in 2015, they launched the first Great Canadian Giving Challenge to help charities engage their supporters and raise more money.

Here's how it works:

Every dollar donated to St. George on Yonge in June through CanadaHelps is an entry for a chance for St. George on Yonge to win \$20,000. Donations must be made via [canadahelps.org](https://www.canadahelps.org).

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/49496> (Minimum \$3 donation required). Contest runs from June 1, 2021 at midnight (NDT) to June 30, 2021 at 11:59:59 p.m. (PDT). See full rules at:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/givingchallenge-rules>.

Please note we are not asking you to switch over to giving through CanadaHelps. Continue to give through envelopes or PAR to save the Church the credit card processing fees (3.75%) CanadaHelps charges. While we know these are hard times for many, we are asking if it's possible for you to give a little extra during the month of June to give St. George on Yonge a chance to win the \$20,000 prize. Thank you!

PHOTO GALLERY



Sign of spring: This is a male Scarlet Tanager. A type of warbler that comes through Toronto on its way up north. This is the first time I have seen one in the 20 something years I have lived in North York.

Photo credit: Karen Nolan

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

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SMILE OF THE WEEK!



In these times, anything that makes us smile is very important. Do you have something that could make someone else smile? Please submit anything you have to the office for consideration.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO SAVE GOD'S CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL



We know we tell you every week but sometimes we just need a little reminder. With the necessity of wearing masks, if you are using disposable ones, please cut the elastic/ribbons before disposing of them properly; some ribbons can simply be pulled free of the mask. Animals, birds, fish, etc. can get caught up in the elastic. Don't forget to cut the plastic rings of can holders too. Please say no to plastic straws... there are many alternatives out there now. And please use reusable bags when possible.

If you have the opportunity to share this message, please do so. The more people we make aware of this, the better off God's creatures may be. Thank you.

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

We Remember in Prayer Today and This Week . . .
Congregation Cycle
Hope Lori-Skinn
Kwan Luk
Margie, Clavel & Carter Lyttle
Colette Lyttle
Elsie Maranduik



“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

Isaiah 6:3

