

Parish Update - St. George on Yonge – June 18, 2021



"How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment, we can start now, start slowly changing the world! How lovely that everyone, great and small, can make their contribution toward introducing justice straightaway. And you can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness!"

~ The Diary of Anne Frank

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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who** is putting on a missional discussion on June 21st at noon?
- 2) **What** is the minimum age to participate in the Seniors Fellowship?
- 3) **Where** did Hassan Al Kontar, also known as the "Man @ the Airport" end up being stuck?
- 4) **When** is the next lemonade on the lawn?
- 5) **How** many entries do we have so far in the Great Canadian Giving Challenge?

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

Please find attached

- Letter from the Bishop
 - The bulletin for Sunday June 20th online service
 - Apology to Native People 1993
 - Kids Corner and Youth Zone page
 - AURA – World Refugee Day 2021 event on June 20th
 - Article on an Indigenous perspective on Canada Day (How can Canada Day be a time to celebrate?)
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PLEASE JOIN IN FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP: The Sunday service for June 20th 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.

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS FOR JUNE

- | | |
|---------|---|
| June 20 | National Indigenous Day of Prayer |
| June 27 | Intergenerational Sunday - Children and Youth |

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DAY OF PRAYER

This Sunday, June 20, is National Indigenous Day of Prayer. We hope that you will join us for worship and listen to a special reflection by the Rt. Rev. Chris Harper, Bishop of Saskatoon.

In light of the recent focus on the role of churches in the residential school system, we are reminded that the Anglican Church of Canada has started the process of reconciliation, including an apology by the Primate in 1993. (See attached document – Apology to Native People 1993)

The language is outdated, but we recognize that this is an historical document using the language that was considered acceptable 28 years ago.

WILLOWDALE CHURCH COALITION

NEXT MONDAY, JUNE 21 at noon, there will be a missional discussion with the **Willowdale Church Coalition** including a discussion led by Reverend Andrea Budgey and Reverend Matthew Sams about a collective response to the 215 bodies of indigenous children found in Kamloops. They do realize many denominations and congregations have already taken steps on this important matter but feel there is an opportunity to do something collectively to which the greater community could be invited to.

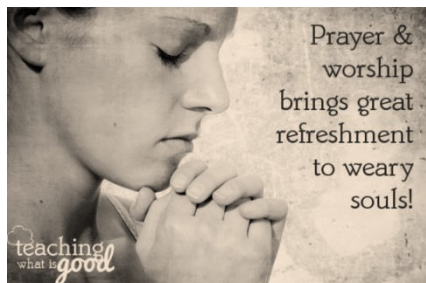
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92052371697?pwd=WXdTQ1FhR0NuNU1obU9ncmpaZEFjQT09>

To phone in call 647 374-4685

Meeting ID: 920 5237 1697 Passcode: 808018

EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom.

Thursday evenings – next service is on – **June 24, 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. **Passcode 1922**

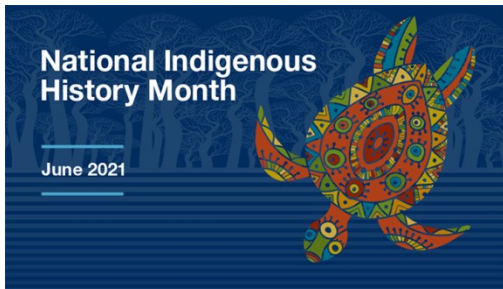
To join by phone – Call **647-374-4685** When prompted to enter the Meeting ID number, enter **4136849381** Then press #. If prompted to enter a participation ID, just press # and stay on the line. **You must use a passcode 1922**

VIRTUAL LEMONADE ON THE LAWN – Save the date for June 27th



Come and join us for our virtual Lemonade on the Lawn on June 27th at 1:00 p.m.
Information on how to join in will be included in the update on June 25th.

JUNE IS NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH



How much do you know of the history of the treatment of the original people of this land which we proudly call Canada? What was done to settle and make something out of this 'empty barren wasteland'? Find out more by joining us on Tuesday June 29th at 7p.m. over ZOOM to watch a viewing of the CBC Documentary "Colonization Road". It is a history that every Canadian should know, but is often overlooked and ignored in History classes in schools. For more information, please contact Doug Heyes at dougmheyes@gmail.com.

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A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

While we have been dealing with the pandemic, there seems to have been opportunity for a great deal of self-reflection. Many tragic events have taken place, or been revealed, which has brought social justice issues to the forefront. People have become aware of the idea of privilege and many issues which show that so many people do not have privilege or respect that all people deserve. We have been exposed to perspectives of various groups of people and challenged to learn more about how some have been treated in the past and today.

I have challenged myself to learn more about the experiences of Indigenous people in Canada and am taking a free online course from the University of Alberta. We need to learn the truth, before true reconciliation can happen. I have become aware that Canada Day, which I have always celebrated enthusiastically, is not looked upon the same way by Indigenous people. In fact, the Confederation of Canada was a starting point for many of the problems that are still being dealt with today. Please see the attached article for an Indigenous perspective on Canada Day. This year it will be a day of reflection for me, instead of celebration. If you're interested in the course, it's called Indigenous Canada.

Lorraine Baillie



Every minute, 20 individuals are forced to leave their lives behind to escape war, terror and persecution. On **Sunday, June 20th**, AURA invites you to commemorate the strength and courage of refugees around the world. We will be joined by **Hassan Al Kontar**, also known as the "Man @ the Airport". After being deported from UAE to Malaysia in 2017, Hassan refused to return to Syria and face military service. He ended up stuck inside the Kuala Lumpur Airport.

Hassan was able to share his story with the world through social media, and finally received refuge in Canada. He is now a permanent resident, an advocate for refugees, and author of his first published book. Hassan will be reading a passage from his book and holding an interactive Q&A with the audience.

Please see attachment for more information.

SENIORS' FELLOWSHIP

Save the date! Next fellowship will be Wednesday, June 30th at 11:00 a.m. Please note there is no minimum age to qualify to participate in this fellowship!

Information to join in will be included in the weekly update on June 25th.



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

The Psalmist wrote of stormy winds and waves that mounted high so that sailors reeled to and fro, and staggered like drunken men. In their trouble they cried unto the Lord to deliver them out of their distresses. Then follows the Psalmist's declaration: "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still." (Ps. 107:29)

Submitted by Dorothy Ewer

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, June 20th** at 11:30 a.m. 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, June 19th** at 11:00 a.m. **Save the Date!** Join us for a short time of prayer, stories, and activities filled with faith and fun!

We will be doing programs throughout the summer but not on a weekly basis. The dates of the programs will be included in next week's update. We do request that you let us know which program dates that your child will be able to join in.

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You can reach us at:

Sarah: sarah.layman@stgeorgetoronto.ca

Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

GARDENING UPDATE

The gardening team met this week and has organized the pruning, weeding and watering needs. More planting has been done in the gardens. Thanks to Craig for the new plants (cleomes) in the lower tiered garden. Carter's roses are in full bloom. Hostas, Daisies and lilies are starting to flower. Today's rain provided natural watering!



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 – ON NOW FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF JUNE!



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:

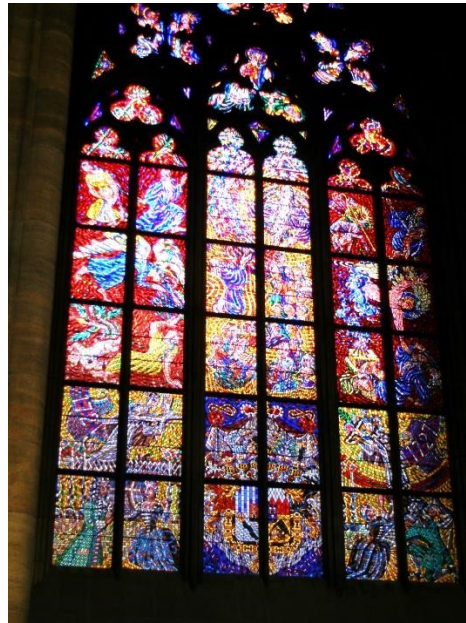
Every dollar donated to St. George on Yonge in June through CanadaHelps is an entry for a chance for St. George on Yonge to win \$20,000. Donations must be made via [canadahelps.org](https://www.canadahelps.org). **So far we have 200 entries** (out of over 22,000 but it only takes the right one to win). <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



Church of our Lady Before Tyn, Prague

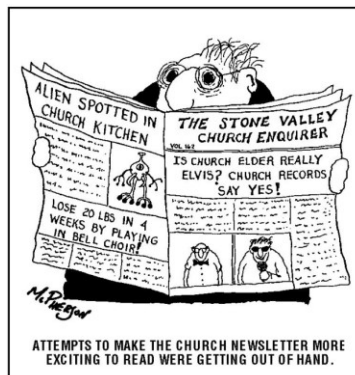


Stained glass window, St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague

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

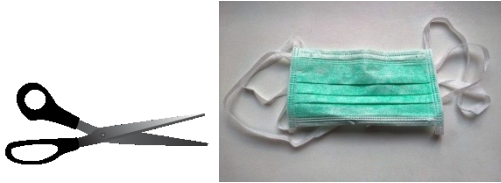
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SMILE OF THE WEEK!



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

Cliff Okocha

Godfrey Otasousie

Damiana Palmieri

Hazel Perkin

Prince Philip Abraham & Subba Philip & family

Natalia Abass-Phillips & Niko



*“The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.”*

Psalm 19:1