

Parish Update - St. George on Yonge – June 25, 2021



Part of Willowdale Park Path (Near Doris and Empress) (Photo credit: Kathy Baillie)

"The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles."

~ The Diary of Anne Frank

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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who** submitted "to cook your goose" article?
- 2) **What** is the theme for the Seniors Fellowship?
- 3) **Where** can you watch a viewing of the CBC Documentary "Colonization Road"?
- 4) **When** can you watch a viewing of the CBC Documentary "Colonization Road"?
- 5) **Why** would it be good to watch a viewing of the CBC Documentary "Colonization Road"?

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

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KEVIN (June 19)

Good morning friends at St. George on Yonge,

Thank you again for including me in your weekly email with the various announcements and links. I always enjoy reading what's happening in the life of your parish community. Blessings as you gather in worship today for Pentecost 4 and the National Indigenous Day of Prayer.

May the Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on you this day.

+Kevin

PLEASE JOIN IN FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP: The Sunday service for June 27th 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 27 Intergenerational Sunday - Children and Youth

SUMMER PLANS

Rev. Leonard will be on leave from the parish for the months of July and August.

We welcome back Rev. Carol Friesen, who has previously served in the parish, as our summer clergy. For pastoral emergencies, please call the church 416 225 1922 ext. 2, and you will receive a response as soon as possible.

At this time, we plan to continue videotaping our Weekly Sunday Services, with an expected reopening after Labour Day. However, we are monitoring the situation very closely, and will function within the Government, Health and Diocesan guidelines. Our weekly Thursday Evening Prayer will continue by zoom.

For other inquiries, please contact the church office at office@stgeorgestoronto.ca, or leave a message in the general mailbox at the church, and your inquiry will be redirected for a response.

APOLOGY TO THE DIOCESE'S LGBTQ2S+ COMMUNITY

Today, Friday, June 25 at 10 a.m., Bishop Andrew Asbil issued an apology to the Diocese's LGBTQ2S+ community. This came after months of prayerful reflection, intentional consultation and conversation with various members of our Diocese, and for Bishop Andrew personally, decades of walking alongside this community. He invited those who helped to shape the apology to be present with him and the College of Bishops at St. James Cathedral. Only those who had been invited were admitted.

I had the opportunity, along with so many, to watch the livestream on the diocesan YouTube channel, and I believe that others from the parish would have joined as well. If you were unable to attend this morning, I hope you will take the time, at your convenience, to watch the livestream on the [diocesan YouTube channel](#) and join Bishop Andrew in this significant moment in our life together as a Diocese.

Please see the letter attached from Bishop Andrew.

Rev. Leonard Leader

UPDATE ON ANTI-BIAS/ANTI-RACISM/INCLUSIVITY MISSION ACTIVITIES - AND HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Firstly, thank you from the Launch Group to everyone who participated in and logged in to watch the Sunday service of June 13. And I am very grateful to Lorraine Baillie and Doug Heyes who have taken up the challenge to engage in the process of becoming informed and more sensitive to the issues of Canada's ill-treatment of our First Nations brothers and sisters in Christ, and for their sharing their opportunities with our Parish.

I, in turn, would like to share 2 links with you-

- a short (9-minute) video on First Nations' understanding of the essence of their Christian faith, and how it may differ from that of people from a European background (thanks to the Diocese) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=vtAd1OTQrME&fbclid=IwAR2p2AqSxY2ShCYTaB1I0maLP8LCYZGCP5gcHCEfk-FynfsY_pNHw4Vkl
- A CBC opinion piece by a Canadian of African origins who describes how Canada's history relating to AfroCanadians differs from that of the United States - and some consequences we should keep in mind

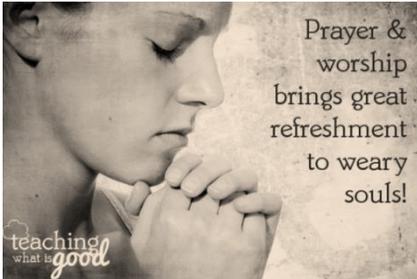
when we address anti-black bias and discrimination in Canada today -

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/beingblackincanada/juneteenth-canada-1.6074090>

Is anyone interested in joining a discussion group on either of these? Please let me know - mcrobertson3@gmail.com

Finally, notwithstanding all the sad and challenging news lately relating to the discovery of bodies of Indigenous children buried in British Columbia and Saskatchewan, and to the deliberate and systemic bias and action against racialized people in Canada, I genuinely believe we should still CELEBRATE Canada Day this coming Thursday. But as we celebrate, let's give sober and somber thought to what we have learned about the dark moments in our past where we have mistreated communities here, and resolve to make things better for Canada Day 2022! Blessings, Craig Robertson

EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom.

Thursday evenings – next service is on – **July 1st**

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 – June 27th at 1:00 p.m.



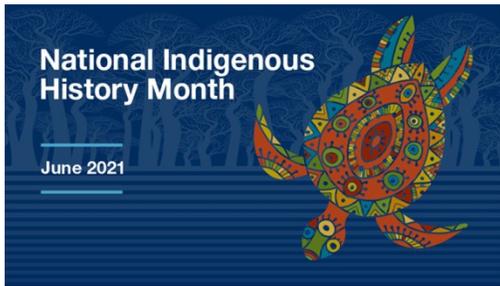
Come and join us for our virtual Lemonade on the Lawn on June 27th at 1:00 p.m.

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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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SENIORS' FELLOWSHIP

Next fellowship will be Wednesday, June 30th at 11:00 a.m. This will be the last one before a summer break and will resume in September. Please note there is no minimum age to qualify to participate in this fellowship!

The theme is *"Looking forward"*. As we move towards a safe and gradual return to life without restrictions, what do we look forward to doing? Are there any practices that were adopted during our stay at home that we plan to continue?

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

"To Cook your Goose..."

To ruin or defeat a person is, in good American slang "to cook one's goose". But the phrase is not American in origin. More than five hundred years ago, King Eric of Sweden besieged an enemy town. He had so few soldiers that the citizens hung a goose on the town wall in derision. Before night, however, Eric's men scaled the wall and set fire to the chief strongholds within. When the town fathers asked Eric what his intention was, he replied between his teeth, "To cook your goose."

Source unknown

Submitted by Dorothy Ewer

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY



Calling all **6-11+ year olds**. We are taking a 2 week break. We will be back having our Zoom program on **Sunday, July 11th** at 11:30 a.m.

The summer dates of our program are:

July 11

July 25

August 8

August 22

We will start back up with weekly Zoom programs on September 12th unless we are able to have in-person classes by that time. We will update you on the status as information is known.

Calling all **3-5 year olds**. We are having our Zoom program **Saturday, July 10th** at 11:00 a.m.

The summer dates of our program are:

July 10

July 24

August 7

August 28

We will continue in September and will be posting the dates then unless we are able to have in-person classes by that time. We will update you on the status as information is known.

We would appreciate if parents would let us know which weeks their children will be participating.

You can reach us at:

Sarah: sarah.layman@stgeorgetoronto.ca

Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

GARDENING UPDATE



They are blooming!

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

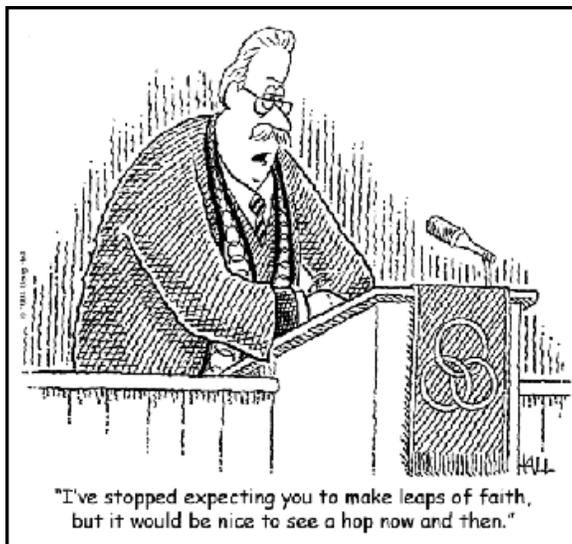


St. John's Co-Cathedral, Malta
Submitted by Geraldine Sperling

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

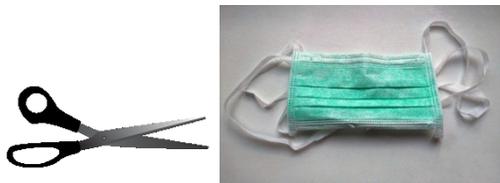
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SMILE OF THE WEEK!



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 Nigel Phillips Joanie Piluke Rudy Powell Ann-Marie Waithe Powell & family Krystal Popiolek & Family



“Our Saviour Jesus Christ has abolished death, and brought life and immortality to the light through the gospel.”

2 Timothy 1:10

If you no longer wish to receive our email updates, please email office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca with “remove” as your subject. Please feel free to share with friends. If you have received a forwarded copy and would like to receive the emails directly, please email office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca