

Parish Update - St. George on Yonge – November 19, 2021



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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who's** joining us for coffee hour this Sunday afternoon?
- 2) **What** is the focus of the Bible Study this week?
- 3) **When** is the next Zoom session for the 3-5 year old children?
- 4) **Where** can you get a copy of the booklet "Preparing the Way" for the Zoom bible study?
- 5) **Why** is a fish easy to weigh?

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

HOW TO JOIN ST. GEORGE EVENTS ON ZOOM

To join by computer, tablet or smart phone – Go to the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/5482169827> You may have to download Zoom. Passcode: 1922

To join by phone – Call **647-374-4685**. When prompted for the Meeting ID number, enter 5482169827 then press #. If prompted to enter a participation ID, press # again and stay on the line. Passcode: 1922

Please find included this week

- The bulletin for Sunday November 21st service
- Letter from the Bishop
- What to expect (for in-person services)
- Personal Pledge of Reconciliation September 2021

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KEVIN (Nov. 13th)

Good morning friends at St. George on Yonge,

One of my Saturday early morning routines is to read the various parish emails that have arrived in my inbox for the coming Sunday, and I always enjoy seeing what's happening in the life of your community. Thank you for continuing to send the bulletins, links and announcements my way!

Blessings as you gather tomorrow morning in person and online.

+Kevin

***Please join us ...**

In-Person Worship

We are happy to welcome people back to our in-person services.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21:

Last Sunday after Pentecost / Faithworks Sunday (with video presentation)



VIRTUAL SERVICE

The in-person service for November 21st is also being streamed live on the St. George on Yonge Facebook page at

10 a.m. ET: <https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgeonyonge/>

The entire video will also be available on the page immediately after. If you are not planning on attending in person, please invite your friends and family and let's watch, pray, sing and react together while apart!

*The bulletin is attached.

* You can continue to access the service 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 SERVICES FOR THE FULLY VACCINATED

The College of Bishops has received requests from some parishes to offer services with a vaccine mandate, requiring proof of vaccination for entry.

After much discussion, consultation and prayer, the College of Bishops has consented to permit parishes to institute a new worship service – outside of their existing and continuing schedule of services – that requires proof of vaccination to attend. It is the College's expectation that these restricted-entry services will be the exception to our worship offerings, and not the norm.

If our parish decides to offer such a service, there are clear guidelines from the Province on how to check vaccination status at the door. Those worshippers who cannot provide proof of vaccination and are refused access at restricted-entry services will be encouraged to attend those regular services where they will be welcome.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to attend worship services for the fully vaccinated only, please contact Rev. Leonard as soon as possible, at:

leonard.leader@st.georgetoronto.ca or by calling 416 225 1922 x 515.

INDIGENOUS JUSTICE

BOOK REVIEW

From Lorraine Baillie

As part of reconciliation, non-Indigenous people are encouraged to educate themselves about Canada's history and relations with Indigenous Peoples and their impacts. There are many books, both fiction and non-fiction, that are available and useful for this purpose.

Bob Joseph is the founder and president of Indigenous Corporations Training Inc. He lives in B.C. and provides training across the country to all levels of government, businesses and Indigenous Peoples. He has written several books and I would like to highlight two of them.

21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act is a straightforward look at the Indian Act which has negatively impacted Indigenous Peoples since its creation in 1876. It is very informative and readable. As well as highlighting some of the most impactful parts of the Act, the author points the way to change and "looking

forward to a better Canada". He includes a chronology of Indian Residential Schools and the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation report. I highly recommend this book.

A follow up to the first book, **Indigenous Relations** - Insights, Tips and Suggestions to Make Reconciliation a Reality is also helpful in suggesting respectful ways to relate, especially for businesses but also individuals. I found the guidelines for use of terminology and the section clarifying common myths especially relevant. Many people are asking themselves what they can do themselves to address this situation. In the appendices there are suggested "Pledges of Reconciliation" for businesses and individuals. I checked out Bob Joseph's website and found that these have been updated. I have signed my pledge and invite everyone to take a look and see if you are interested in taking the pledge. It can be modified in any way you wish.

I have both books available to borrow and would appreciate being able to discuss and share ideas with others. The pledge is attached. If you choose to use it, in any form, it would be great if you could let me know.

You are invited to submit a book review on any good read you've had recently. (Or a movie or video) We hope to start a new item for this weekly update!

Also, if you are interested in taking part in a reading group, please let Craig Robertson know.

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR – This Sunday – November 21st at 1:00 p.m.



Coffee is optional

Come and join us for our virtual Coffee hour on Sunday, November 21st at 1:00 p.m. Even though we have our services in person now, social events won't be allowed for quite some time and we need to avoid congregating in the narthex after the service. In order to connect and share stories, tales of what we are up to, etc. we would like to continue our virtual social events and hope to have more people join us. Join us for the hour; join us for a few minutes. All are welcome.

Answer to question 1 at the beginning of the update - hopefully you are!

Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study



Wednesday Evening Bible Study by Zoom - November 24th

Time: 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Preparing The Way



An Advent Bible Study

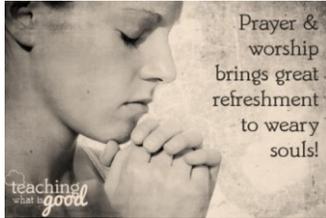
By John Birch

Based on the readings for Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary

The booklets are available for pick-up this Sunday. If you would like a copy and are not able to pick one up, please let Rev. Leonard or the Church office know and arrangements can be made. The booklet is also available for those who are unable to participate in the bible study but are interested in doing a self-study during Advent.

Bring along your favourite version of the Bible, and invite some friends.
Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.

EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom.

Thursday evenings – next service is on – **November 25th**

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.

Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY



Calling all **6-11+ year olds**. **Every Sunday at 12:30 p.m.** for a 30 minute Zoom session.

Calling all **3-5 year olds**. **Every other Sunday – next session November 28th at 1:00 p.m.** for about a 15 minute Zoom session. If you come on a little early, no problem, you'll just see part of the older children's session.

While the Diocese is allowing in-person children's programs, we at St. George on Yonge are taking a more cautious approach. At this time I will be continuing to do the Zoom sessions. The sessions for the 6-11 year olds will be weekly and for the 3-5 year olds about every other week when there isn't a coffee hour. A second adult is required to join in each session. Anyone interested in doing this occasionally, please let me know. You do need to have your police record check done and participated in a sexual misconduct training session sometime in the past 3 years.

Due to the amount of time that it takes to prepare these sessions, I am asking that parents let me know when their children will be participating. Please email me (fambail@hotmail.com) by the Friday evening before the session. If I don't hear from any parents by then, the session will be cancelled.

Any children attending the in-person services must remain with their family. Activity bulletins will be available but we ask you bring your own pencils/markers with you due to COVID protocols we are not allowed to share these items at this time.

Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.

You can reach me at:

Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

GET INTO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!!! – ST. GEORGE IS JOINING IN NEIGHBOURLINK'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES!



Start planning your Christmas season by joining with other St. George parishioners to participate in a range of community-focused activities sponsored by Neighbourlink and the Willowdale Church Coalition.

***December 4 – Willowdale community Christmas Parade and MiniMarket** (4PM-6PM - Willowdale Baptist parking lot) and Parade (6:00 – 7:00 – through the neighbourhood from Willowdale Presbyterian).

- Contact Lorraine Baillie (905-881-1465 lbaille@rogers.com) who is organizing a St. George contingent in the parade.
- Are you an “artisan” looking for an opportunity to display your handicrafts? St. George can help sponsor a table. Contact Craig Robertson (647-531-9044) if you are interested in offering your handicrafts *[Look for more details for both the parade and the sale in next week's Update]*

*Christmas hampers (*for families, seniors or refugees requesting support*) – contribute money or items- or sign up to sponsor a hamper yourself or in a group! Hampers will be delivered in the week of December 14-18. Donors will have an opportunity to communicate with their recipient to discuss the contents.

See the links below for information how to sign up – or contact Craig Robertson (647-531-9044) to discuss opportunities to sponsor a hamper as a group.

[Click Here](#) to **Sponsor/Volunteer, apply to receive a Hamper, or to Sponsor multiple families as a church.**

TIRED OF SITTING AROUND WITH NO PLACE TO GO, NOTHING TO DO?



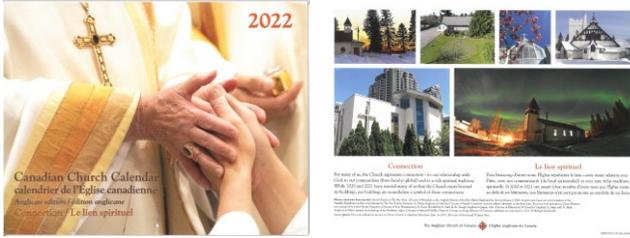
The Community Connection team is still looking for warm socks, mitts, hats, etc. to aid the less fortunate in our society. No need to buy them if you know how to knit. If you have other items of warm clothing (sweatshirts, pants, coats) that are used but in good condition and cleaned or laundered, please bring them in as well. Bring them to the church before Nov 28 so they can be collected and blessed before distribution in the first week of December. Several community assistance programs which people depended on before COVID may not be open, and we should be ready to fill possible gaps. For more information please contact Doug Heyes at dougmhey@gmail.com.

SSJD HOSTS ONLINE RETREATS

On November 26-28, the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine is holding a silent virtually directed in-home retreat, and intentional date to be together with God in seclusion and silence. The cost is \$110.00. Learn more and register by November 19th on the [SSJD website](#).

On December 4, Bishop Peter Fenty will lead "Gifts that are Life-Giving", an online Advent quiet day. Take time to reflect on gifts from God that are freely and graciously offered to us. The cost is \$30.00. Learn more and register by Dec 2nd on the [SSJD website](#).

CHURCH CALENDARS



2022 Church calendars are now available for \$5 each. We made the back cover! Please let the office know if you are interested in purchasing a calendar and we will have them ready for you to pick up at the Church on Sundays – please bring the payment in an envelope marked calendar if possible. Arrangements can also be made with the office to come and pick them up during the week. There is also a possibility of having them delivered depending on where you are located. Email the office at office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca

PHOTO GALLERY



Some cute and furry wildlife from Australia to put a smile on your face.

From Geraldine Sperling

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

* * * *

CELEBRATIONS



Happy Birthday Roshni
Blessings on your special day!

Any more Birthdays being celebrated in November? December? Any other special celebrations coming up?
Just let the office know so we can wish you blessings on your special days.

SMILE OF THE WEEK!



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

* * * *

We Remember in Prayer Today and This Week . . .
Congregation Cycle Prince Philip & Subba and family Natalia A & Niko Joanie P Rudy P Ann-Marie W and family



“Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world.”

John 18:36a

ONGOING REMINDERS

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This is the Land Acknowledgement that has been adopted by St. George on Yonge:

The land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee (ho-den-oh-show-nee) and Anishinabek (ah-nish-nah-bek) Nations, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. This territory is also covered by the Toronto Purchase. Today, Toronto is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and work in this community, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

VACCINE POLICY FROM THE DIOCESE

On September 17, 2021 the Diocese issued a new policy, for the protection of all individuals who enter the church buildings, including any church property outside as well, or, who come in contact with church staff carrying out activities on behalf of or representing the Anglican Church in the Diocese at this time.

This policy applies to every bishop, priest, deacon, and lay person under the jurisdiction of the Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto engaged as an office holder, Employee, service provider, or Volunteer. For further clarification, it applies to those appointed or hired to work in the Church, and Volunteers at all levels of the Diocese before they can be allowed to start their activity or duty.

Proof of vaccination can either be shown to a warden in person at the church, or over Zoom. Please do not email us your vaccination certificate as proof, as it is not a secure form of communication.

Thank you in advance for doing your part to keep everyone safe by complying with the diocesan policy.

Aili Maki and Doug Heyes

DONATION OPTIONS

- If you are not already donating using PAR, please seriously consider using this method of intentional giving, using safe, secure and automatic debit; it's very flexible, you can change or withdraw your commitment at any time. Commit to a manageable amount, and top it up with an additional offering if you experience a windfall. Regarding PAR or any other form of donation, please contact Envelope Secretary Anne Baillie at family.baillie@sympatico.ca or 416-225-2570 and she will be happy to give you more information and assist you.
- Cheques can be mailed or dropped off at the Church in person. The Office Administrator is here on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays during office hours; just phone or email first to set up a time for the drop off. If you're able to drop off in person, we also accept good old-fashioned cash – even coins (but please no pennies).
- At the Sunday services the collection plate will be at the back of the church. Due to COVID protocols it won't be passed around. Please deposit your donation as you enter the Sanctuary.
- Donations can also be made online with a credit card through CanadaHelps (even though there is a 3.75% charge to the parish, all donations are gratefully received).



OLD EYE GLASSES TO DONATE?

Do you have old eye glasses lying around that no one is using and don't know what to do with them? We have your solution. If you drop them off at the church Doug Heyes has a location that takes donated glasses. After they sanitize the glasses they are donated to developing countries. You can bring them to church once we resume in-person services, or drop them off in the mail box by the Yonge street entrance. Please put a note with them that they are being donated. Thank you for the **many pairs of eyeglasses already donated**. If the desire to support those in developing countries continues, more deliveries will be made, so **keep them coming**.

HOW TO BOOK A COVID-19 VACCINE



<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>

Vaccines save lives. Let's all do our part. This link is for anyone needing a first or second dose or a booster shot. Thank you.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD ONTARIO'S NEW COVID-19 VACCINE PASSPORT OR QR CODE

To access the QR code, go to Ontario's **COVID-19 vaccination record site**, enter your health card information, date of birth and postal code. When you get to the next page, select 'proof of vaccination'. Then, select 'Download your enhanced vaccine certificate'. This should be followed by another screen pop-up that will display the QR code. The code will be labelled with your full name, date of birth and the dates of your vaccinations as well as the types of vaccines you received.

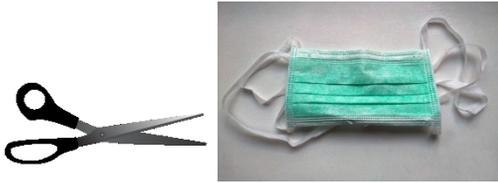
You can print out the QR code document if you prefer carrying it physically, but make sure not to fold or crease the QR code portion as it may become difficult to read. You can also store the code in your smartphone as a PDF by emailing it to yourself.

If you're an iPhone user, you can save it to your Apple Health app by opening your camera and hovering over the QR code. When your phone scans the code, it'll open up the document that you can save on your app.

If you received one or more of your doses of the COVID-19 vaccine outside of Ontario, the government says you must contact your local public health unit for proper documentation. The province says that “proof of vaccination may also include a vaccination receipt from another jurisdiction that shows the holder is fully vaccinated against COVID-19.”

If you aren't vaccinated or are only partially vaccinated, Ontario says you won't be able to enter businesses and organizations where proof of vaccination is required. This includes indoor dining at restaurants, gyms, theatres, sports and entertainment venues and other non-essential businesses. The same site for downloading your enhanced vaccine certificate can also be used to book your vaccine appointment.

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



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 and out of a log book as required by public health directives for contact tracing. People must inform Rev. Leonard, the Office Administrator or a Churchwarden, before visiting St. George.

OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office is officially closed to the public 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.

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

ANSWER TO Why is a fish easy to weigh? Because it has its own scales! LOL