

Parish Update - St. George on Yonge – December 10, 2021



“The word advent means ‘expectation.’ What advent can do for us is create a sense of hope.”

Louie Giglio

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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who** was recently appointed to the Council of the Episcopal Area of York-Scarborough?
- 2) **What** does the Gingerbread man put on his bed?
- 3) **When** is our Virtual Christmas Pageant?
- 4) **Where** can you pick up the Christmas cakes if you pre-ordered them?
- 5) **Why** should you take a look at the Vestry list attached?

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 December 12th service
 - Christmas Letter
 - Letter from the Bishop
 - Application form for PAR
 - Vestry List for February 2022
 - Vaccine information from the City of Toronto
 - Job description for Assistant Custodian
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***Please join us ...**

In-Person Worship

We are happy to welcome people back to our in-person services. This Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

CALENDAR OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2021

Dec 12	Advent III – Eucharist	In-person and Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
Dec 15	Bible Study	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
Dec 16	Evening Prayer	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
Dec 19	Advent IV – Eucharist	In-person and Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
	Christmas Pageant	By Zoom	1:00 p.m.

Dec 23	Evening Prayer	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
Dec 24	Christmas Eve - Eucharist	In-person and Facebook Live	8:00 p.m.
Dec 25	Christmas Day - Eucharist	In-person only	10:00 a.m.
Dec 26	Christmas I - Eucharist	In-person and Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
Dec 30	Evening Prayer	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
2022			
Jan 2	The Epiphany - Eucharist	In-person and Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
Jan 6	Evening Prayer	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL SERVICE

The in-person service for December 12th 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.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

As we make plans for celebrating Christmas, I am encouraging everyone who is baptized to receive the sacrament during this Holy Season. With this in mind, we are offering home communion on request during the twelve days of Christmas, or on a date that is convenient for you.

All safety guidelines will be followed, including full vaccination, physical distancing, wearing masks, and stringent hand washing and sanitizing.

To make an appointment for home communion, please contact Rev. Leonard at leonard.leader@stgeorgeonyonge.ca or by phone 4162251922 x 515.

CHRISTMAS LETTER



You'll find attached the Christmas Letter from Rev. Leonard. Sorry, we're not able to attach a special Christmas donation envelope to this email. Paper copies with Christmas envelopes are available this Sunday for pick up.

FLOWERS



Anyone wishing to make a donation towards the flowers for Christmas, please have your donation to the Church by December 19th and let the office know (office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca).

2021 DONATIONS

A reminder that in order to receive income tax receipts for 2021 donations, they must be received by Thursday, December 30 so that they can be included in the deposit for 2021.

TO PARISHIONERS WITH OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

This message is for all those who had envelopes in 2021. I am preparing the 2022 offertory envelopes at the present time. It is difficult to get the new ones to you during this pandemic and I am wondering if you would consider switching over to PAR (pre-authorized remittances). It is a very convenient way to support the church even when not in attendance. With PAR there is no need to write a cheque each time or find cash and hunt for your envelope, and then remember to bring it with you. I know because I used to do that when I used envelopes. The amount you choose to give each month is deducted from your bank account on the 20th of each month. You can give as little or as much as you like. This amount can be changed or cancelled at the beginning of the month. That is when I send in any changes to be made.

For your convenience, the application form for PAR is attached. A copy of a void cheque is also required. The form and picture of the cheque can be emailed to me or you can mail both to the church.

If you wish to continue to use the offertory envelopes, please let me know and I will arrange for them to be at the church for you to pick up. Each year I throw out many unused boxes of envelopes which is a waste of money and paper. I am cutting down the number of sets this year. If you only use a few envelopes in the year, you can use an ordinary envelope to make your donation or use one of our generic envelopes which are available. Make sure that your name and address is clearly on the envelope.

If you wish any more information please feel free to call me or contact me by email.

Anne Baillie, Envelope Secretary

416-225-2570 or family.baillie@sympatico.ca

MAX WYNTER APPOINTED TO THE YORK-SCARBOROUGH AREA COUNCIL

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Max Wynter on his recent appointment to the Council of the Episcopal Area of York-Scarborough.

Max has served as a church warden, and has extensive experience as a business executive.

In making this appointment, Bishop Kevin Robertson welcomed Max as a lay representative from the York Mills Deanery, which includes the parish of St. George on Yonge.

Rev. Leonard

VESTRY LIST

The Parochial Tribunal recently reviewed the names on the Vestry List for the upcoming meeting on February 6th 2022. Please look at the current list (attached). If you are not on the list and feel that you qualify, please contact the church office.

Please see the end of the list for a definition of who qualifies to be a member of Vestry.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.... READY FOR PICKUP!



Did you order one or more Christmas cakes? They will be available on Sunday December 12th and Sunday December 19th. If you're not able to pick them up on a Sunday, please contact Craig Robertson to make alternate arrangements. (mcrobertson3@gmail.com or 647-531-9044 –leave a message if no answer).

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.georgestoronto.ca or by calling 416 225-1922 x 515.

SPECIAL EDITION - VIRTUAL ZOOM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

- Save the date of December 19th at 1:00



speaking parts are optional

Come and join us for our virtual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 19th at 1:00 p.m.

We need angels... shepherds... Mary... Joseph... Inn Keeper...audience member. Who would you like to be? For those with speaking parts we will provide you with a script but we challenge everyone to come up with a costume and/or a suitable virtual background. Please join us!

Please contact the office if you are able to help us out with a speaking part. office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca
Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.

ST. GEORGE ON YONGE SEEKS ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN

St. George on Yonge is currently looking for someone to work Sunday afternoons, Tuesday evenings, and occasionally other shifts as needed. The applicant should be punctual, reliable, capable of moving both furniture and garbage bins and have relevant training or experience cleaning. They will be responsible for maintaining the cleanliness and condition of both the building and grounds, as well as the set up and take-down of furniture for special events. Contact office@stgeorgestoronto.ca for a full job description and to submit a resume. It is Diocesan policy that all employees be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

BIBLE STUDY

**Bible
Study**



Wednesday Evening Bible Study by Zoom – December 15th

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

Preparing The Way

By John Birch - Based on the readings for Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary

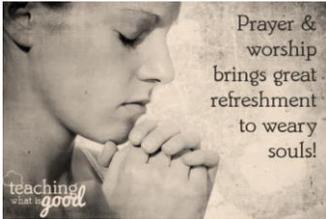


An Advent Bible Study

The booklets are available for pick-up on 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 – **December 16th**

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.

SOMETHING MAGICAL HAPPENED LAST WEEKEND...

Something magical happened this past Saturday. It wasn't just the beautiful scene of glowing lights with neighbours shopping local vendors, sipping hot chocolate, enjoying live music and walking with Santa in an old fashioned Christmas Walking Parade! The magic of the evening was the coming together of so many community members to make it happen. It was incredible to see 50 volunteers, 40 vendors and so many churches pitch in to create a much needed magical moment in our neighbourhood.



St. George on Yonge had a table with items for sale as well as information about our services. We would like to thank Craig Robertson for coordinating this, and Aili, Ella, Karen and Lorraine for helping with our table.

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 this Sunday December 12th 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.

Hope you'll all participate in our Virtual Christmas Pageant on December 19th at 1:00. There will be no Children's program that day.

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

NATIONAL CHURCH HOSTS ONLINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Join Primate Linda Nicholls and Anglicans from coast to coast to coast in preparing for the coming of the Kingdom of God. The live event will take place on Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. [Register online](#) to get the link.

PHOTO GALLERY



Summer trip to the beautiful Rocky Mountains – Aili Maki

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

* * * *

CELEBRATIONS

Any Birthdays being celebrated in December? January? 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!



 Red Deer Lake Church
@RedDeerLakeUC [Follow](#)

We love this road sign! Tables not fences is what Jesus is all about.
5:22 PM - Feb 7, 2017

  3,588  7,896 [boredpanda.com](#)

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 Kien & Anna S Maurice & Aprille S & Family Anne-Marie S Richard & Laura, Peter & Owen S Alan & Geraldine S



"John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Luke 3:16

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.

STEWARDSHIP

'Tis the season for giving. Most of us are planning to buy – or have bought – gifts for family and friends. Charitable organizations are deluging us with mail and email requests for support. And at this time of year, we remember the greatest gift of all, the baby born on Christmas Day more than 2,000 years ago. That baby's impact on the world, at the time, through the ages, and even today, is huge. The Christian church has been a major force for good throughout the world

Close to home, St. George on Yonge is also a force for good, and throughout the pandemic has maintained worship services (sometimes virtual, sometimes in-person and both at the moment), and provided pastoral support and programs that people rely on. This has continued in spite of a sharp drop in income. Our churchwardens lie awake at night worrying about the big gap between income and outgo. Essential repairs can't be done because of the lack of funds. Our Priest, Administrator, Music Director and custodian continue to deliver 120%.

Please think about your gift to St. George in an intentional and prayerful way. The note below on 'Donation Options' has some very useful information to help you with your decision.

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).



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



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**. 49 pairs to date have been donated!

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 for those eligible. 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.

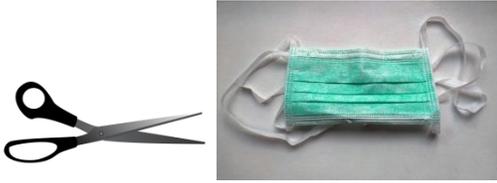
You can print out the QR code document if you prefer carrying it physically, but make sure not to fold or crease the QR code portion as it may become difficult to read. You can also store the code in your smartphone as a PDF by emailing it to yourself.

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 What does the Gingerbread man put on his bed? A cookie sheet! LOL

We would like to apologise for all the corny jokes we have been including. We would also like to apologise in advance for all the corny jokes we will continue to include!