

Rarely do we find men who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers and half-baked solutions. Nothing pains some people more than having to think.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

DO YOU KNOW?

- 1) **Who** is featured in our Black History Month article?
- 2) **What** was the shy pebble's wish?
- 3) **When** does Lent start?
- 4) **Where** does St George's gather?
- 5) **Why** does the Diocese have a vaccination policy?

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

- The bulletin for Sunday February 20th service
- Letter from the Bishop

***Please join us for Worship...Virtually**

Our services will continue to be live streamed on Facebook at 10:00 each Sunday as well as being available afterwards to watch at any time. Only worship team members who have specific roles during services will be attend, and will follow all COVID-19 protocols.

This Sunday: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany: Black History Month Service

Join us for a reflection by Sandy Thomas.

BIO OF SANDY THOMAS

Sandy Thomas has been a parishioner of St. George on Yonge for approximately 15 years and has served in various areas including the roster of readers and the stewardship committee. She is a lawyer, and is currently Senior Counsel with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) in Toronto, where she has practised criminal and constitutional law since 1994. She has a B.A (Hons) in Music. She is called to the Bar of Ontario, and is a former member of the Bars of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Ms Thomas is also former Assistant Counsel to Governor Thomas H. Kean of New Jersey.

Sandy is assigned to the Regulatory Prosecutions team at PPSC in Toronto, where she does trial and appellate work.

Over the years Sandy has given numerous presentations and participated on panels concerning various areas of law pertinent to her practice. She especially enjoys speaking to students in elementary and high schools in the GTA.

Sandy is a former board member of the Toronto Dance Theatre. She has been on the board of the Jazz Performance and Outreach Centre (JPEC) since 2013. She is the Chair of JPEC's Outreach program, which sends professional musicians to conduct workshops in schools in high needs areas or with little or no music programming.

Ms Thomas is founding president of the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers (CABL), which was established in 1996. She is the recipient of several awards.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2022			
Feb 20	Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany Black History Month Service	Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
Feb 24	Evening Prayer	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
Feb 27	Last Sunday after the Epiphany	Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.
March 2	Evening Prayer/Ash Wednesday	By Zoom	7:30 p.m.
March 6	First Sunday in Lent	Facebook Live	10:00 a.m.

Please note special change of Evening Prayer from March 3rd to March 2 to include Ash Wednesday activities. Packages of ashes can be picked up at the church on Feb 23rd, or Mar 1st, between the hours of 10 am. and 1 pm. if you are planning on attending.

VIRTUAL SERVICE

The virtual service for February 20th is being streamed 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. Please invite your friends and family to 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.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Submitted by Craig Robertson

Throughout Black History Month, we will strive to recognize the talents, achievements and contributions of Black Canadians. This week we feature a group of Black musicians whose online performance is both a triumph over COVID and also an expression over racism and exclusion encountered by Blacks in Canada. Follow the CBC link below.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/freedom-marching-black-artists-1.6343436>



CBC's website offers a broad range of features on its platform "Being Black in Canada" -

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/community/february-celebrate-black-history-month-1.6343669>

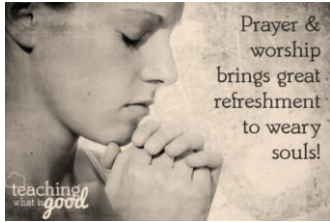
Submitted by Clavel Lyttle

Violet King (1929–1982) - Canada's First Black Female Lawyer



As a child, Violet King dreamed of becoming a lawyer despite the absence of lawyers in Canada who looked like her. Nonetheless, King went to law school and became the first Black person to earn a law degree in the province of Alberta. After passing the bar, she became the first Black woman lawyer in Canada. King's story not only speaks to her intelligence and perseverance, but also highlights the importance of representation.

EVENING PRAYER WITH THE PARISH FAMILY



Join us for evening prayer by Zoom.

Thursday evenings – next service is on – **February 24th**

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.

SAVE THE DATE

St. George on Yonge will celebrate our 100th Anniversary with a special worship service to be held on Saturday, April 23rd, St. George's Day. Our Primate, the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls will be the celebrant and preacher. Please reserve the date, watch for details and invite former parishioners, family members and neighbours to join us. Anyone who would like to be added to our Friends contact list should communicate with the office (office@stgeorgeonyonge.ca).

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR – Save the date – Sunday, February 27th at 1:00 p.m.



Coffee is optional

Come and join us for our virtual Coffee hour on Sunday, February 27th at 1:00 p.m.

With the state of the pandemic, at this time, social events probably won't be allowed for quite some time. 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. All are welcome.

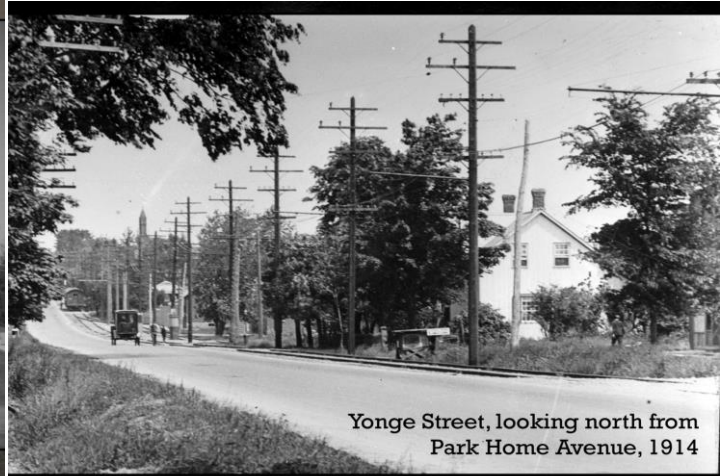
Use the Zoom link at the beginning of this update.



Please note that there will not be any children's programs in February. Program sessions for both groups will resume on March 6th – 12:30 for the 6-11 and 1:00 for the 3-5 year olds.

You can reach me at: Kathy: fambail@hotmail.com

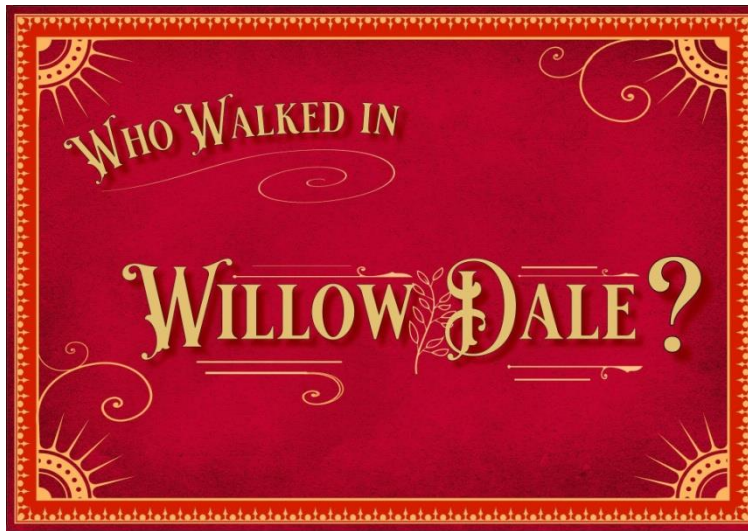
PHOTO GALLERY



Aerial view of Willowdale, 1920s

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

* * * *



Thanks to everyone who attended this special historical presentation. Special appreciation to our historian, Richard Fiennes-Clinton. It was obvious that he had done a lot of research and really enjoys sharing his interest in our past. Please remember to share any further memories of Willowdale with Richard at richard@muddyorktours.com We want to have some more memories shared in this email update. Please send in your stories!

Here are some of the comments we received in the "chat" and after the program.

From parishioners and friends of St. George:

Fascinating! Thanks Richard!

Wonderful presentation!

That was a real treat! We enjoyed it very much,

Thanks for a great presentation - from all the current day Sisters of St. John the Divine!

That was great! Thanks!

It was very interesting and informative. And of course for us the icing on the cake was seeing our condo! Didn't know it was such a historic spot!

Great presentation last night. Some places were not mentioned that I remember so well. I have so many memories of cycling to the library when it was such a small building and of course the community centre where I went to the North York Garden Club juniors and in the Willowdale Group of Artists juried show as a student of Maysie (I think her basement studio was on Kingsdale). I remember creating a Three Little Pigs diorama and winning a first prize for my shoe box creation.

From members of the community:

Thanks for a wonderful presentation!

I also remember and loved the Willow theatre! Lived on Drewry in early 60s when farm fields were behind us. I am surprised how much Yonge St. has changed since the photo you showed from 100+ years ago. Other memorable things: Spring Garden Chinese Restaurant near Gibson House, and Red Barn hamburgers at Yonge & Finch.

After emigrating to Toronto the Willow theatre was the first movie I attended and the movie was Bonnie and Clyde. I belong to Willowdale United Church and we had services in the Willow Theatre before moving to the new church on Kenneth Ave in 1954.

Thank you to All. I really enjoyed myself

CELEBRATIONS

Any birthdays coming up in February? March? Any other special celebrations coming up?
Just let the office know so we can wish you blessings on your special days.

Happy Birthday to Brian

SMILE OF THE WEEK!



**I LOVE TO MAKE LISTS
I ALSO LIKE TO LEAVE
THEM ON THE KITCHEN
COUNTER AND THEN
GUESS WHAT'S ON THE
LIST WHILE AT THE
STORE**

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 Parivin G Azita G David G & Irene S Walter G & Debbie & Susie Collene H & J.C. & Tattianna



*"Do to others as you would have
them do to you"*

Luke 6:31

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.

\$TEWARD\$HIP

The 'official' season for giving is now over, and family, friends, and charitable organizations are rejoicing in the gifts they received. And we rejoice in the greatest gift of all, the baby born on Christmas Day more than 2,000 years ago. Jesus' impact on the world, and the Christian church that grew to proclaim the Gospel, have 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, sometimes both at the same time, and virtual only at this time), and provided pastoral support and programs that people rely on. This has continued in spite of a sharp drop in income, and a growing 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% in spite of this, but to describe the situation as stretched is an understatement.

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**. **64** 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.

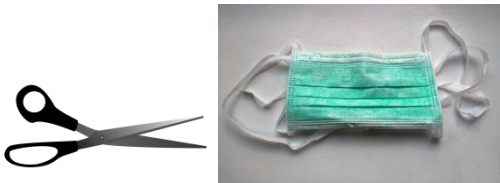
You can print out the QR code document if you prefer carrying it physically, but make sure not to fold or crease the QR code portion as it may become difficult to read. You can also store the code in your smartphone as a PDF by emailing it to yourself.

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 was the shy pebble's wish? That he was a little bolder. LOL

EXTRA SMILE OF THE DAY... for those of you who read to the end!



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