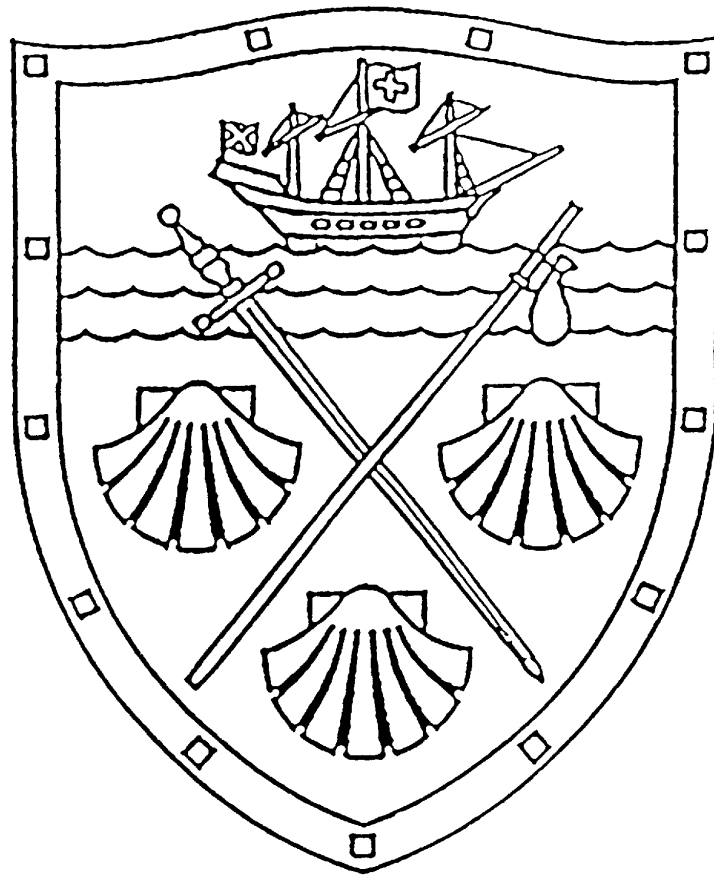


The Cathedral Church of St. James

The Birth of the Lord - Christmas Day

Monday, December 25, 2023

Procession & Choral Eucharist at 11:00am



*The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada*

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Liturgical Note

In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

A WARM WELCOME AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Want to stay informed about what is happening at your Cathedral?
Sign up for **E-Connections** on our website at www.stjamescathedral.ca
(scroll to the bottom of the page).

Questions? Speak to a sidesperson – the people wearing gold name tags.

Children & Families

There will be no Godly Play today, Christmas Day. Families and children are encouraged to worship together. Join us again at both the 9:00am and 11:00am services on January 1!
Please email Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca for more information.

Accessibility

A Wheelchair Accessible Washroom is located
at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit.
Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Coffee Hour

There will not be a Coffee Hour today or on January 1, 2023. Our Regular Coffee Hours will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2023 after the 9:00am & 11:00am services. Join us!

Parking

There are a variety of inexpensive parking lots available around the Cathedral.
Please see the leaflets at the back of the Cathedral or
online at stjamescathedral.ca/contact for more information.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

*As this is a very public and open space please be aware of your personal belongings.
Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.*

Today at St. James

Presiding Celebrant: The Very Reverend Peter Wall

Homilist: The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil

Deacon of the Mass: The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

First Reader: Kate Uchendu • Second Reader: Mary Asbil

Intercessor: Richard Harrop • Honorary Verger: Paul Seddon, ODT

Sidespersons: Sandra Mowat, Joe Cairns, Quentin Toderick, Shawn Thorpe & Wairimu Nduati

*Communion Ministers: The Very Reverend Peter Wall, The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields,
The Reverend Canon Beth Benson, The Reverend Jo-Anne Billinger,
Paul Seddon, Gordon Robison & Ruth Davis*

Director of Music & Organist: Thomas Bell • Associate Organist: Nathan Jeffery

Wayne Vance Organ Scholar: Jacob Wiens • Sung by The Choir of St. James Cathedral

Welcome! *We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning.*

Please ensure that cell phones are muted.

***Please stand, sit or kneel as you feel comfortable during the service,
including times of prayer.***

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Mass Setting: Communion Service in F - Harold Darke

Prelude In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729
Adeste Fideles (Musette)

*J.S. Bach
Demessieux*

Procession

Deacon Alleluia! Let us go forth in peace.

People **In the Name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia!**

Processional Hymn

Tune: Adeste Fideles

All O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels:
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten not created;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God in the highest;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesu to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Text: St. 1-3, 5 John Francis Wade; St. 4 Étienne-Jean-François Borderies, 1822; Music: Melody attrib. John Francis Wade, alt.

Collect at the Crèche

Presider Alleluia! The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;

People **And we beheld his glory. Alleluia!**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn

Tune: Regent Square

All

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Though an infant now we view him, he shall fill the eternal throne,
gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Text: James Montgomery, alt.; Tune: Henry Thomas Smart.

Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

God whose Word became flesh, breathe a new song of joy and praise into the world, so that we may bear the good news of your salvation and proclaim your promise of peace to the ends of the earth; through Christ the Word.

People **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Reader How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

Chant: J. Randall

Choir Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth;
break into singing and make music.
Make music to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
sound praises before the Lord, the King.
Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 1: 1-4

Reader Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Sussex Carol

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Choir I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

People **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Holy Gospel

John 1: 1-14

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Gospeller In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he

gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

Please stand, as you are able.

Presider Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Presider Let us offer our prayers to our God who sent the Son, born of a woman, so that we might become God's children saying, "God, in your mercy, hear our prayer".

Pause

Intercessor God, in your mercy,
People Hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers.

Presider Incarnate God, we come to adore you, born in humility and laid in a manger. Forgive the sins of your people, give them open hearts to receive you still, and let the light of your love always shine within us, for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

We offer each other a sign of peace, as you feel comfortable.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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stjamescathedral-mobile.plenty.com



THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

An offering will now be taken to support the life and ministry of the Cathedral.

Offertory Hymn

Tune: In Dulci Jubilo

All Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today; Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this; Christ was born for this.

Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save:
come at his most gracious call to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save; Christ was born to save!

Text: German-Latin carol (14th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale, alt.; Music: Melody *Geistliche Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1533.

Presider God of peace, your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you. May all we offer you today renew us as members of your household. We ask this in his name.

People **Amen.**

Thanksgiving & Consecration

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of salvation in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Now with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Choir Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel, as you are able.

Presider We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Presider and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

McNeil Robinson

Presider And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Fath-er in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins,
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,

and de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the po - wer and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

People **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

The Communion

Presider Alleluia! The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Agnus Dei

Choir
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

If you choose not to receive communion, simply cross your hands over your chest to indicate this to the priest. For those requiring gluten-free hosts or not wanting to walk up the chancel steps, please go to the Lady Chapel.

It is not permitted to dip the bread in the wine for health reasons.

Communion Hymn

Tune: Love Came Down

All Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, Love divine;
love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti; Music: Malcolm Archer.

Motet In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Drake

Choir

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there;
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
but his mother only in her maiden bliss,
worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti; Music: Gustav Theodore Holst.

Prayer after Communion

Presider

Let us pray.

Please stand, as you are able.

Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

People

Amen.

Presider

Glory to God,

All

whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Bishop

May Almighty God, who sent the Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People

Amen.

Bishop May God, who sent the holy angels to proclaim the glad news of the Saviour's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People **Amen.**

Bishop May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favour.

People **Amen.**

Bishop And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn

Tune: Antioch

All

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive the King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as our sin is found, far as our sin is found,
far as, far as our sin is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, alt.; Music: Melody George Frideric Handel; adapt. William Holford, Voce de Melodia, 1835; harm. Lowell Mason;

Dismissal

Priest Go forth in peace, in the name of the Christ Child, the Prince of Peace, Immanuel, God with us.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Toccata from Symphony V

Widor

*After the service, you are invited to visit the crèche
to pray in thanksgiving for the incarnation of the Prince of Peace.*

PRAYER CYCLE	PASTORAL CARE
<p><i>This week, please pray for: The Diocese of Birmingham – The Church of England; Susan Johnson, National Bishop, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Christmas Day and the Property Staff & Sextons</i></p>	<p>If you know anyone who would benefit from a call from our pastoral care team, please be in touch with our Sub-Dean & Vicar, The Rev'd Canon Dr. Stephen Fields: sfields@stjamescathedral.ca; 416-364-7865, ext. *235 or The Reverend Canon Beth Benson: bbenson@stjamescathedral.ca. 416-364-7865, ext. *237</p>

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MEMORIAL FLOWERS • CHRISTMAS 2023

*The Memorial Flowers are given to the glory of God on this great feast of Christmas
and in loving memory of:*

St. Clair & Helen Balfour	Michael Wall and Adelaide Wall
The Wilkinson, Alleyne and Grandison families	Mr. Philip and Mrs. Joane Noble
Dr. Rachel Thaysil Mathew Eappen	William Raymond & Suzanne Sweatman McNeillie and Joseph & Anne Peters
William Morley Kilbourn Hilary Celia Radcliffe Kilbourn Nicholas Morley Sawyer Kilbourn	Annie Elizabeth & Archibald MacDonald Robison

*Christmas plants have been donated by members of the Cathedral community
in memory of the following loved ones:*

Arisa Arro	Leonardo Gonzalez
Mary and Henry Banfield	John Gradham
Roy & Maureen Banfield	Arthur & Patricia Griffin
John P. Bannan Sr.	Josefina Gutierrez
Gary Braye	Bob and Molly Guy
James Frederick and Doris Emily Brown	Mr. & Mrs. Cameron Hawken
Raymond John Brown	Douglas Hawken
Bruce Buck	Ceci Heinrichs
LCDR Ian and Catherine Butters	Markus Heinrichs
Philip Cadogan and Mabel Cadogan	Mary and Julius Heinrichs
Ann & Bob Cranston	Rosemarie Heinrichs
William Davidson	Edith Jean Helling
Anna and Peter Dick	The Hoopes Family
Michael Druce	Daniel Horn and Antje Horn-Reitsma
Wesley Eardley	Christopher Jaaskelainen
Ida Fields & Mitchell Fields	Tom & Sherri Jaeger
The Most Reverend Terence Edward Finlay	Elizabeth (Adams) Jagoda
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Fraser	James F. Kennedy
Joyce Gillam Braye	Michael Kennedy
Nelson Gillam	Nicol GW Kingsmill

Cont.

Aaron and Helen Klassen
Margie and Frank Kysela
Peter Leggatt
Janet Helen Macintosh
Helen & Alexander Macleod
Nancy Mara
Dr. Jennifer Lynn Matthews
Annetta Maynard and Hilary Maynard
Mr. & Mrs. Fred & Lillian McBride
Mr. Wilfred Garland
Tim Miller
The Reverend Florence Mowat &
The Reverend John Mowat
Mei King Cheung Naidu
Kathleen & Alfred Neal
Eric Newell
Crescencia Pascual Castro
Christopher Scholes
Elfriede and Otto Schuh
Ken and Berenice Schuster

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George & Mary Seddon
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Peter Sidorchuk
Elsie & Harold Snelgrove
Vincenzina Eva Sorbara-Toderick
Betty Sparling
Brother Michael Stonebraker, OHC
Ramona & Douglas Strong
Claudette Marville Talbot
Jayne Leslie Toderick
Father William Turkington, OHC
Walter Unger
Ms. Helen Wai
Mr. & Mrs. Bartlett Watt
Jean Winstanley
Irving Wortsman
Susan & John Wu
June Yearwood
Nellie and Fred Yearwood



The Cathedral Church of St. James

Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

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Bishop of Toronto

The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil

Suffragan Bishops

The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw

The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson

Interim Dean & Priest in Charge

The Very Reverend Peter Wall

Sub-Dean & Vicar

The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

Interim Associate Priest

The Reverend Canon Beth Benson

Vicar of St. Bartholomew, Regent Park

The Reverend Dr. Walter Hannam

Pastoral Associate

The Reverend David Bryan Hoopes, OHC

Music Director & Organist

Thomas Bell

Honorary Verger

Paul D. Seddon, ODT

ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL-CONNECTIONS
Monday, December 25, 2023

CHRISTMAS DAY



It is no accident, it seems to me, that the early Church, discovering, as it did, over a couple of centuries, how to 'keep' the Feast of the Incarnation ('Christmas', to most of us...) settled eventually on the dark time of the year, all the better to celebrate the Light of Christ, which comes into the world to lighten each one of us. Darkness in December is something with which we have a lot of experience – we have just marked the winter solstice in which we here in the northern hemisphere have had our 'shortest' day. There equally seems no shortage of darkness around us – horrific acts of war and violence which assault us every day, long entrenched hostilities, and mistrust that we observe from a distance (sometimes not much of a distance...) and simply cannot begin to comprehend. There is more than enough darkness even here in our community over inequity, injustice, and a lack of opportunity which leaves us wondering just what to do.

How comforting and uplifting, therefore, to be surrounded and infused by the gift of light at Christmas – to stand in awe at a manger, long ago, and witness a miraculous birth, in circumstances simply beyond our comprehension. And as we witness, so we proclaim.

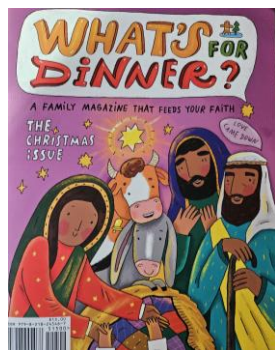
We proclaim peace, understanding, new birth, hope, peace, and love. We stand in awe and risk being deeply moved by this child who came, yes, to change the world, but, even more importantly, to change us – you and me – to be the carriers of that precious light and the bringers of that wondrous peace.

May that gift surround, enliven, and support us in these dark but brilliantly lit days!
A joyous and hope filled Christmas to you all.

The Very Reverend Peter Wall
Interim Dean & Priest in Charge

WE COUNT ON YOU

Christmas resources available for families



Help children know the true reason for the season with some colourful, engaging, interactive resources. These Christmas books for children and families will help tell the Christmas story:

Christmas Ornament Book (\$2); What's for Dinner Family Magazine (\$10) and Christmas Family Time (\$5).

For more information:

Karyne Whalen our Minister of Children, Youth, and Families at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca

St. James Cathedral Photo Directory

Please send your **current photo** with your name **by this Sunday, December 31** to wardens@stjamescathedral.ca. Sending your photograph means you consent to it appearing on appropriate Cathedral platforms. Thank you!

Christmas Food Drive: St. Bart's Food Bank needs our help

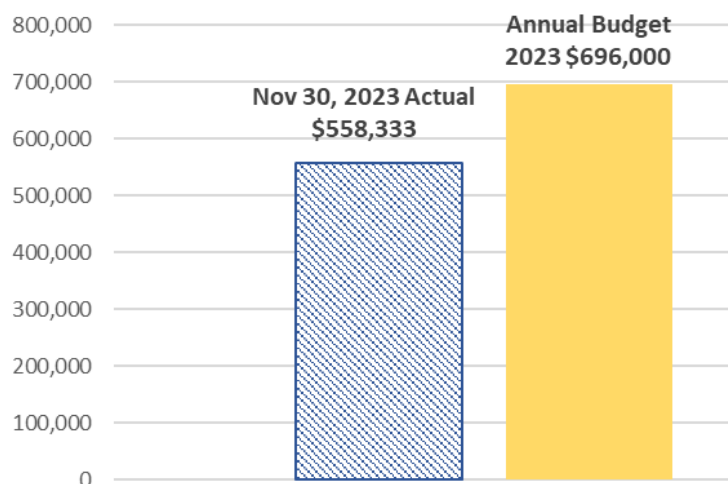


Please donate non-perishable food items in the **red bin** located in the **Cathedral** (King Street entrance) **by Sunday, December 31**.

At St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church: Donations may be made to designated "Food Bank," either by cheque or by e-transfer to stbartstoronto@outlook.com. **Contact St. Bart's:** 416-368-9180 509 Dundas St E, Toronto - <https://stbartstoronto.ca/>

This is the giving season

Stewardship Offering



We thank you for your generous support throughout the year.

As of November 30, our stewardship contribution is 20% behind budget. We will need an additional donation of \$137,667 to make our budget this year. Your donation helps ensure the continuation of our vibrant ministries.

If you would like to make a year-end donation, please do so by December 31 to receive a tax receipt for 2023.

LOOKING AHEAD – 2024

Monday, January 1, 2024: New Year's Day & Bishop's Levee:



12:15pm: Said Eucharist

3:00pm: Festive Music*

3:30pm: Choral Evensong with the presentations of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto*

*Services will also be live-streamed on the Diocesan YouTube channel at youtube.com/anglicandioto

Sunday, January 7: Dean Peter's Farewell gift and celebration



On **January 7, 2024** we will say goodbye to the Very Reverend Peter Wall, our Interim Dean and Priest-in-Charge. On behalf of our St. James community, we are sincerely grateful to Dean Peter for his ministry. **If you would like to contribute** to Dean Peter's farewell gift, you can make your gift at the Sunday offering - *specifying it is for the Dean's farewell gift*-, online through Tribute & Memorial Offerings *indicating it is for the Dean's farewell gift* - or drop it off at 65 Church St. Please **join us after the 11:00am service on January 7, 2024** to celebrate Dean Peter and his ministry at St. James Cathedral. Thank you, Dean Peter!

Sunday, January 14: Installation of the New Dean of Toronto and Rector of St. James Cathedral



On **January 14, 2024**, we will welcome The Very Rev'd Dr. Stephen Hance. He will be installed as Dean of Toronto and Rector of St. James Cathedral on Sunday, January 14, 2024, and begin this ministry on January 15, 2024. Dean Stephen will become the 14th Rector of the Cathedral Church of St. James and the 9th Dean of Toronto. Please welcome him and Jacqui with warmth and joy as we all begin a new ministry together in this place.

Please **join us after the 4:30pm service on Sunday, January 14.**

Sunday, March 10: Vestry 2024



Our 2024 Vestry Meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 10, 2024, in Snell Hall after the 11:00am service**, chaired by our new Dean the Very Rev'd Dr. Stephen Hance. A light lunch will be offered.

Look for more information about open positions and the nomination process early in the new year.

Information about the deadline for reports and where to send them will also be sent out in early 2024. The Wardens

SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK

Online Morning Prayer at 8:30am
will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2024
via the Cathedral YouTube channel

Holy Eucharist at 12:15pm
from Wednesday, December 27
to Saturday, December 30
In the Cathedral - St. George's Chapel.

***The Cathedral Offices will be closed** from Monday, December 25 to Monday, January 1.

***The Cathedral** will be closed on Tuesday, December 26.

***From Wednesday, December 27 to Saturday, December 30:**

The Cathedral will be open from **10:00am – 3:00pm** with a 12:15pm Holy Eucharist on these days.

***FRIDAY:** The **Drop-In** will be celebrating **New Year's Day on Dec. 29 at 1:30pm.**

***SUNDAY:**

***Children & Families:** Our Sunday Children's Program meets at both the 9:00am and 11:00am services.

***Coffee Hour:** Following 9:00am & 11:00am services in Snell Hall.

***TUESDAY:** Our Organ Recitals will be back on Tuesday, January 9 at 1:00pm.

***WEDNESDAY:** Our Scripture Circle will be back on Wednesday, January 10 at 11:00am.

Ways to Give Make a special end-of-year gift!

We are all so blessed in God's economy and have the joyous opportunity of sharing our blessings with others. Please make a special end-of-year gift in four different ways:

***E-Transfer:** to gifts@stjamescathedral.ca If you require a tax receipt, please provide name and address in the message. Tax receipts will be issued for gifts of \$20 or more after year-end. If you have questions, please contact gifts@stjamescathedral.ca

***Online:** <http://stjamescathedral.ca/donate>

***In-person:** If you would like to drop off an offering to the secure mailbox which is mounted in the Church Street vestibule at the entrance of the doors at 65 Church Street. **Please make donations by December 31 to receive a tax receipt for 2023.**

***By mail:** to St. James Cathedral, 65 Church Street, Toronto, ON M5C 2E9. **(Cheques must be post-dated no later than December 31, 2023)**

The First Sunday of Christmas – Sunday, December 31

8:00am: Said Eucharist

9:00am: Sung Eucharist

11:00am: Choral Eucharist *(also live-streamed on the Diocesan YouTube channel at youtube.com/tordio135).*

(There is no Choral Evensong on Sunday, December 31).

Readings for December 31:

The First Sunday of Christmas

Is 61:10-62:3

Ps 148

Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:22-40

St. James Cathedral: Facebook: [stjamesto](https://www.facebook.com/stjamesto) / **Instagram:** [stjamesto](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesto) / **YouTube:** [stjamescathedraltoronto](https://www.youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto)

For any inquiries: (416)364-7865 / info@stjamescathedral.ca / www.stjamescathedral.ca