



The First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025 at 9:00am

***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, and the Métis peoples, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of New Credit. 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.

For more information, visit our website by clicking the QR code on the right.



Questions? Our greeters wearing name tags are here to help.

Children & Families

Children of all ages are invited to participate and help lead our service. Our volunteers are here to tell you how you can help today or in the future.

For our youngest worshipers, a soft space for wiggling and crawling is offered at the front near the altar. If you need a changing table or quiet space to sit with your child, our St. George's Chapel is available just outside the rear doors of the sanctuary.

For more information about children and family programs, contact our Children, Youth, and Family Minister Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca.

To learn about our Children's Community Choir, contact Director Cara Halpin at chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca.

Accessibility

An all-gender accessible washroom is located at the front of the sanctuary through the doors to the left. Assisted hearing devices are available from the greeters wearing name tags.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto
Instagram: @stjamesto | YouTube: stjamescathedraltoronto

Please check that devices are silenced and keep your belongings with you at all times.

We're glad you're here! At this service, people of all ages and abilities pray, sing, learn, lead, and grow in faith TOGETHER.

We know that all our brains and bodies are different, and we hope you will feel comfortable participating in the ways that are best for you.

All baptized Christians are ministers of God's Church. In this Eucharist we each contribute as co-celebrants with Christ, the Chief Celebrant, and both lay people and clergy serve in a variety of ways.

We invite you to offer your gifts by choosing a card from the "Help Us Worship Together" board or by talking with one of our clergy about pre-assigned lay roles, such as readers and greeters.

Today, our presider is The Reverend Matthew Waterman and our homilist is The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance.

While our bulletin includes suggested postures for different parts of the service, these are traditional ways that Christians have participated in the liturgy with their bodies and are not required. Please use postures that support your own prayerful engagement in the service.

The flowers in the Cathedral are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Nicholas & Adele Haddad

Alan and Betty Hirst

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome

Call to Worship

Please stand.

Convener This is the day that the Lord has made.

***People* We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Convener We will give thanks and sing praise to God.

***People* We will listen to God's Word and pray for God's people.**

Convener We will come to God's table and be fed.

***People* We will go out from this table and feed the world Christ calls us to serve.**

Convener Jesus, you are the Light of the World. Shine on us here today.

***All* Amen.**

All are invited to walk in the procession if they wish! Please gather at the entrance of the Cathedral (Narthex) during the first verse to join in.

Opening Hymn

Tune: Stuttgart

All Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver; born a child, and yet a King;
born to reign in us for ever: now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley

Music: Melody Psalmody Sacra, Gotha, 1715; harm. William Henry Havergal, alt.

Tune: Stuttgart

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The First Candle - Hope

Leader Light and hope, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

Leader The four candles in the Advent wreath are lit, one by one, each Sunday in Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Each time we light a candle, we reflect on a particular theme. Today, we light the first candle, the candle of **HOPE**.

The first candle is lit.

In days of uncertainty, God's word promises a future filled with light. Isaiah speaks of nations streaming to the mountain of the Lord, beating swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. Christ tells us: "Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." As we wait for Christ, the Light of the world, we place our hope in the One who comes to make all things new.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, our Hope and our Salvation.**

Leader Let us pray.

Silence

Almighty God, you sent your prophets to proclaim a coming kingdom of justice and peace. Kindle in us the flame of hope, and keep us watchful for the day when Christ shall appear in glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Hymn

Tune: Angel Voices

All Advent candles tell their story
As we watch and play;
Longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
Changed for gladness on that day.

Music: Edwin George Monk; Words: © Mark Earey
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Collect of Purity

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

All ♪ Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. ♪

Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

Mighty God, we see the dawn of your kingdom. Help us to turn away from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, so that we will be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader A reading from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 2

This is what Isaiah, Amoz's son, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of the mountains. It will be lifted above the hills; peoples will stream to it. Many nations will go and say, "Come, let's go up to the Lord's mountain, to the house of Jacob's God so that he may teach us his ways and we may walk in God's paths." Instruction will come from Zion; the Lord's word from Jerusalem. God will judge between the nations, and settle disputes of mighty nations. Then they will beat their swords into iron plows and their spears into pruning tools. Nation will not take up sword against nation; they will no longer learn how to make war. Come, house of Jacob, let's walk by the Lord's light.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122

From Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Reader The psalm for today is Psalm 122. Please join me in the refrain:

All **We are glad to go to the house of the Lord.**

Reader I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.
For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

All **We are glad to go to the house of the Lord.**

Reader Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.
For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.
Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good."

All **We are glad to go to the house of the Lord.**

Please stand.

Thomas Bell

Gospel Music



All O Wisdom, born of God alone,
Create within our hearts a throne
To welcome Christ, and Christ alone.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

O God with us, Emmanuel,
The day Christ comes, none can foretell.
So live in hope: all shall be well.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

The Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader This is the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ as told by Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader "But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know.

Reader The Good News of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily ***O Sapientia (Wisdom), from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.***

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand.

Presider Together we declare our faith. After each question, please respond with "This we believe."

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?
People **This we believe.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; who descended to the dead, and on the third day rose again; who ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and who will come again to judge the living and the dead?

People **This we believe.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

People **This we believe. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Please adopt a posture of prayer.

Leader In peace let us pray together, saying “God of love, hear our prayer.”
God of love,

People **Hear our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers.

Presider Holy God, you have heard our prayers. Now give us grace to work for those things we have asked of you, and answer our prayers in the way that you know is best for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Confession

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God’s love and mercy are limitless. Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

All **Loving God, we know that we have done wrong. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry. Have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in love always. Amen.**

Presider Truly God’s love and mercy are limitless. Know that you are forgiven, and Christ will help you to follow his ways. Amen.

The Peace

Please stand.

Peace The peace of Christ be always with you!

Proclaimer

People **And also with you.**

We offer each other a sign of peace.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory

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

Donate to St. James Cathedral
by scanning or tapping
the QR code or visit

st-james-cathedral | [CharityProfile](#) | [Donate Online](#)
(canadahelps.org)



Offertory Hymn

Tune: Christ Be Our Light

All Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Christ, Be Our Light
Text and Music: Bernadette Farrell
Tune: Christ Be Our Light

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Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, and through Christ you will make all things new when he comes again to judge this world.

And so, with the choirs of angels and the faithful people in every age who have looked to you in hope, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

Presider Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

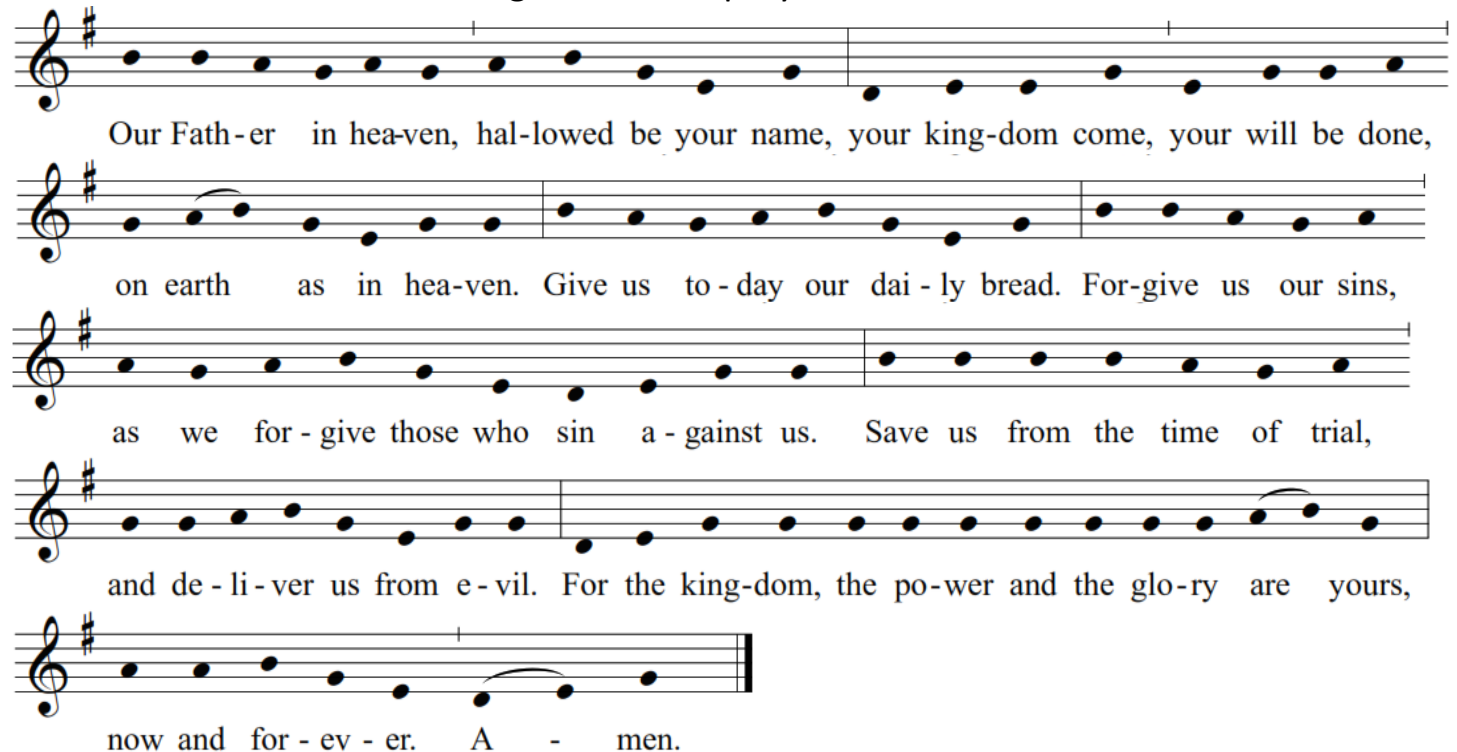
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

McNeil Robinson

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.



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.

Silence

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

You are invited to receive communion or a blessing. To receive communion, hold your hands out as you approach the server. To receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. If you require a gluten-free wafer, let the priest know. You may either sip from the chalice of wine or pause in prayer in front of it; dipping the wafer in the wine is not permitted for health reasons.

Communion Music

Tune: O-So-So

Choir Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now, O God of love, make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now and set us free, O God, our Saviour,
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Come, Hope of unity, make us one body,
come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Text: Geon-Yong Lee; revised by Marion Pope

Music: Geon-Yong Lee

Text: © 1991, GIA/Iona Community / WGRG

Tune: © 1990, Geonyong Lee

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Communion Hymn

Tune: John L. Bell

All Kindle a flame to lighten the dark,
and take all fear away.

Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule

Tune: John L. Bell

Text: © Hymns Ancient & Modern; (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188).

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Prayer after Communion

Please stand.

Presider Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

People Amen.

Doxology

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

Presider May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn

Tune: Prepare the way of the Lord

All Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

Text: Luke 3:4, 6 Taize Community
Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Dismissal

Sender Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PRAYER CYCLE

This week, please pray for:
The Anglican Church of Australia; St. James Cathedral and Lay Pastoral Visitors

PASTORAL CARE

If you know someone who would appreciate a call from our pastoral care team, please email pastoral@stjamescathedral.ca or calling 416-364-7865, and leave a message.

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ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL-CONNECTIONS - Sunday, November 30, 2025

Regular services at 8:00am, 9:00am (*Worship Together*), 11:00am, and 4:30pm.

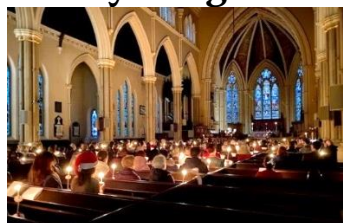
Children & Families: Sunday school at 11:00am. **Coffee Hour:** After 9:00am & 11:00am.

Advent begins today at St. James



The season of Advent, the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day, begins today, Nov. 30. You are warmly invited to join us in reflection, prayer, and celebration during this special time! Please share this invitation with your neighbours, friends, and family. All are welcome to come and share in the warmth and joy of Christmas with us.

Today: Organ Recital & Advent Lessons and Carols Service by Candlelight



From Darkness to Light: Enter into the season of Advent with this seasonal favourite service of readings and music!

4:00pm: Organ Recital by Jean-Paul Feo

4:30pm: Advent Lessons and Carols Service.

Invite your family & friends.

“Merry Moments” returns to St. James!



After last year's wonderful response, we're delighted to once again offer these **30-minute Advent and Christmas “taster” services filled with beloved carols, readings, and a short homily**. These joy-filled gatherings are perfect for anyone, and especially those who may not usually attend church or find a full carol service a bit long. **Multiple services** will take place **on Dec. 16, 18 & 20**, so you can find one that fits your schedule, at lunch, after school pick-up, or between errands.

New this year: Join us on **Saturday, Dec. 20, at 10:30am**, when our **Children's Community Choir** will lead Merry Moments. After the service, enjoy a **Nativity Animal Petting Zoo** on the West Lawn from **11:00am to 1:00pm**, with hot chocolate and snacks for all! Invite your friends and neighbours to this joyful, family-friendly event in the spirit of Christmas with us!

Until Dec. 8: Christmas Memorial Flowers



Remember a loved one this Christmas through memorial poinsettias placed in the Cathedral for the season.

Please submit names to Serena Li at sli@stjamescathedral.ca, or place them in a clearly marked envelope on the collection plate. Donations of \$45 or more per name/couple will go to support the Cathedral Flower Fund.

Payment options: E-transfer to gifts@stjamescathedral.ca (please include “*Memorial Flowers*” in your message), credit card, or online. **Please submit names by December 8.**

Dec. 9 at 6:30pm: Blue Christmas – A Service of Hope



Christmas can be difficult for a variety of reasons.

One may have lost a loved one, a job, suffered a broken relationship, or even be missing family or friends who are living in a different city, province, or country.

Come and share in a special Service of Hope, sing carols, hear the good news that the Christ Child brings, and help us trim the tree by hanging a dove and lighting a candle as we celebrate the coming of the one who is our Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Share the Joy: Ways to support our Drop-In program this Christmas!



Volunteer with us: On Christmas (Dec. 19), on Boxing Day (Dec. 26), and in the New Year (Jan. 2). Shifts will run between 9:00am to 5:30pm. Come spread some holiday cheer!

Give a sweet treat: Help fill our Christmas bags with candy canes and chocolates that will be shared with our Drop-In guests this season.

Share a card of love: Donate any unused Christmas cards so our participants can send warm greetings to their friends and family.

On behalf of the Drop-In program, thank you for the ongoing support and care you show at this time and throughout the year. Your generosity helps make the Drop-In a welcoming, safe, and caring community for all our neighbours and volunteers.

For details or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Biasi – Outreach Manager at 416 364-7865 Ext. 222 or kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca

St. Bartholomew's Food Drive. Thank you for your support



If you can, please support the food program at St. Bartholomew's Church by donating nonperishable food items in the red bin located at the King Street entrance of the Cathedral.

Donations will be accepted until Dec. 31.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Save the dates & celebrate the Christmas season with us. All are welcome!
Back by popular demand, we will blend again cherished traditions with exciting services.
Bring your family and friends to share in the joy and warmth of the season. Join us!



Christmas

AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

4:30PM Advent Lessons & Carols*

BLUE CHRISTMAS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:30PM A Service of Hope

MESSIAEN'S LA NATIVITÉ

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:30PM Organ Recital by Rashaan Allwood

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

4:30PM Christmas Lessons & Carols*

CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM Festive Organ Recital*

4:30PM Lessons & Carols*

7:30PM Choral Eucharist*

CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00AM Said Eucharist

10:30AM Choral Eucharist*

MERRY MOMENTS

30 MINUTES OF HOLIDAY SPIRIT

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS,
SHORT READINGS & PRAYERS
FOR EVERYONE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:00PM Merry Moments

6:00PM Merry Moments

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

1:00PM Merry Moments

5:30PM Merry Moments

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

10:30AM Merry Moments

with the Children's Community Choir

11:00AM - 1:00PM **Nativity Animals**
on the West Lawn with hot chocolate and snacks

1:00PM Merry Moments

NEW!

* Livestreamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel:
youtube.com/@stjamescathedraltoronto

Dec.13 at 7:30pm: *Messiah*. Regular/Patron tickets. Get yours now.

Tickets: stjamescathedral.ca/messiah2025 - **Regular ticket: \$45 per person**

Patron packages: \$300 (2 tickets, reserved seating, names in the program, Wine & Cheese reception, tax receipt of \$170 issued in January) or **\$150** (1 ticket, reserved seating, name in the program, Wine & Cheese reception, tax receipt of \$85 issued in January).

To become a Patron: (416)364-7865 Ext. 258 or bookkeeper@stjamescathedral.ca

G.F. HANDEL

Messiah

THE CHOIR OF ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL
WITH THE CHAPEL CHOIR OF TRINITY COLLEGE, UofT
AND ORCHESTRA



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025
7:30 P.M.

Thomas Bell, Conductor
Maeve Palmer, Soprano
Hillary Tufford, Mezzo-soprano
Bud Roach, Tenor
Dion Mazerolle, Baritone

TICKETS:
Early Bird: \$40
(UNTIL NOVEMBER 1)
Regular: \$45
(FROM NOVEMBER 2)



Merry Moments with Children's Community Choir & Nativity Petting Zoo



Join us on **Saturday, December 20**
at **10:30am** as our Children's Community
Choir leads us in Merry Moments.

After the service, head out to the West Lawn
for a **Live Nativity Animal Petting Zoo**
from **11:00am to 1:00pm**, complete with hot
chocolate and snacks for everyone.

Bring your friends and neighbours to share
in the joy and spirit of Christmas!

This is a family-friendly event open to all.

Mark your calendars: Upcoming Musical Events in December at St. James!

Dec. 2 at 1:00pm: Music for the Advent Season - Jean-Paul Feo (St. James Cathedral)

Dec. 9 at 1:00pm: *"The organ at St. James Cathedral: History & Demonstration"* - Thomas Bell

Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:30pm: *Messiah* by G. F. Handel.

Tickets: stjamescathedral.ca/messiah2025 - **Regular ticket: \$45** per person

Doors open: 6:15pm - Seating: First-come, first-served

Messiah Concert: 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Messiah (special): Handel composed *Messiah* in just 24 days. We shall present a slightly abridged version concluding at 9:30pm.

Tuesday, Dec. 16: Cadence Brassard (Toronto)

Friday, Dec. 19 at 7:30pm:

***La Nativité du Seigneur* by Olivier Messiaen played by Rashaan Allwood.**

Nine musical meditations on the birth of Jesus are interspersed with poems and Bible readings. *La Nativité* is of the most startlingly original works ever created for the organ. Olivier Messiaen, a deeply devout musician, conceived a series of nine musical tableaux which reflect not only upon the actual events of the nativity – the shepherds, the wise men – but the profound implications of these events for us today. The organ portrays the story in music, which ranges from quiet, timeless introspection to shattering excitement. Biblical readings and poems by George Herbert, W.H. Auden, Malcolm Guite, Tennyson, and others will intersperse the musical reflections. It's a free concert, donations welcome.

St. James Cemetery & Crematorium Announcements

Monthly Eucharist: Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 11:00am at the Chapel of St.-James-the-Less.

Add a special touch of remembrance for the season to honor your loved one!



Joining the Seasonal Wreath program at St. James Cemetery & Crematorium is a special way to express your appreciation to your loved ones and all the faithful departed.

Don't miss this meaningful opportunity—book your beautiful wreath in advance.

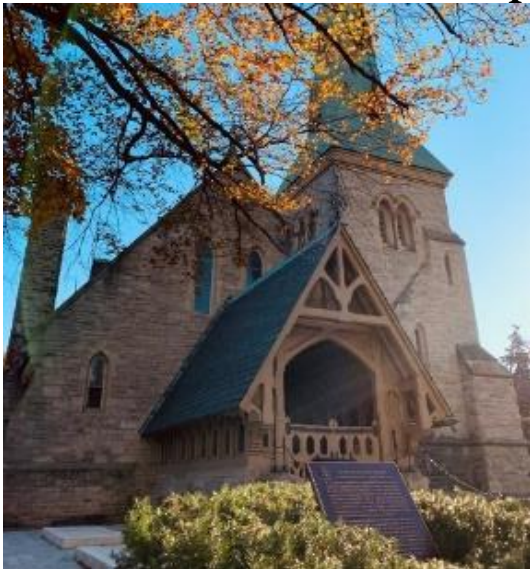
There are two wreath arrangements available: \$75 each (includes applicable taxes)

Option 1: Red Roses & Pinecones

Option 2: Poinsettias & Pinecones

If you are interested, please contact St. James Cemetery & Crematorium at 416-964-9194, visit stjamescemetery.ca, or email cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca

Pre-plan your service anytime



Preplanning gives you peace of mind and the opportunity to make your wishes known.

Cathedral clergy are available to assist with funeral plans and our cemetery staff would be pleased to help you preplan your interment and other cemetery services.

Protect yourself from future inflationary increases, too.

For more information, please contact:

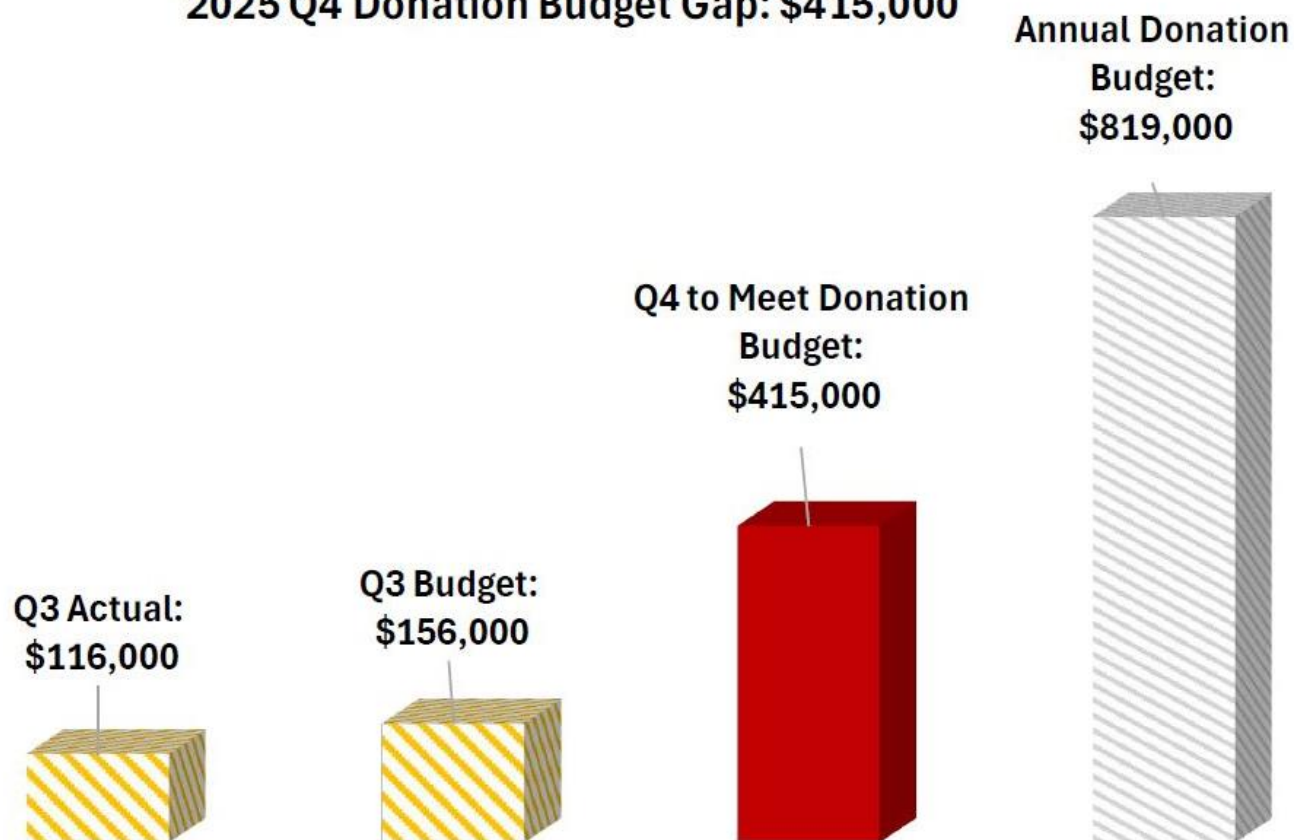
The Rev'd Canon Dr. Stephen Fields at sfields@stjamescathedral.ca, (416) 364-7865, ext. 221

George Vrozos - Cemetery Manager at cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca, (416) 964-9194

or visit stjamescemetery.ca

2025 Q3 & Q4 Financial Updates

2025 Q4 Donation Budget Gap: \$415,000



Thank you for your faithful and generous donations this year! As we close Q3, we face a significant challenge: **donations are 25% below our target**, creating a gap in our budget.

To meet our **annual donation budget of \$819,000**, we need to raise **\$415,000 by December 31, 2025**. Your gift today can make a real difference and help keep the ongoing missions and ministry of St. James strong.

Did you know that Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG) is the best way to give? It makes a clear statement about what is important to you. It is secure, convenient, cost-effective, and has the lowest processing fee among all donation methods. Will you sign up today and make a lasting commitment? Contact Candice Chan, our Bookkeeper, at 416-364-7865 Ext. 258 or bookkeeper@stjamescathedral.ca to sign up today!

For more ways to give, please visit
stjamescathedral.ca/donate/give-online
or scan our QR code:



THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Morning Prayer – online only at 8:30am

Holy Eucharist at 12:15pm

Monday to Saturday via the Cathedral YouTube channel Monday to Saturday in St. George's Chapel.

Visit us: The Cathedral is open Monday-Saturday from 10:00am–3:00pm.
The Cathedral Centre offices are open Monday-Friday from 9:00am–4:00pm.

Online Morning Prayer:

Join our clergy and fellow members of the Cathedral from Monday to Friday for Morning Prayer in our **Zoom Chapel**.

To access, please follow this link: <https://bit.ly/MPatSJC> or scan the QR code. For more information, visit: stjamescathedral.ca/morningprayer/



Tuesday: Organ Recitals in the Cathedral at 1:00pm. Free admission, donations welcome!

Wednesday: Scripture Circle gathers in the Cathedral Centre at 11:00am.

Thursday: Early Music at St. James at 1:00pm. Free admission, donations welcome!

Friday: Drop-In from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. We welcome our guests for a nutritious meal.

Saturday: Children's Community Choir Rehearsals from 9:30am to 10:30am on Dec. 6, 13, 20, and resuming on Jan. 10, 2026.

St. James Cemetery: Seasonal Wreath program, Pre-planning services & Plots available.
Info: 416-964-9194, cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca or visit stjamescemetery.ca

Sunday Services – Dec. 7, 2025

8:00am: Said Eucharist

9:00am: Worship Together*

11:00am: Choral Eucharist*

4:30pm: Choral Evensong*

**Live-streamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel at
youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto*

Readings for

The Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11: 1-10

Ps 72: 1-7, 18 - 19

Rom 15: 4 - 13

Mt 3: 1-12

The Cathedral Church of
St. James exists today through the gifts
of time, talent, and treasure of both
past and present members of the
Cathedral community.

Scan to Donate



Thank you for your support!
St. James Cathedral,
a symbol of God's presence
and love in the city.

Do you get our online weekly newsletter?

Sign up today at stjamescathedral.ca

St. James Cathedral: (416)364-7865 / info@stjamescathedral.ca

Facebook/Instagram: @stjamesto / **YouTube:** stjamescathedraltoronto

St. James Cemetery: (416)964-9194 / stjamescemetery.ca / cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca