



# **WORSHIP TOGETHER**

**The Third Sunday of Advent**

***December 14, 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.*

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### **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.*



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

### **Children & Families**

Children of all ages are invited to participate in 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](mailto:kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca).

To learn about our Children's Community Choir, contact Director Cara Halpin at [chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto: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](http://stjamescathedral.ca) | Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/stjamesto](https://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 like readers and greeters.*

*Today our presider is The Very Reverend Dr. Stephen Hance and our homilist is The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts.*

*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.*

## 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 in the entrance of the Cathedral (Narthex) during the first verse to join in.***

### Opening Hymn

Tune: Winchester New

***All*** On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within.  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin; tr. John Chandler, alt.  
Music: Melody Musicalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk, alt

### **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Third Candle - Joy**

*Leader* Light and joy, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*Leader* The candles of **hope** and **peace** continue to burn in the Advent Wreath. Today we light the second candle, the candle of **JOY**.

*The third candle is lit.*

Isaiah tells of the desert blooming, the blind seeing, the lame leaping for joy. When John the Baptist wonders if Jesus is the One, the answer comes in deeds of healing and good news for the poor. This is the joy of God's kingdom breaking in. As we rejoice in the nearness of Christ's coming, we join with creation in singing for joy.

*People* **Come, Lord Jesus, our Joy and our Song.**

*Leader* Let us pray.

*Silence*

God of joy, you lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things. By your Spirit, open our eyes to your presence, and gladden our hearts as we wait for the coming of Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*People* **Amen.**

### **Hymn**

Tune: Angel Voices

*All* John the Baptist, by his preaching  
and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching  
news of hope restored:  
'Keep your vision strong and steady  
and be ready for the Lord.'

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.

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*Please be seated.*

### The First Reading

*Isaiah 35*

*Reader* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 35

The desert and the dry land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus. They will burst into bloom, and rejoice with joy and singing. They will receive the glory of Lebanon, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the Lord's glory, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and support the unsteady knees. Say to those who are panicking: "Be strong! Don't fear! Here's your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution God will come to save you." Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. Then the lame will leap

like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water. The jackals' habitat, a pasture; grass will become reeds and rushes. A highway will be there. It will be called The Holy Way. The unclean won't travel on it, but it will be for those walking on that way. Even fools won't get lost on it; no lion will be there, and no predator will go up on it. None of these will be there; only the redeemed will walk on it. The Lord's ransomed ones will return and enter Zion with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Happiness and joy will overwhelm them; grief and groaning will flee away.

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 146:4-9**

*From Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

*Reader* The psalm for today is Psalm 146, verses 4 through 9. Please join me in the refrain:

**All The Lord is our help and our hope.**

*Reader* Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;  
who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;  
who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who  
hunger.

The Lord sets the captive free.

**All The Lord is our help and our hope.**

*Reader* The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed  
down;

the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord cares for the stranger;

the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the  
wicked.

The Lord shall reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

**All The Lord is our help and our hope.**

*Please stand.*

Thomas Bell

## Gospel Music



**All** O Root of Jesse, promised one,  
The prophets told of God's own Son.  
Fulfilled in Christ; come quickly, come.  
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 11:2-11*

**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** Now when John heard in prison about the things the Christ was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus, asking, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Jesus responded, "Go, report to John what you hear and see. Those who were blind are able to see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed. Those who were deaf now hear. Those who were dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them. Happy are those who don't stumble and fall because of me."

When John's disciples had gone, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: "What did you go out to the wilderness to see? A stalk blowing in the wind? What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in refined clothes? Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces. What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. He is the one of

whom it is written: Look, I'm sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you.

"I assure you that no one who has ever been born is greater than John the Baptist. Yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*Reader* The Good News of Christ.

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

*Homily* ***O Radix Jesse (Branch of Jesse), standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.***

### **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: Let us Light a Candle

**All** In a world where people walk in darkness  
Let us turn over our faces to the light,  
To the light of God revealed in Jesus,  
To the daystar scattering our night.

*Refrain*

*For the light is stronger than the darkness and the day will overcome the night,  
Through the shadows linger all around us, let us turn our faces to the light.*

In a world where suffering of the helpless  
casts a shadow all along the way,  
Let us bear the cross of Christ with gladness  
and proclaim the dawning of the day. *Refrain*

Let us light a candle in the darkness,  
In the face of death a sign of life;  
As a sign of hope where all seemed hopeless,  
As a sign of peace in place of strife. *Refrain*

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Words: © The Very Rev. Robert Willis  
Music copyright ©The Royal school of Church Music  
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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: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE

*Choir* O come, divine Messiah;  
The world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph  
And sadness flee away.

#### *Refrain*

*Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth.*

*Dispel the night and show your face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.*

*O come, divine Messiah;  
the world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph  
and sadness flee away.*

O Christ, whom nations sigh for,  
Whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
Come, break the captive's fetters,  
Redeem the long-lost fold. *Refrain*

You come in peace and meekness  
And lowly will your cradle be;  
All clothed in human weakness  
Shall we your Godhead see. *Refrain*

Author: M. l'abbé Pellegrin Translator: Sister Mary of St. Philip (1877)

## 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  
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.

Cameroon Traditional

## Dismissal

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

### PRAYER CYCLE

*This week, please pray for:*  
*Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil; Tecumseth Deanery and Scripture Circle*

### PASTORAL CARE

If you know someone who would appreciate a call from our pastoral care team,  
please email [pastoral@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:pastoral@stjamescathedral.ca) or call 416-364-7865, press 1 to leave a message.

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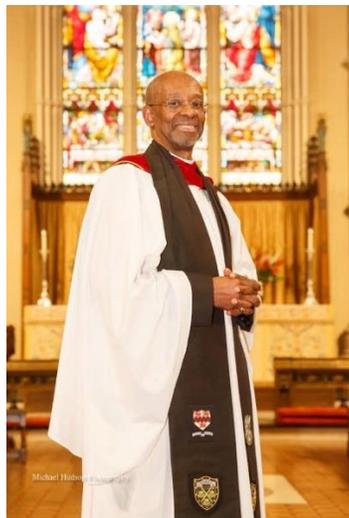
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# ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL-CONNECTIONS - Sunday, December 14, 2025

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.

## Notice of Retirement



We announce the retirement of our Vicar and Sub Dean, The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields, from full-time ministry, effective June 30, 2026. Ordained in 1981, he has served the church in New York, Barbados, and Toronto, including here at St. James Cathedral since 2021. His ministry has been marked by a deep commitment to proclaiming Christ, advocating for the poor and marginalized, and challenging the Church to confront racism. We give thanks for his ministry and for all who have shared in his journey, as he looks forward to continuing to serve the Church as God calls after a time of rest. His final Sunday of full-time service at the Cathedral will be May 31, 2026, the 45th anniversary of his ordination to Diaconate.

## Our Merry Moments service returns



We're delighted to once again offer these 30-min Advent and Christmas 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 prefer a shorter service. This service is offered multiple times to accommodate a variety of schedules:

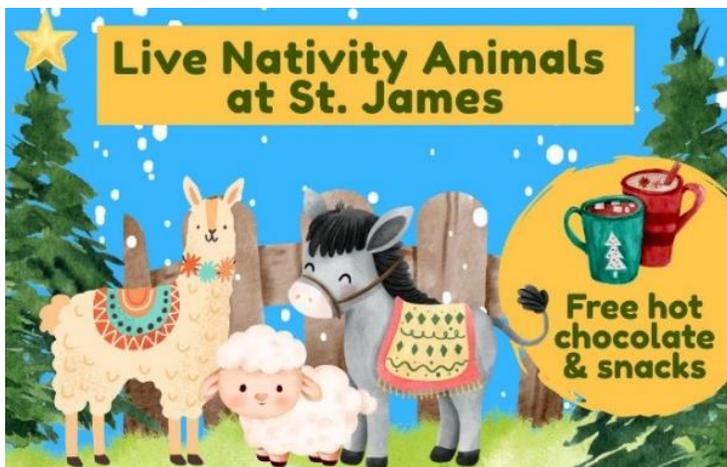
**Dec. 16:** 4:00pm (in person & online) & 6:00pm

**Dec. 18:** 1:00pm & 5:30pm

**Dec. 20:** 10:30am (see below) & 1:00pm

The 10:30am service on Dec. 20 will be led by our Children's Community Choir. 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.

This is a family-friendly event for the whole community, so bring your friends and neighbours to share in the joy and spirit of Christmas!



**Friday, Dec. 19 at 7:30pm:**

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



*La Nativité du Seigneur*  
by Olivier Messiaen

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. Donations are welcome to support the work of the St. James and Community Refugee Committee.

## **Dec. 24 & 25: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day**



Let's celebrate together the miracle of the Incarnation when the blessings of hope, peace, joy, and love came to us in the child of Bethlehem. Join us with family, friends, and invite your neighbours!

**Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve**

**4:00pm:** Festive Organ Recital\*

**4:30pm:** Lessons & Carols\*

**7:30pm:** Choral Eucharist\*

**Thursday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day**

**8:00am:** Said Eucharist

**10:30am:** Choral Eucharist\*

\*Also live-streamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel at [youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto](https://youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto)

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



### **Volunteer with us:**

On Christmas (Dec. 19)

Boxing Day (Dec. 26)

New Year (Jan. 2). Shifts will run between 9:00am to 5:30pm. Come spread some holiday cheer!

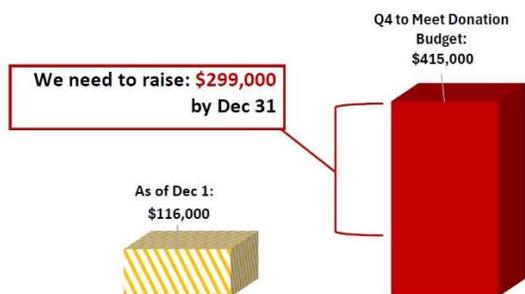
For details or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Biasi – Outreach Manager at 416 364-7865 Ext. 222 or [kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca)

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.

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

If you can, please support the food program by donating nonperishable food items in the red bin located at the King Street entrance of the Cathedral. Donations accepted until Dec. 31.

### 'Tis the Giving Season!



Your generosity fuels the Cathedral's mission. As we approach year-end, donations are 26% below target, and we need \$299,000 by December 31 to reach our annual budget. Be part of the mission.

Give today! Every gift matters. Donate by December 31 to receive a 2025 tax receipt.

Choose one of the following easy ways to give:

1. **E-Transfer:** to [gifts@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:gifts@stjamescathedral.ca), include name and address for tax receipt. Tax receipts will be issued for gifts of \$20 or more in 2026.
2. **Give Online:** [www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-james-cathedral/](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-james-cathedral/)
3. **In-Person:** Drop off your donation in the secure mailbox, mounted in the vestibule at the 65 Church Street entrance doors.
4. **Other Ways to Give,** please visit: [stjamescathedral.ca/donate/give-online](http://stjamescathedral.ca/donate/give-online) or scan our QR code:



## LOOKING AHEAD

### Thursday, January 1: New Year's Day & Bishop's Levee

**12:15pm:** Said Eucharist

**1:30pm-2:45pm:** Receiving Line and Reception with the ringing of the Bells of Old York

**2:45pm:** Festive Music for Brass Quintet

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

### Sunday, Jan. 4 at 4:30pm:

#### Epiphany Lessons and Carols with the Chalking of the Doors

Join us for a beautiful Epiphany service of readings, hymns, and choral music as we follow the journey of the wise men and reflect on the early ministry of Jesus. We will also bless the cathedral and all who will enter in the coming year through the ancient ceremony of the chalking of the doors. The service begins with an organ recital at 4:00pm. All are welcome!

### Monday, Jan. 19 at 2:00pm: The York Group and Will Postma

We are delighted to welcome Will Postma, CEO of Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF), as our guest speaker. Come enjoy an afternoon of learning and fellowship. No RSVP.

Info: [stjamescathedral.ca/community/york-group](http://stjamescathedral.ca/community/york-group)

## 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/](http://stjamescathedral.ca/morningprayer/)



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

**Wednesday:** Scripture Circle gathers this week in the Cathedral Centre at 11:00am and will resume on Jan. 7.

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

**Dec. 19 at 7:30pm:** *La Nativité du Seigneur* by Olivier Messiaen played by Rashaan Allwood.

**Saturday:** Children's Community Choir Rehearsal from 9:30am to 10:30am on Dec. 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](mailto:cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca) or visit [stjamescemetery.ca](http://stjamescemetery.ca)

### Sunday Services – Dec. 21, 2025

**8:00am:** Said Eucharist

**9:00am:** Worship Together\*

**11:00am:** Choral Eucharist\*

**4:30pm:** Christmas Lessons & Carols\*

\*Live-streamed on the Cathedral YouTube channel at [youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto](http://youtube.com/stjamescathedraltoronto)

**Readings for**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 7:10–16

Psalms 80:1–7, 16–18

Romans 1:1–7

Matthew 1:18–25

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.

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