

## 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:

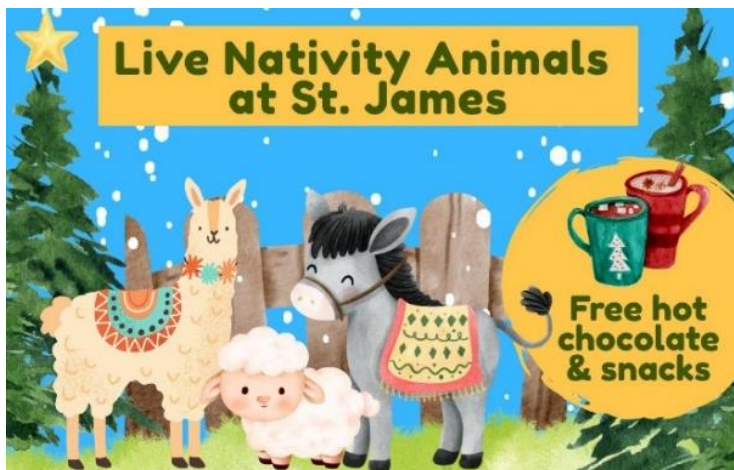
**Dec. 16:** 4:00pm (in person & online) & 6:00pm

**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:**

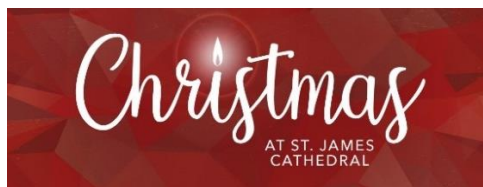
***La Nativité du Seigneur* by Olivier Messiaen played by Rashaan Allwood**



*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!

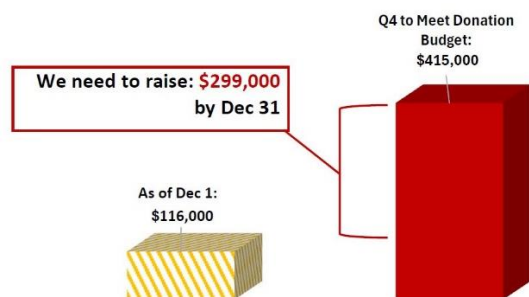
For details or to volunteer, please contact Kathy Biasi – Outreach Manager at 416 364-7865 Ext. 222 or [kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:kbiasi@stjamescathedral.ca)

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:** Eucharist and carols

**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.

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

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

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

**St. James Cemetery:** (416)964-9194 / [stjamescemetery.ca](http://stjamescemetery.ca) / [cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca](mailto:cemetery@stjamescathedral.ca)