



# St. Peter's Anglican Church

Reaching out to St. Peter's Community

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776 Brimley Road, Scarborough ON, M1J 1C6

416-267-2741

## Advent Edition

Welcome to the sixth edition of St. Peter's Newsletter



### An Advent Message

The season of Advent is about to begin as we prepare for Christmas and our world receiving the gift of new life. When we prepare for Easter it is a time of reflection, repentance and reconciliation. Now as we move toward Christmas, our preparation is about anticipation and expectation.

God is leading us through darkness and challenge to be able to embrace hope, peace, love and joy. Some people think that Christmas time is only for those who can be happy. In fact Advent offers us time to anticipate and expect hope in the midst of despair, life in the midst of death and light to mark our way forward.

In Advent we have the time to know and acknowledge a God who never ceases to act for the created good, who comes in the flesh to do a new thing. Christian joy is not a superficial giddiness, it is a deeply felt assurance that we are not alone in the complexities of our world.

In one of the parishes I served there was a three year old girl who was to receive communion for the first time Christmas Eve. She was more excited about getting Jesus for Christmas than any other present. Whatever is happening in your life, know that you can anticipate and expect the greatest gift of all!

Blessings of Great Joy!

The Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft

### Administrator's Advent Message

Advent is the season of anticipation and of hope. It is also the season when we look forward to Easter, remembering that Christ born as a tiny baby will become the sacrifice for us. That is why the liturgical colour for Advent is a somber one, either purple or blue. But we do look forward to Christmas and the joy it brings because of the great change in the world, the revelation of God as a human being.

In St. Peter's you may look forward to a great change. The parish is in the unusual position of having lots of money available right now, but also having a serious negative cash flow. Spending is more than income and as the congregation has been reminded several times the current income does not allow for the employment of a stipendiary priest. I would hope that an arrangement to combine with the two parishes to the east would be consummated. By so doing, then without the cost of maintaining two buildings there may be sufficient funds to have a priest full time.

Change is not easy. There may be some sacrifices. Remember that the church is the people, not a particular building. The people of God may gather anywhere.

Some of you will recall the famous comment from the Duke of Lampedusa in the 1963 novel, *The Leopard*. To paraphrase, If you want things to stay the same, everything has to change. He was speaking of his position as a wealthy aristocrat, but he knew that compromises were needed to maintain his situation. That is also the situation for the parish of St. Peter's, Scarborough.

**Robert Saunders**  
Diocesan Administrator

### Farewell to Clyde Tucker

On Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, we gave thanks for Clyde Tucker as he resigned as our Parish Verger.

Clyde has held this position in our church for nearly 12 years and we thank him for his service in which he shared his many gifts and talents. We continue to wish him God's blessings.

*"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you." Numbers 6:24-25*



### All Saints Sunday

God our Father, source of all holiness, the work of your hands is manifest in your saints, the beauty of your truth is reflected in their faith. May we who aspire to have part in their joy be filled with the spirit that blessed their lives, so that having shared their faith on earth may we also know their peace in your kingdom. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### Remembrance Day Service

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to the Rev. Canon Greg Physick for Presiding at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Also, a thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 614 for their participation during the service.



### Parish Announcements

#### ***The Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft's New Schedule:***

**Sundays:** Weekly Services & Meetings

**Mondays:** Visiting Parishioners, Phone Calls – available by appointment only

**Tuesdays:** Office Hours, Nursing Home Services (First week of the month)

**Wednesdays:** Mid-Week Holy Communion & Laying on of Hands and Anointing – 10:30 a.m., followed by a Bible Study & Fellowship

**Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays:** Day Off

**For Pastoral Emergencies:** Please contact the church office at 416-267-2741

***Steering Committee Meeting – Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019:*** We had a very productive and congenial meeting with the three local Anglican churches of St. Peter's, St. Ninian's, and St. John the Divine. The purpose of this meeting was "Recreating God's Church". The main objective was to plan for the Visionary Meeting of Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to be held at St. John the Divine on Scarborough Golf Road from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This will be an open meeting with all the congregations for the three parishes to discuss the following six (6) topics: Worship & Music; Children & Family; Youth; Outreach; Pastoral Care; Senior Ministry. The steering committee with each chair one of the topics. The results of the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will be communicated to each parish by the end of January. There will be a sign-up at the back of the church for the open meeting.

***If you would like to make a contribution*** (any amount welcome) toward Christmas Flowers in memory of or in honour of someone, or in thanksgiving, please complete a Christmas Flower envelope that you will find located next to the altar flower calendar just outside the office door. The last day to submit your request is Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> as this will ensure your dedication is listed in the December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> bulletins.

***The Diocese of Toronto*** has implemented a new Human Rights policy and a new Harassment Policy. Both of these policies are available in the foyer for anyone who would like to review them.

**PWRDF:** We are very excited to announce that this year we will be partnering with PWRDF in order to raise funds over the Christmas season. As many may know-PWRDF is an Anglican-led initiative which is active in virtually every continent across the globe and it aims to not only raise monetary funds but to better equip communities for being self-sustaining. Their annual 'World of Gifts' initiative aims to raise money that can be in turn used to purchase livestock for farms (i.e. goats, pigs, cows etc.) along with money that can be used for nutrition awareness, clean water, emergency food supplies when a crisis hits; and investing in safer more environmentally friendly farming. PWRDF also has a 'Children's Corner' so to speak-online-and they are committed to highlighting the great fundraising efforts of young people within the greater church community and will feature individual church groups and their efforts on their website! Please consider donating to PWRDF this Advent Season and donations can be earmarked on your offering envelope. More information can be found in the PWRDF magazines that are on the tables outside. Blessings, the Sunday School.

***The next Community Lunch*** will be on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Please let Gail know if you would like to provide dessert for this special “Casserole Christmas” lunch or if you would like to help out. Thank you for your continued support and remember, everyone is welcome to join us for lunch.

***Christmas Program:*** On Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> the Immanuel Christian Church will be having a special “Taste of Christmas” program from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. They will be having several congregations join together to share in a Christmas celebration, with *Spirit Singers* from the University of Toronto. As well, they will be having a guest speaker – the Right Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews, Principal and Professor of Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto. Admission is free, however a freewill offering will be collected. For more information please contact Rev. Ananda at 416-858-4912.

***Our Christmas Luncheon*** will be held on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 a.m. service in the lower hall. All are invited to join us, and please bring your family and friends. Donations are most welcome. Outside in the foyer there is a sign-up sheet for the lunch as well as this year’s menu. If you haven’t done so already, please sign the sheet.

**A Christmas Concert “*Tidings of Comfort and Joy*”:** On Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. we will be having a Christmas Concert which will include choral, voice, organ, piano, and violin performances! This year, we are happy to be having our main guests – St. Dunstan’s Catholic Church Choir as well as Jay Franco on the violin. Tickets are only \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Tickets are **now available** and can be purchased following the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Please call Jaime at (416) 540-8945 for ticket sales. Following the concert, light refreshments will be served. Please come out and celebrate with us as we will be having our last fundraising event for the year!

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**St. Peter's Anglican Church provides numerous opportunities for  
parishioners and members of the community to worship.**

We have two Sunday services:

**8:00 a.m. Said BCP Communion Service**

**10:30 a.m. BAS Choral Holy Communion Service – alternating between pg. 185 & 230**

(Except the last Sunday of the month which is BCP Morning Prayer)

**Mid-Week Holy Communion & Laying on of Hands and Anointing Service on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

After the service, there will be a Bible Study followed by a time of fellowship.

**St. Peter’s Anglican Church is also actively engaged in other ministries:**

Service on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at Rockcliffe Care Community Scarborough

Service on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. at Bendale Acres Long-Term Care Homes

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776 Brimley Road, Toronto ON, M1J 1C6

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Office Hours: Tues: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Wed: 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fri: 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*“To Know Christ and Make Him Known”*

**Editor’s Note**

As we begin our Advent journey towards Christmas, let us take the time to wait patiently for the coming of our Lord. I would like to specially acknowledge the Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft and Bob Saunders for their contributions towards this Advent edition newsletter. Our next edition of the Newsletter will be for Christmas 2019. I would like to express a hearty thanks to all of the members of St. Peter’s Anglican Church and our surrounding community for their support as we seek to Know Christ and Make Him Known.

**by Jaime Barrow**