



St. Peter's Anglican Church

Reaching out to St. Peter's Community

f stpetersscarborough

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Summer Edition – Rest, Relax, Rejuvenate

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

*Continued on Page 3*

A Message from our Priest-in-Charge

Summer has been a wonderful respite in being able to physically distance outside. I hope everyone has enjoyed time with nature, gardens and family. I would be lying if I said I wasn't anxious about the possibility of in person worship in September. I have not been at an inside gathering with more than six people. The only stores I have been in are the drug store and the LCBO, (medicinal purposes only!). I order food delivered rather than shopping in person. I have done those things in order to keep my family safe and those I see dropping by the church and the food bank. I know I am not alone in feeling nervous about an unknown future.

Having said all of that, I need to acknowledge the tremendous work done by Jaime, the Wardens and the Verger. Every point of the reopening plan has been checked and double checked. The Church has roped off pews and tape marks the seating for family groups or singles. There are sanitizing stations and arrows keeping people the correct distance apart. The leadership team has been meeting over the summer to make certain that everyone entering our space will be safe. We even have a plan to engage children in a safe way.

We will not be able to sing but we can celebrate the beautiful words of our liturgies and scripture. We cannot physically touch anyone but we can see their eyes and rejoice in being present with each other. The early church gathered in catacombs for fear of the authorities. They were afraid, but they gathered. We may fear a virus but we too can gather. And there will be those who cannot gather and we will continue online support.

No matter what, summer will come to an end and the future will begin. God Bless us all as we discern the Spirit.

The Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft
Priest-in-Charge

Preparing to Re-Open our Church

As we continue this difficult journey through COVID-19, we give God thanks that we will be able to once again join as a Christian family. In mid-August, parishioners were mailed the re-opening plan that included strict protocols to ensure the safety of all who use our church.



A



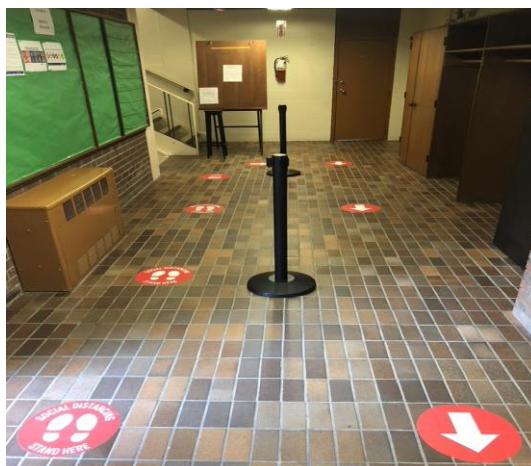
B



C



D



E



F

Here are some of the safety protocols that we have set in place:

- A. We have closed every other pew in the sanctuary to ensure proper physical distancing during our services.
- B. At the back of the sanctuary, we have assigned specific seating for families up to 4 people. This would allow them to be comfortable with extra room, especially with young children.
- C. We have assigned individual seating for single usage or for couples. A reminder that if physical distancing is a challenge, wearing a face mask will ensure the best safety.
- D. We have assigned 4 accessible seats for the disabled or handicap.
- E. Only one person will be permitted to use the washroom at a time. There is now an area to wait safely for the washroom. The lower and upper halls will remain closed.
- F. Hand sanitizers are placed throughout the building and are asked to be used before entering the building, before and after using the washroom, and before taking communion.

We kindly ask that you take the time before the re-opening of our parish on Sunday, September 13th to read and understand all of the protocols that we have set in place. We trust that you will assist us in making our parish as safe as possible for all parishioners and those who use our building.

Faithfully yours,

Jaime Barrow
Parish Administrator

Amalgamation/Steering Committee Update

The Steering Committee for St. Peter's has continued their work during the summer regarding the on-going amalgamation with St. Ninians and St. John the Divine. Our next virtual steering committee amalgamation meeting will be held on Saturday, August 29. Following this meeting, we will be creating a statement to bring forward to our parishioners. This statement will be available after the re-opening of our parish on Sunday, September 13. We appreciate all of our parishioners' support during this time. We thank you for your patience and dedication to the mission of Christ.

Warmest regards,

Jane Lawrence
People's Warden

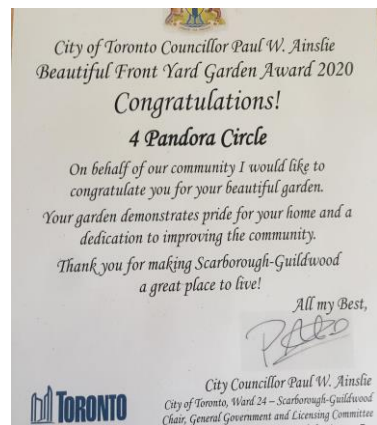
St. Peter's Garden



St. Peter's Garden has successfully produced another abundant crop this year. The gardens started in the second week of May, allowing us to have the jump of planting, which usually takes place on the May 24 weekend. Currently in our church gardens we have dusty millers, marigolds, geraniums, lady slippers, and hostas. At the rectory, we have our vegetable garden that consists of tomatoes, brussel sprouts, parsley, beans, cucumbers, carrots, and beets. Many thanks for the tutelage from Claude Williams, as well as Madge Latchana and Gail Thompson for their assistance.

Michael Barrow
Verger

City of Toronto Garden Award in Memory of William Lewis



BLACK LIVES MATTER

About Black Lives Matter Canada:

We are a platform upon which Black communities across Canada can actively dismantle all forms of anti-Black racism, liberate Blackness, support Black healing, affirm Black existence, and create freedom to love and self-determine. We work to forge critical connections and to work in solidarity with Black communities, Black-centric networks, solidarity movements, and allies in order to dismantle all forms of state-sanctioned oppression, violence, and brutality committed against all Black communities, including African, Caribbean, Afro-Indigenous, migrant, queer, trans, and disabled Black communities.

In addition to fighting against anti-Blackness, we create spaces to build our community. Through alternative forms of education, programming events for our communities, and supporting cultural creation, we believe that we create our own liberation through our commitment to thrive and build beautifully, in spite of the ugliness surrounding us.

In our movement for Black liberation, we join calls to decolonize Turtle Island and Nunavut Nunangat. Our struggles are tied up with the struggles of the Indigenous people of the land on which many of our ancestors were brought and forced into brutalization—a living apocalypse. There is no Black Liberation without Indigenous Liberation on Turtle Island.

Dismantling racism isn't a short-term project. Here are some ways in which you can show your support:

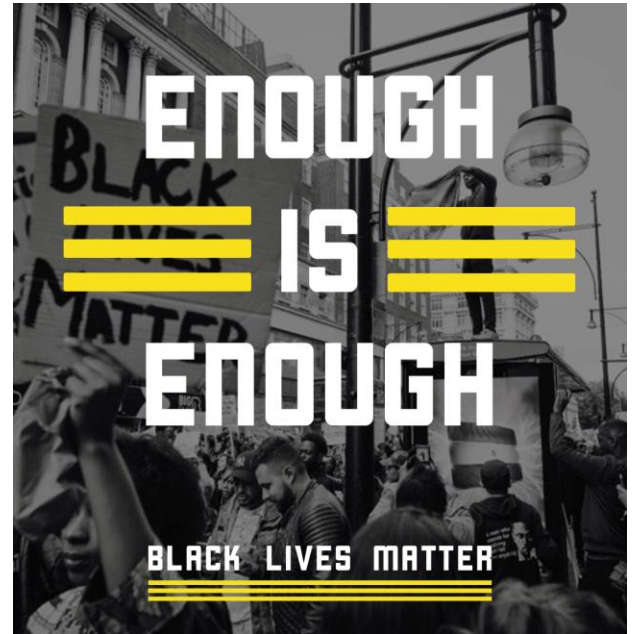
How to Donate Financially:

Black Lives Matter is an organization completely supported through community donations. You can currently donate to the operating budget via cheque, e-transfer or PayPal. In order to donate to the operating budget, send an e-transfer to: donate@blacklivesmatter.ca using the password "allblacklivesmatter". To send a cheque, please make it out to: **Black Lives Matter - Toronto**, and send cheques to: **Black Lives Matter - Toronto** 76 Geary Ave Toronto, ON M6H 2B5.

10 Ways to Support Black Lives Matter without Money:

There are a lot of ways you can support Black Lives Matter without financial aid.

1. Reflect on all the ways you may benefit from privilege.
2. Acknowledge that the path to racial equality is not a short or easy one.
3. Take responsibility for educating yourself and having difficult conversations about racism.
4. Listen to the voices of the coloured race and be aware of their struggles.
5. Read books, watch films, listen to podcasts, and observe art about racism and police brutality.
6. Watch monetized YouTube videos about racial justice
7. Buy from black-owned businesses.
8. Sign petitions
9. Donate your credit card or travel reward points.
10. Prayer for the lives of all black, indigenous, and people of colour.



Picture courtesy of blacklivesmatter.ca

*Resources used courtesy of
blacklivesmatter.ca and allure.com's
Nicola Dall'Asen.*



Picture courtesy of CBC News

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for sustainable development and relief. With the support of Anglicans across Canada, PWRDF partners with organizations working to increase healthy pregnancies and births, reduce gender inequality, relieve hunger and break the cycle of poverty in the world's most vulnerable communities. Against a backdrop of climate change, PWRDF strives to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030.



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada



Beirut Explosion Relief

On August 4, a devastating explosion ripped through the heart of Beirut, destroying homes, killing dozens and injuring thousands. Many are still missing and many will die due to critical injuries sustained in the blast. Tens of thousands have lost their homes and many vital infrastructure has been damaged beyond repair. The Government of Canada launched a dedicated Matching Fund that will double the contributions of Canadians and support the relief work of the members of Canada's Humanitarian Coalition, including the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Through its membership in the

Canadian Foodgrains Bank, PWRDF will be participating in the Humanitarian Coalition appeal to support people of Lebanon through this crisis. The government of Canada will match every dollar donated by individuals to the Humanitarian Coalition and its members between August 4 and August 24, up to a maximum of \$5 million. Donations to PWRDF marked for the Beirut explosion emergency response will be matched.

*Resources used
courtesy of pwrdf.org*

How to Donate Financially:

PWRDF is accepting donations to provide assistance to the victims of the explosion. Please visit our online donation page at <https://pwrdf.org/give-today/> and make your gift in Emergency Response, indicating Beirut explosion in the message box. Call 1-866-308-7973 toll-free (please leave a message and we will return your call), or 416-822-9083 to speak immediately with someone who can process your donation over the phone. Write Beirut explosion in the memo field of your cheque and mail to PWRDF, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 3G2. Please pray for all who have been affected by this disaster, for our partners in the region as they work to save lives and care for the injured, and for those who have died.

Bible Readings for September and October 2020

Proper 18 (23) - September 6:

Exodus 12: 1-14 and Psalm 149
Romans 13: 8-14
Matthew 18: 15-20

Proper 19 (24) - September 13:

Exodus 14: 19-31 and Psalm 114
Romans 14: 1-12
Matthew 18: 21-35

Proper 20 (25) - September 20:

Exodus 16: 2-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1: 21-30
Matthew 20: 1-16



Proper 21 (26) - September 27:

Exodus 17: 1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2: 1-13
Matthew 21: 23-32

Proper 22 (27) - October 4:

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19
Philippians 3: 4b-14
Matthew 21: 33-46

Proper 23 (28) - October 11:

Exodus 32: 1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4: 1-9
Matthew 22: 1-14

Canadian Thanksgiving Day - October 12:

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 and Psalm 65
2 Corinthians 9: 6-15
Luke 17: 11-19

Proper 24 (29) - October 18:

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10
Matthew 22: 15-22

Proper 25 (30) - October 25:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and
Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8
Matthew 22: 34-46



Father's Day Cards 2020

With so many seniors completely isolated from their family and friends due to COVID-19, we wanted to send a little happiness to the dads in Rockcliffe Care Community on their special day, Father's Day. Many thanks to Joan Barrow and Gloria Ramsay-Hall for their helping hands as we created 75 cards in assembly-line fashion. As with the Mother's Day cards, I was happy to front-door drop them to the Program Director at Rockcliffe. So much joy spread!



Gail Thompson
Outreach Coordinator

St. Peter's Pantry

Since St. Peter's Pantry opened in April 2020, we have served thirty different families. Some come every week, while others come occasionally. One client, Anna (name changed for privacy) and her teenage daughter have been coming weekly since July. When COVID-19 hit, Anna lost her job and went into isolation with her daughter and elderly father. Months later, she is grateful to have found us. Their spirit of love, hope, and genuine gratitude shine through each time we see them.

Donations of money, gift cards and food allow us to keep the shelves reasonably stocked, enabling people to receive a bag or two. We also provide a grocery gift card once a month. Through a connection provided by Louise Reid, we were able to make a large wholesale purchase from Bedessee Import Ltd. This alone was a substantial saving and then Bedessee matched what we purchased with a donation!

The continued operation of The Pantry, which was born out of COVID-19, has been made possible by the support of many. For this, we thank you. Special thanks to Rev. Helena for covering the morning hours of The Pantry and to my son, Phillip for assisting me in the afternoon.



Gail Thompson
Outreach Coordinator

A Return to Church Service Amid COVID-19

We know that many people in our congregation are looking forward to the re-opening of St. Peter's and to enjoying worshipping together once again. At the same time, some people are understandably hesitant to be entering the church for fear of contracting the corona virus.

The Diocese, as well as Toronto Public Health, has mandated that all persons entering the church must wear a face mask, whether a single-use mask or a cloth face mask. The only exception to this rule is that babies do not need to wear masks. In order to make the return to church as easy as possible for our entire congregation, we have formed a Mask Committee here at St. Peter's, and an enthusiastic group of seamstresses will be sewing enough fabric face masks to ensure that everyone attending services at the church will have a face covering. We don't want anyone to think they can't attend if they don't have any single-use masks of their own.



Our masks will be simple in design, yet colourful, and will be two layers thick of a tightly woven cotton and will offer effective virus protection to the people wearing them and to everyone in the congregation. They will also have a flexible wire over the bridge of the nose to better form the mask to the face. Extensive tests on these masks have been conducted and they have been found to be comfortable and easy to breathe through, even in warm temperatures. We will be making adult-sized masks and also a number of smaller masks for children and adolescents. Most masks will have ear loops, but for the comfort of the members of our congregation who wear hearing aids, we will also have some masks that will tie behind the head.

How the mask protocol at the church will work is like this: on the first day back, a gloved and masked greeter will hand each parishioner a mask as her or she enters the building.

This mask will be for the parishioner to keep and use and take home. The parishioner will immediately put the mask on, and keep the mask on for the duration of the service, except for the moment when the parishioner takes the Host from the Priest and consumes it. For this purpose the mask can be lowered or raised, and then returned to its normal position. At the end of the service, after the parishioner exits the building, the parishioner may take the mask off. We ask that the masks be taken home to be laundered, and then when the parishioner returns to church the next week, he or she will have a clean mask to wear to protect both him or herself as well as others. We know that when church starts again, many people will be seeing their friends from St. Peter's for the first time since the beginning of March, so we do recommend that parishioners keep their masks on if they will be chatting with people in the church parking after the service. Also, remember to stand at a distance from other people while talking.

Of course, people who have their own masks are welcome to use them, whether they are purchased single-use masks or purchased cloth masks, provided that the cloth masks are two-layer, cotton masks. Neck cloths that are a single layer of jersey-like material are not suitable masks according to Toronto Public Health.

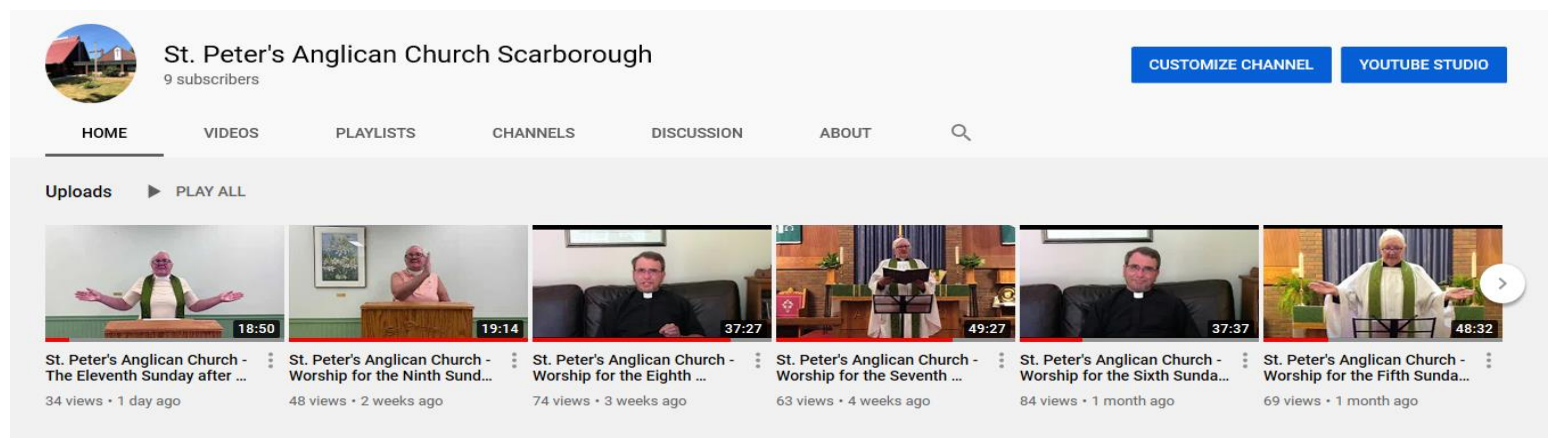
COVID-19 is compelling us to make major changes to the way we will run our services, changes that all Anglicans in the country are experiencing. These modifications to the way that we usually do things exist to protect our parishioners to the best of our abilities. Please remember that these necessary adjustments to our habits will only affect how we sit in the church, they will not affect our relationship with each other, nor our relationship with our Lord.

We are looking forward to seeing you in September!

Lisa Turner
Altar Guild Directress

YouTube Pre-Recorded Sunday Services

We encourage you to continue watching our YouTube pre-recorded Sunday services. To watch, simply visit our website at www.stpetersscarborough.ca or find us on YouTube by searching “St. Peter’s Anglican Church Scarborough”. We encourage all parishioners to participate in our services as we do our part in making Christ known in our community.



Zoom Conference Calls

We invite you to join us as we will be having regular Zoom Conference Calls. Zoom is an online platform that allows us to all video or audio call at the same time. During this time, the Rev. Helena-Rose Houldcroft will lead us in prayer and other activities. The time and date in which we will be having these calls will be sent out to our email list.

Picture courtesy of zoom.us

Online Donations

We are happy to announce that we have signed up for Canada Helps, one of Canada’s best online sources for helping individuals donate to charities. All donations through Canada Helps will go towards the ministry at St. Peter’s and will help us to show God’s love in our community. Monetary offerings will still be accepted by mail or drop-off through the church office. Visit the website to donate online:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-peters-church-scarborough/>.

Picture courtesy of canadahelps.ca



Diocese of Toronto Updates

Stay updated with letters from the Diocese of Toronto. Visit their website for more information: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/about-the-diocese/news/>.

Prayer for those affected by COVID-19

O loving God, we pray that you will give us courage and wisdom as we face the hard realities which confront us in life around the world today. May those with gifts for human health and hope discover ways which help us to end the threatening infections of coronavirus and restore our lives to a new day. Give to us, we pray, a profound sense of creative community, as we care for each other, especially those who are most vulnerable. Hold us in your arms, like a loving parent would, as we journey into the future. Call us towards deeper faith, O Christ, believing that you are with us. And lift our hearts, O Holy Spirit, as we face each moment. Amen.

The Rev. Dorothy McRae-McMahon, South Sydney Uniting Church



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“To Know Christ and Make Him Known”

Office Hours: 9 am – 1 pm – Monday, Tuesday, and Friday

