



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

16 Centre Street

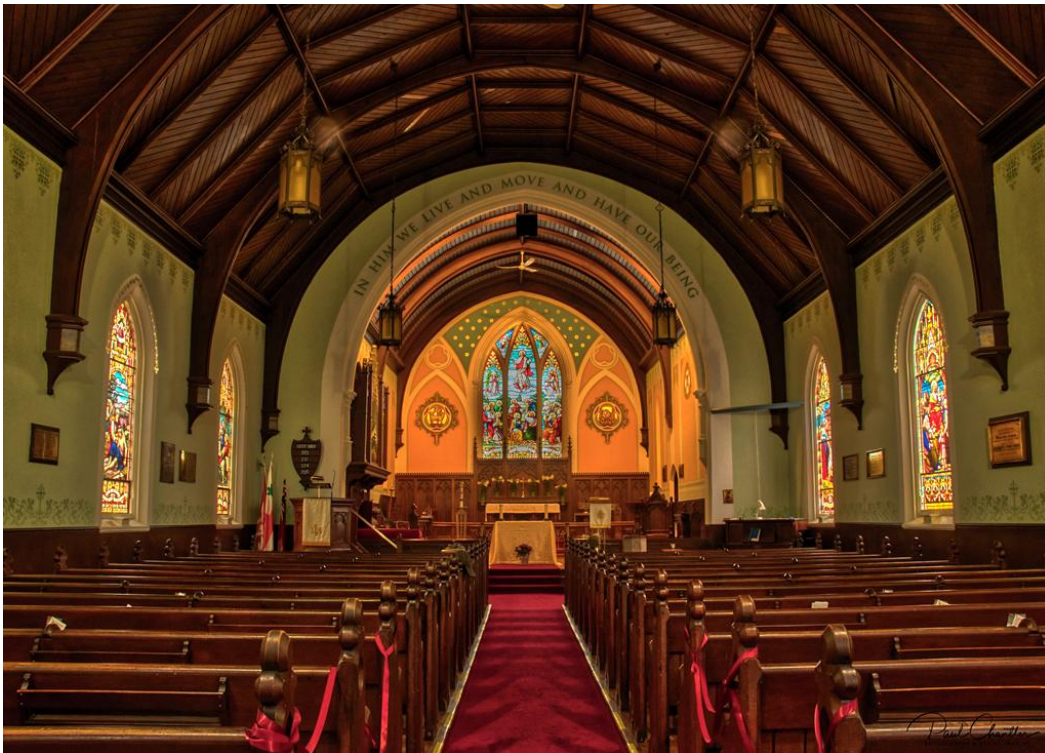
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***Public worship at St Thomas' is scheduled to resume on
Sunday, September 13th at 10.30 am.
Welcome back!***

A Note from the Priest-in-Charge:

“After a long period of ‘exile’ we are looking forward to the re-opening our church building for public worship this Sunday, September 13th. The Churchwardens and I have signed off on an exhaustive check-list of safety protocols from the diocese in preparation for this day. It is far too long to share with you. But here are some of the key points:

- *If you feel ill* or have any concerns about your health, please stay home! No one should feel any pressure to return to church. I will try to provide a Youtube video of the service (sent out on Sunday afternoon) for those who cannot attend.
- If you have been *travelling recently*, please follow all of the protocols required for self-isolation required by the various levels of government before you return to church.
- *If possible, please enter the church building via the main entrance* (or via the accessibility ramp) *on Centre Street*. If you still wish to park in the rear parking lot, you may access the main entrance of the church by passing through the hall and going around to the main church door. If you find this too far to walk, by all means still use the interior entrance to the church as usual, but be sure to maintain physical distancing--we need to limit the number of people in the corridor leading to the interior entrance to the church. The stair-lift will be available for those who need it--which is another reason why we want to keep that area uncrowded.
- *Face masks* must be worn at all times when you are inside the building (except, for a few seconds, at the distribution of the Bread of Holy Communion--and specific instructions about how to do this will be given during the service).
- Please *santize* your hands when you enter the building. Santizer will be available at the doors and at strategic locations throughout the building.
- Please try to maintain *physical distancing* (6 feet) at all times. Duct tape will be put on corridor and aisle floors to help you judge the appropriate distances.
- Please *follow the rules for seating* in the church: *Either one person per pew OR up to three people per pew who must all be in the same family or ‘bubble.’* Please *sit in the middle* of the pew. Green masking tape will be used to indicate the allowed seating area. “No Parking” signs will be put at the ends of each pew. A few chairs, spaced appropriately, will also be available in the narthex and, if needed, in the chancel.
- No collection can be taken up. If you are not on PAR, or using other forms of giving (e-transfer, etc), please put your envelope on the collection plate in the narthex. Service leaflets will be available for pick-up in the same area.
- In order to limit physical contact, *only the Priest-in-Charge and/or one of the wardens will be making announcements at the beginning of the service*. If you wish something announced, please let us know before the service starts.
- We are obliged to *take attendance* (for contact tracing purposes if needed later).

I look forward to seeing many of you in church this Sunday!” RR

The parish secretary is normally available Tuesday-Thursday from 9.30-11.30 am by telephone at 705-932-2233.

For urgent matters, please call the Priest-in-Charge at home (705-932-1231).

If (and *only* if) his home voicemail is turned off, please call his cell phone at 705-313-9002, and leave a message.

The Churchwardens continue to be very grateful to parishioners and friends of our parish who are making a concerted effort to keep up their regular offerings. Your generosity is outstanding. Even though public worship is now resuming, we encourage you to continue to use alternate methods of giving (such as e-transfer from your bank account, our website secure Canada Helps donations link, or PAR).

Weekly or monthly offerings (for those who are not on PAR) can be made in the following ways:

- ***By regular mail*** - to St Thomas' Anglican Church, P. O. Box 187, Millbrook, Ontario, L0A 1G0. Cheques only please--made out to St Thomas' Church. *Post-dated cheques, for future contribution periods, would be welcome and very much appreciated.*
- ***By e-transfer from your bank account.*** Please call Gail at the parish office at 705-932-2233 (leave message) or email her at cavmanparish@nexicom.net to arrange.
- ***By pre-arranged 'drop off' at the home of the Priest-in-Charge.*** Please call 705-932-1231 to arrange a mutually convenient time.
- ***By pick-up from your home if you can't get out*** - please call 705-932-1231 to arrange a mutually convenient time. All public health protocols ('physical distancing,' etc) will be strictly followed.
- ***By Pre-Authorized Remittance:*** If you wish to enroll in PAR, please call the parish office during office hours. An authorization form will be mailed (or emailed) to you.
- ***By using the secure online donations link on our parish website.*** Here is the link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119202950RR0001-st-thomas-church/>

