



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

16 Centre Street

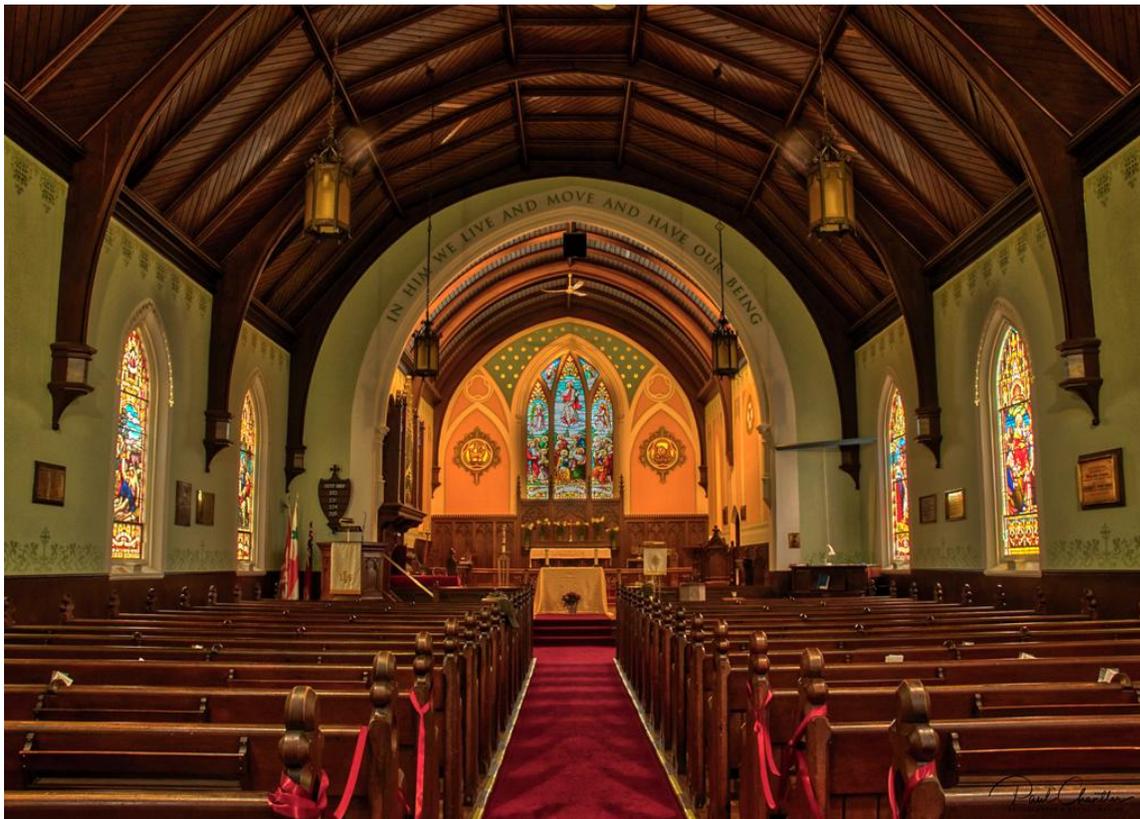
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***Public worship at St Thomas' Millbrook has resumed!
Service this Sunday, October 25th
The Holy Eucharist
at 10.30 am***

A Note from the Priest-in-Charge:

To quote our parish website, “If worship is the heart of our congregation, outreach is its life-blood’ (I think I have quoted correctly but am feeling too lazy at this hour to double-check!) We have resumed ‘in person’ public worship--in a limited way--and that has been wonderful. However, we are no longer able to have our monthly community outreach dinners, or to work on the various projects that our Journeys outreach group had planned (for example, a day-long symposium with speakers addressing the reality of climate change had to be cancelled). Our community partners, such as Community Care Millbrook or our Guides groups, etc., cannot use our parish hall (which we offered to those groups, and others, for little or no rent as part of our outreach ministry to the community). We did have our county road clean up this fall, and that was a great success thanks to the organizational skills of Clarke Mayhew and the willing help of a number of volunteers. But gatherings (other than Sunday worship) of any kind are still out of the question. It appears that will be the reality for some time. One way that we, as members of this parish, can still help others is to support the work of the Primate’s World Relief & Development Fund. The annual PWRDF Christmas “World of Gifts’ catalogue is now available and can be found at this link: <https://pwrdf.org/get-involved/shop-pwrdfs-world-of-gifts/> There are many other good organizations, such as World Vision, who do similar work to PWRDF. But I encourage you to consider supporting the PWRDF (which focuses on both ‘development’ and aid, and also keeps its administrative and marketing costs very low). By the way, if anyone has any ideas about how we, as a parish, can continue to do or support local outreach in ways that are safe, please speak to me. I am hoping that by the new year our Journeys outreach committee will be able to have either (physically distanced) in person and/or virtual meetings on Zoom to brainstorm possible ways of continuing our parish tradition of outreach to others. Any ideas for possible projects are most welcome! Many of us have missed being able to socialize with each other, although there is now an opportunity for brief (preferably outdoor) conversations after church. We have not, like some churches, used technology for virtual gatherings, but with the pandemic dragging on we should start to consider possible Zoom gatherings (virtual coffee hours, or book clubs, or study groups, etc). I am open to any and all suggestions. In fact, parishioner Rhonda Smith is planning regular Zoom Bingo games (with prizes) for anyone who is interested. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks to come. And, most important of all, stay safe! Wash your hands, wear your mask, and keep your distance (physically, but not socially). And keep praying for those who are on the front lines, especially those who care for the frail or sick.” RR

The parish secretary is now back in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9.30 am -11.30 am. Please note that, except for Sunday worship, our buildings are still in the “red” stage and, therefore, not open to the general public. If you wish to drop by the parish office, please telephone 705-932-2233 to let Gail know you will be coming (or, if you do drop by, and are waiting at the door, either phone or knock and you will be admitted to the building). Only one person at a time is permitted to enter the office. Please follow all public health protocols (i.e., sanitize your hands, wear a mask, maintain physical distance, etc).

For any urgent matter, please call the Priest-in-Charge at home at 705-932-1231.
If the voice mail is turned off, please call his cell phone at 705-313-9002 and leave a message. Calls will be returned as soon as possible.

The Churchwardens continue to be extremely thankful to parishioners and friends of our parish who are making a concerted effort to keep up their regular offerings. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Even though public worship has now resumed, 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/>