



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

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Happy Epiphany season from St Thomas' Millbrook!

Beginning December 26th, 2020, and lasting until at least January 23rd, 2021, the Ontario government has decreed that attendance at “in person” services of worship must not exceed 10 persons. At St Thomas', our church services will continue as usual on Sundays, but with only two or three members of the music and liturgical team in attendance.

**Our next online Sunday Service will be recorded on
January 10th - Morning Prayer**

A link to a Youtube video recording of each service will be distributed as soon as possible after the service takes place on Sunday.

Please note: sometimes the upload to Youtube is very slow, so it is possible the video may not be sent out until later in the week.

Offering envelopes for 2021 have been ordered and will be distributed (somehow!) as soon as we are released from province-wide lockdown. In the meantime, parishioners and friends are asked to make their donations by mail (cheques only please) or via one of the other methods described at the end of this newsletter.

**Upcoming online educational events from the Durham
Northumberland Deanery Christian Education Team:**

Living Through the Losses of Covid-19: A Guided Conversation
Wednesday, January 27, 10 am to 11.30 am

Some of us have lost family members and friends during Covid-19 times and have not really felt able to fully mourn. Some of us have lost our jobs. Some parents have lost any sense of free time as they juggle teaching their kids or care-giving older parents while still working full time from home. Most of us have lost a sense of safety. Many of us are missing our faith communities and the support they give us. And all of us are missing hugs. Covid-19 has had an impact on all of us. This guided conversation will share with you a tool that may be helpful to you as you face the losses that appear to be ongoing. And having a conversation with others who share our faith will be helpful in and of itself.

Facilitator: Suzanne Lawson

Register with Sara Lawson at saratheorganizer@yahoo.ca no later than January 23. Zoom contact information will be sent out before the session.

How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going

**Thursdays: February 11, 18, 25 and March 4
10 am -11.30 am or 1.30 pm-3 pm**

Susan Beaumont has written a challenging book entitled, ***How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading in a Liminal Season***. Using her book as the basis for discussion, we will offer both clergy and lay leaders in our churches an opportunity to engage with her ideas which may, perhaps, prompt us to act differently as leaders.

Participants will need to

- **register** with Sara Lawson at saratheorganizer@yahoo.ca **before February 5th**
- **buy the book**, and
- **read at least the first two chapters of the book before the first session**

Subsequent sessions will focus on two chapters each time which should be read in advance of the sessions. There will be a limit of 12 people in each of the two time slots.

Facilitator: Suzanne Lawson

Zoom contact information will be sent out before the first session.

Journey to Jerusalem

**Mondays: February 22 - March 22 at 1 pm
or Tuesdays: February 23 - March 23 at 7 pm**

Many of us find ourselves unable to travel this year because of Covid-19. This Lenten season, we invite you journey with us to Jerusalem “virtually” via Zoom. We will follow Jesus' footsteps, using photos taken by our team members and passages of scripture, as he travelled from Galilee to Jerusalem. We will see Cana where he changed water into wine, walk along the shores of the Sea of Galilee, climb Mount Tabor, and visit the River Jordan, along with many other holy sites. Once in Jerusalem, we will see the temple steps, the Garden of Gethsemane, the places where the first disciples witnessed the death and burial of Jesus, and experienced the new and glorious reality of the Risen Christ.

Register with Val Whalley at valjwhalley@gmail.com

The Manvers Township Historical Society has a new website. Items will be posted on a regular basis. Here is the link: www.manvershistory.ca

Despite the province-wide Covid-19 lock-down, the parish secretary will continue to be available via the office telephone (please leave message if necessary) or by email, usually on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from about 9 am to 11 am. As has been the case since the beginning of the pandemic, our buildings, including the office, are closed to the public.

For any urgent matter, please call the Priest-in-Charge at home at 705-932-1231. If (and only if) his home voicemail is turned off, please call his cell phone at 705-313-9002.

The Churchwardens continue to be extremely grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of parishioners and friends of our parish who are making a concerted effort to keep up their regular offerings during this on-going pandemic.

Despite the wonderful reality of new Covid-19 vaccines, a return to 'normal' is likely to be many months down the road. As we endure yet another province-wide lock-down, it seems likely that 2021 will continue to be another year of challenges for St Thomas'. With your continued help, and with good stewardship of our resources by the parish Corporation, we will meet these challenges!

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/>