



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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www.stthomasanglicanchurchmillbrook.ca



The Season of Creation - September 1st to October 4th

Indoor, in-person services have resumed at St Thomas', Millbrook!

This Sunday, September 26th

10.30 am

Holy Eucharist

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 26, Year B

When attending public worship, please...

- Wear a face mask at all times indoors
- Sanitize your hands upon entering the church
- Maintain physical distance of 6 feet from individuals not in your cohort
- Do not sit in pews or sections of pews that are marked with *red* tape (sit only in areas with *green* masking tape on the top-rear part of the pew)
- Follow seating instructions for physical distancing: two individuals (separated by 6 feet) per pew OR one family or cohort per pew

Mandatory Vaccination Policy for our Parish

The Diocese of Toronto has introduced a new policy that requires clergy, parish employees and all volunteers to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19. The full policy is now available at the following link: [diocesan website](#). Hard copies of the policy are also posted on the bulletin boards in the church and parish hall. Effective September 30, 2021, any parish employee, member of the clergy, or volunteer who “attends at a workplace” must show proof of being vaccinated with two doses of a vaccine or combination of vaccines approved by Health Canada, with the second dose having been administered at least two weeks prior to the in-person attendance. At St Thomas’ this policy will apply to the Priest-in-Charge, the parish secretary, licensed lay-readers, the cleaner, as well as readers/intercessors, musicians, altar guild members, members of committees that meet in the building, and members of our tenant groups (e.g, Community Care, etc). **Note: Those who simply wish to attend Sunday worship, but are not involved in leadership or support roles for the service, are exempt from the mandatory vaccination requirement, although all are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated.** The church wardens are responsible for the record-keeping for this policy. **Sherry-Lynne McMahon will be available at church this Sunday to the view vaccination certificates (i.e., second dose receipts) of those who are affected by this policy and to note their names and the date of their second vaccination.** These records will be kept by the wardens in confidence, since personal health records are protected by privacy legislation. **If you have any questions or concerns about the diocesan Mandatory Vaccination Policy, please speak to the Priest-in-Charge.**

Journeys Outreach is tentatively planning a fundraiser to take place in late September or early to mid-October. We are hoping to have a (physically distanced!) deluxe wine-tasting with light refreshments at *Rolling Grape Vineyards* near Bailieboro. Since this is a fundraiser for outreach, tickets would be in the neighbourhood of \$20-\$25 per person. If there is enough interest, we will go ahead. Please speak to the Priest-in-Charge if you are interested.

The National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (a federal statutory holiday) will take place on Thursday, September 30th. In our baptismal promises, we commit ourselves to respecting “the dignity of every human being.” Excellent educational resources from our national Church to assist us in better understanding the quest for indigenous justice and reconciliation may be found at: <https://www.anglican.ca/tr/reconciliation-toolkit/>

The Season of Creation (September 1st to October 4th) is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and with all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. Following the initiative of Ecumenical Patriarch Demitrios I of the Eastern Orthodox Churches, and with the whole-hearted support of the (mainly Protestant) World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church, we are invited to join our fellow Christians throughout the world in prayer and action for “this fragile planet, our island home.” For more information and resources please go to: <https://seasonofcreation.org/about/>

The parish office hours are normally Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9.15 am - 11.15 am. Call 705-932-2233. 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 number (705-313-9002) and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

The Churchwardens continue to be extremely thankful 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.

In addition to making a weekly offering at church on Sundays, donations (for those who are not already 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. *(Please be sure to use the post office box number - not just the street address - when sending items by mail).* 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 (leave message) or email her at cavmanparish@nexicom.net to arrange.
- ***By pre-arranged 'drop off' at the parish office (during office hours) or at the parish hall mail box.*** Note: if you wish to leave your envelope in the box at the back door of the parish hall please telephone the Priest-in-Charge to let him know so that he can collect the envelope in a timely manner. Please *never* leave cash in the mailbox!
- ***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/>