



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

16 Centre Street

P. O. Box 187

Millbrook, ON, L0A 1G0

705-932-2233

email: cavmanparish@nexicom.net

www.stthomasanglicanchurchmillbrook.ca



Public domain image

Worship at St Thomas' this Sunday, November 28th

First Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist

10.30 am

When attending public worship ...

- **Please wear a face mask at all times indoors**
- **Sanitize your hands upon entering the building**
- **Maintain a 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 on the seat.**
- **Please sit only in areas with GREEN masking tape on the top-rear and front edge of the pew--maintaining physical distancing if necessary**
- **TWO individuals per pew or ONE family/cohort per pew, seated in every second pew**
- **All readers/intercessors/musicians/altar guild members, etc., and any other parish volunteers must have provided evidence of full vaccination against Covid-19 (see below)**

Diocesan Mandatory Vaccination Policy now in effect in the parish

The Diocese of Toronto has introduced a policy that requires clergy, parish employees, and all volunteers (e.g., readers/intercessors, committee/group members, cemetery trustees, those attending in-person meetings, etc) to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 (or a valid written exemption) before they may enter any of our parish buildings. The policy also applies to our tenant groups, all outside contractors/trades-persons, and/or any member of the public entering our buildings. It does not apply to anyone who simply wishes to attend public worship and sit in the congregation. If the policy applies to you, and you have not yet shown your proof of full vaccination to the churchwarden responsible for keeping the records, please contact Sherry-Lynne McMahon or the Priest-in-Charge.

For the on-going work of Truth & Reconciliation - resources from the the Anglican Church of Canada for prayer, study, and action can be found at:

<https://www.anglican.ca/orangeshirtday/>

Resources for understanding issues of Diversity and Race -

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/diversity-resources/?lang=en>

A Note from the Priest-in-Charge --

“We have just received notice from the College of Bishops of our Diocese (i.e., the Diocesan Bishop and his Suffragan Bishops) that congregational singing will be allowed to resume immediately, with certain strict conditions (i.e., masks must be worn at all times by all members of the congregation and physical distancing rules must be maintained). All of the other Covid-19 rules related to public worship, such as limiting the length of the service to less than an hour, maintaining good ventilation, and limiting movement, will also remain in place. At St Thomas’ we will re-introduce some congregational singing in the liturgy beginning Sunday, December 5th. Our cantors (soloists) will still continue to assist us in worship.”

--RR

“Reading the Bible from the Margin - Stories from Below”

An online Advent course by
Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat, New Testament scholar -
with the Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil, Bishop of Toronto

The Biblical story is unexpectedly shaped by those at the margins:
women, foreigners, the powerless.

What if these stories are actually the centre of the story?

What do they reveal about how we live out of this story today?

**Sunday evenings via Zoom -
November 21, 28, and December 5, 12
7pm-9pm**

All welcome! No charge!

To register, please go to:

<https://www.bibleremixed.ca/reading-the-bible-from-the-margins>

The cost for this course is being covered by the Anglican Diocese of Toronto.

“Hope and Renewal in Times of Change”

An online Advent course sponsored by the Durham Northumberland Deanery Christian Education Team. Led by the Rev'd Helena Rose Houldcroft, Priest-in-Charge, St George's, Grafton.

Four Tuesday evenings which will focus on the Exodus themes of “home,” “exile,” “desert,” and “the promised land.”

Starting Tuesday evening, November 30, from 7-8:30 p.m. via Zoom.

All welcome! No charge! Some spaces may still be available.

Register by emailing: houldcroft@gmail.com.

The United Nations campaign against gender-based violence has inspired the ecumenical “Churches Beyond Borders” 2021 Advent devotional booklet. To access the Advent booklet, please go to: <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/EIR-CBB-Joint-Devotions-2021-EN-1.pdf>

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. Thanks to you, we are still “holding our own” financially, despite being a small congregation.

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/>