



A Parish of the
Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church
of Canada



Parish e-News

St Thomas' Anglican Church

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"The Millpond & Medd's Mountain in Spring" Photo: Dennis Vanderspek

Service this Sunday, May 22nd at 10.30 am

6th Sunday of Easter - Rogation Sunday

Holy Eucharist

We were saddened to hear of the death of Vic McIntyre, husband of Cathy McIntyre. Cathy is our Girl Guide leader, an amazing Community Dinner worker, and a good friend and supporter of St Thomas' Church. Please keep the family in your prayers. More information can be found at: <https://www.millvalleyfuneral.com/obituary/Victor-McIntyre>

A note from the Priest-in-Charge - "On Sunday, June 5th, all being well, we shall be entering the 'Green Stage' of our diocesan Covid-19 Safety Plan. Here are some of the practical implications:

- Face masks will be *optional* inside our buildings and at all indoor services of worship. I personally plan to continue to wear a mask when I am in close proximity to other people, but each person must make their own decision. Please try to respect other people's comfort levels. Covid-19 is still with us.
- The common cup will be restored at the Eucharist. *If you have any concerns whatsoever about receiving from the chalice, please simply continue to receive the bread (host) only at Communion.* Please do not attempt to "intinct" (dip) your bread in the chalice--this is a vector for disease transmission and the practice is now forbidden by the diocese. Here is an expert opinion on the risks connected with the common cup: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-03-The-Common-Cup-M-Garner.pdf>
- Please continue to maintain frequent handwashing and use hand sanitizer as necessary.
- If you feel ill or have a cold, please do not come to church. I will continue to video-tape and distribute the Sunday service for those who cannot get to church 'in person.'
- As of June 5th, we will be permitted to have "stand up" coffee hours or other forms of self-serve food and beverage gatherings.

Some of us will be cheering this return to a sort of 'normal'--others will still be anxious--and most of us are probably somewhere in-between. It is important that we give space (literally and figuratively) to each other as we get used to living with Covid-19 as an ongoing part of our lives." -- RR

Rogationtide is a time to give thanks for and ask God's blessing on the spring planting season. This Sunday we will have special seasonal prayers at the beginning of the service. After church, plan to visit the *Millbrook Farmers' Market* at the Old School. *The Millbrook & District Garden Club will be having their annual spring plant sale at the Market... "mainly perennials--everything at amazingly low prices!"*

"Permission to Survive" - Please use the following link to learn more about and, if you wish, sign an online petition from "One City Peterborough" concerning the ongoing plight of homeless people in Peterborough: <https://mailchi.mp/11dcdb87c22a/permission-to-survive?e=e2e727ac7f>

The Mammoth Sale will take place all day on **Saturday, May 28th** in the parish hall and, weather permitting, outdoors. Please contact Clarke Mayhew or the parish office for more information. Gently-used items may be left in the parish hall vestibule.

“Spirit Garden” -- Anglicans across the diocese are encouraged to support a special memorial at Nathan Philips Square in Toronto that honours the survivors of Canada’s Indian Residential & Day Schools. You are invited to watch the Bishop’s video on the diocesan website which explains the nature of and reasons for this memorial and explains the ways in which both individuals and parishes can contribute:

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/news/bishop-urges-support-of-spirit-garden-project/>

Spring clean-up morning at St Paul’s Zion Line Cemetery: Saturday, May 28th. Plan to drop in on the Mammoth Sale barbeque after finishing work at the cemetery! For more information, please speak to Sherry-Lynne McMahon or Ruth Roberts.

In a time when war, freedom protests, autonomous weapons, and decolonization are daily news, what does the peace tradition of faith communities suggest for us today?

Now perhaps more than ever, peace requires serious consideration. Join people from around the world as we gather on **May 24, 2022, at 7 PM EDT**, for our **2022 Voices for Peace conference – *Blessed Are the Peacemakers***. Our featured keynote speaker — award-winning author and the publisher of Orbis books, **Robert Ellsberg**, will talk about what it is to create a culture of peace that embraces the radical vision of the Beatitudes of Jesus. Register online at:

<https://www.livemeeting.ca/register/?meet=18719&rel=18825>

***Durham Northumberland Deanery Christian Education Team
Two online book groups (via Zoom)
on “The Dream of God” by Verna J. Dozier***

Five Friday mornings: May 27th - June 24th, 10.30 am to 12 pm

Facilitator: Suzanne Lawson

OR

Five Tuesday evenings: May 24th - June 21st, 7 pm to 8.30 pm

Facilitator: Val Whalley

For more information and to Register, please email either
Suzanne Lawson at suzanne.lawson145@gmail.com (for Friday morning sessions)

or

Val Whalley at valjwhalley@gmail.com (for Tuesday evening sessions)

Resources for the on-going work of Truth & Reconciliation - from the the Anglican Church of Canada - for prayer, study, and action : <https://www.anglican.ca/orangeshirtday/>

Resources for understanding issues of Diversity and Race - from our diocese:
<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/diversity-resources/?lang=en>

Parish office hours: The parish secretary is usually in the office on *Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 am to noon*. Please feel free to call (705-932-2233) during these times. For any important matter, please feel free to call the Priest-in-Charge at home at 705-932-1231. *If (and only if) his voicemail at home is turned off, please try his cell 'phone number at 705-313-9002.*

The Churchwardens continue to be very grateful for the generosity and faithfulness of parishioners and friends of our parish who are making an on-going effort to keep up their regular offerings.

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*** addressed 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 or email her at cavmanparish@nexicom.net to arrange this.
- ***By pre-arranged 'drop off' at the parish office.*** Note: Please call in advance to let us know you plan to do this. 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 easy and secure online donation link on our parish website.*** Charitable donation receipts are issued automatically on our behalf by Canada Helps. Here is the link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119202950RR0001-st-thomas-church/>