AUGUST 2, 2020

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Saint Thomas's Church, 383 Huron Street, Toronto, ON M5S 2G5 416-979-2323 www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca twitter: @stthomastoronto

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

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SAINT THOMAS'S OFFICE E-MAIL HAS CHANGED

While the old office e-mail will continue to forward information for a time, it will eventually be eliminated. **The new office e-mail is** *office@stthomas.on.ca*. Please update your contact lists!

CLERGY VACATIONS

Fr D'Angelo is on vacation until August 30. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Fr Brinton at *frbrinton@stthomas.on.ca* or 416-553-1905.

RE-OPENING ST THOMAS'S CHURCH

Following guidelines issued by the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, we expect to be able to hold public liturgies at St Thomas's after Labour Day following protocols developed by the Diocese of Toronto in consultation with public health officials. The liturgy will continue to be available online for those who are unable to come to church or who feel unsafe doing so. More information will be available towards the end of the summer.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

The months since the pandemic lockdown began have highlighted social disparities and, indeed, has exacerbated them. For many, this has prompted a new or renewed desire to contribute to actions that address inequality and poverty. Within our parish, you can help by donating or volunteering to help with the Friday Food Ministry. Additionally, St. Thomas's continues to assist newcomers who arrive in Canada as refugees, including two newcomers who arrived in February and have unfortunately spent the first part of their time in Canada in lockdown. Other social justice-focused ministries in the diocese would also benefit from gifts of time or money, including All Saints Church and Community Centre and the Flemingdon Park Ministry. The Diocese of Toronto supports social justice and advocacy in a variety of ways.

One of the ways the Diocese supports social justice is through FaithWorks. You can support FaithWorks through St Thomas's. Parishes may retain up to 15% of donations for their own local outreach. You can find out more about FaithWorks at www.faithworks.ca and make donations via the FaithWorks link on the parish's donations page at www.stthomas.on.ca (or by interac, visa or cheque noting that the donation is for FaithWorks).

Within the Diocese and Anglicanism more broadly in Canada and around the world, there are many current opportunities for education about social justice issues that require no more than internet access, a few of which are listed below:

- Mother Leigh Kern, the Coordinator for Indigenous Ministries and Reconciliation
 Animator for the Diocese of Toronto, recorded a powerful homily for the National
 Indigenous Day of Prayer, available online:
 https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/2020/06/22/rev-leigh-kern-records-homily-for-national-indigenous-day-of-prayer/
- Black Anglicans of Canada has completed its online course presentations on anti-Black racism. Copies of the presentations are available. The organization's Facebook page is: https://www.facebook.com/Black-Anglicans-of-Canada-320429252131667/events
- Anglicans around the world, together with other denominations, are involved in advocacy regarding housing insecurity, a significant dimension of the experience of poverty. The Centre for Theology and Community based in London has many online resources addressing the role of the church in combatting poverty, including a new study course on the church and housing: http://www.theology-centre.org.uk/resources/courses-and-resources/study-course-on-housing/
- The social justice ministry of the diocese is involved in a number of advocacy initiatives responding to the impact of COVID-19 on income security, including housing. You can find them here: https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/parish-life/social-justice-and-advocacy/current-activities/

There is some interest in organizing education programming on social justice issues within St Thomas's. If you would like to be included in consideration or planning of that programming, please contact Andrew Gray (agray6360@gmail.com).