

YOUR GIVINGS ENVELOPES FOR 2020 are ready for pickup. The envelopes are in the parish hall, filed in alphabetical order. Please speak to Kevin Blagrove if you have questions, or need to make changes to your givings pattern, or want to obtain a set of envelopes. There are many options you may explore. Weekly or monthly envelopes are self-explanatory. Also available are quarterly envelopes; several envelopes for occasional givers; we also have means to hold post-dated cheques, etc. Kevin Blagrove, Envelope Secretary. Email: envelopesecretary@stthomas.on.ca



Updating Saint Thomas's Database

Have you moved recently? Did you change your e-mail address or phone number?

Did you remember to let us know at Saint Thomas's?

If you need to update your information, please send an e-mail to Christine, or call 416-979-2323 ext. 4.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING - February 23, 2020

The Annual Vestry Meeting will take place February 23. There will be a COMBINED Eucharist at 10:30 am, followed by a light lunch prepared by the Friars' Guild. The meeting will commence at 12:30 pm.

The Vestry list is pinned to the notice board outside the parish hall. Please check to be certain your name is present. In order to vote at Vestry, you must be 16 years old and must have been a full communicant member of St. Thomas's for a minimum of three months. The Anglican Church of Canada requires that a communicant member be a parishioner at one church only, voting at only one Vestry.

If your name is missing from the list, please write your name on the posted copy or speak to one of the members of the Parish Tribunal: the Wardens, or the elected members, Earl Barnsley and Charles Laver. Alternatively, you can contact our parish administrator, Christine Cover, at saintthomas@rogers.com.

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saint Thomas's Church, 383 Huron Street, Toronto, ON M5S 2G5
416-979-2323 www.stthomas.on.ca saintthomas@rogers.com

twitter: [@stthomastoronto](https://twitter.com/stthomastoronto)

www.calendarwiz.com/stthomas383huronstreet

Nursery Care is available during the 11:00 am Service.

Church School is held during the 11:00 am Service. Please speak to Siobhán Dungan for more information.

Coffee Hour: After each of the 9:30 and 11:00 am Eucharists, there is a time for fellowship in the parish hall. Enjoy light refreshments while getting to know members of the congregation and learning more about St Thomas's.

Need Assistance? The sidespeople are pleased to offer assistance. Please speak to them if you need Communion brought to you, or would like a booklet to guide you through our Liturgy.

Please keep this leaflet as a reminder of upcoming events, or visit our website.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

TODAY	ADVENT III
Sun. Dec 22	ADVENT IV The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols - 7:00 pm
Tues. Dec 24	CHRISTMAS EVE Low Mass with Hymns - 5:30 pm Organ Recital - 10:30 pm Midnight Mass of Christmas - 11:00 pm
Wed. Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY (no Evensong)
Sun. Dec 29	CHRISTMAS I (no Evensong)
Sun. Jan 5	CHRISTMAS II
Mon. Jan 6	THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY - 6:15 pm Eucharist
Sun. Jan 12	THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD Solemn Evensong with Epiphany Carols, Procession & Devotions - 7:00 pm

TODAY—GUEST PREACHER - FR THEO IPEMA

Fr Ipema has served the Anglican Church in many capacities, including Assistant Curate at St James's Cathedral, Rector of St Thomas's, Shanty Bay, and interim priest-in-charge of several different parishes in Toronto.



Now retired, Fr Theo serves as Honorary Assistant at St Mary Magdalene, acts as Ward Superior of the Society of Mary, and assists with the liturgies at St Simon & St Peter, and here at St Thomas's. He also fills in for vacationing Parish Administrators, as needed.



GUEST PREACHER NEXT SUNDAY—FR AJIT JOHN

Fr Ajit moved with his family from India to Canada when he was a boy. He studied History (U of T) and then Law. He practised law in Toronto till he discerned a call to the priesthood and was ordained in 2003. After a curacy at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Toronto, he served as incumbent of St Matthew's Riverdale until 2016 when he moved with his family to France where he served an English-speaking congregation in Versailles. Upon his return to Toronto he has been an Associate priest at St Paul's L'Amoreaux, North York.



REPORT FROM THE PARISH SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Parish Selection Committee (PSC) will be hosting a “**Town Hall**” meeting on **Saturday, January 11, 2020** starting with **Mass at 10:00 am**, the meeting from **11:00 am to 12:30 pm** followed by **lunch**. As we work to develop the Parish Profile, this meeting is intended as an opportunity for you to provide input on what we should be looking for in a new Incumbent and why. This meeting will be supplemented by meetings with clergy, staff, and lay leaders and groups which provide key ministries and help to administer the parish. There will also be a survey of all parishioners during January.

You may also submit your own comments and concerns to the PSC using a confidential email address which has been established for this purpose – parishselection@stthomas.on.ca. Or you may leave them (marked PSC) in the mailslot outside the office. We ask for your prayers for the parish in this time of transition, and for the members of the PSC - Alice, Andrew, Anna, Bob, Jessica, Lorne, Michael and Pat.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS POT LUCK RECEPTION - December 22

As is our tradition, the Friars' Guild is hosting a reception following the beautiful Nine Lessons and Carols service at 7:00 pm on December 22. We rely on the congregation's help to show hospitality to all our guests and parishioners. There are many ways to participate. Parishioners are encouraged to bring their favourite sweet or savoury dish to share, or volunteer with the set-up and/or clean-up of the event. Sign-up sheets will be available at coffee hour following each service. Please speak to Hannah Orsag if you have any questions, and thank you in advance!

CHRISTMAS EVE LOW MASS WITH HYMNS at 5:30 pm

This service with hymns and a procession to the crèche is offered recognizing that, for some (such as families with young children), it is difficult to attend the Midnight Mass. Everyone is welcome!



TIMELINES FOR 2019 DONATIONS

A note from the Treasurer and Envelope Secretary

In order to ensure that your donation is eligible for a 2019 tax receipt, please note the following deadlines for making your donation to the church:

- Donations by cash or cheque in person to the church – by Sunday, December 29, either on the collection plate or securely deposited in the office dropbox.
- Donations mailed to the church – Postmarked by Tues, December 31.
- Online credit card donations – Submitted via the church website (www.stthomas.on.ca/ways-to-give) by Tuesday, December 31 (midnight)

As well, we would ask that any in-kind donations (including receipts) be submitted by the end of year.