

DECEMBER 8, 2019

THE SECOND 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
www.calendarwiz.com/stthomas383huronstreet

THE FRIDAY FOOD MINISTRY NEEDS FORKS

The Friday Food Ministry is in need of forks as we often run out of them in a meal service.

Any metal forks you could spare for the Friday Food Ministry would be deeply appreciated. Feel free to drop them at the parish office, or bring them to church with you next Sunday. If you have further questions, please contact James at fridayfoodministry@gmail.com.



THE MANDARIN MINISTRY AT SAINT THOMAS'S

We welcome you to the family of Saint Thomas's Church. Our Mandarin fellowship starts at 5:00 pm every Monday. We hope that the Chinese community can be a harbour of love for you, and a place where we can experience God's presence and grace together.

Contact person: Michael.

SECURITY AT SAINT THOMAS'S

Our parish hall is used Monday through Friday every week, and the church is often occupied as well. Sometimes groups meet in the St Agnes Chapel, the Fr Freeland Room, and St Elmo's Room above the Parish Hall.

With all these comings and goings, we need to be very careful about security. Before you leave for the evening, please take a few moments to ensure that entry points are secure in the area you've occupied - check the windows and doors, and close and lock them accordingly. When you go outside at the end of your event, please be certain any door that you pass through locks behind you - pull it hard to make sure the lock is engaged.

If your event is cancelled, please let the office know immediately. Our rooms are in high demand sometimes, and we would rather not turn people away who could use the space. The other reason we need to know is if the building is going to stand empty, we can lock up early, thus eliminating the need for someone to wait around, or worse, make a special trip to St Thomas's in order to check security.

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 II
Tues. Dec 10	The New Moms Group - 5:00 pm, Nursery The Society of Mary - 6:15-8:00 pm (<i>please see article</i>)
Thurs. Dec 12	Advent Study: <i>The Coming of God</i> - 11:30 am (<i>please see article</i>)
Fri. Dec 13	The Ensemble Masques Concert - 5:30 pm
Sun. Dec 15	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)

WELCOME TO FR DAVID BRINTON

Welcome to Interim Priest in Charge The Rev'd Canon David Brinton, OGS, who has been appointed by Bishop Andison to serve until the end of August. During this time he will serve the Parish on a half-time basis. Fr Brinton is a former Vicar and sub-Dean of St James Cathedral and since last year has been General Secretary of the Conference of Anglican Religious Orders in the Americas (CAROA). He is a member of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd.

REPORT FROM THE PARISH SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Parish Selection Committee (PSC) has met to start planning a process of broad consultation with the parish to support the preparation of our Parish Profile. This will include a combination of one-on-one and group discussions, a parish-wide “town hall” meeting, and a survey of members. 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 the members of the PSC—Alice, Andrew, Anna, Bob, Jessica, Lorne, Michael and Pat.

ADVENT STUDY - *THE COMING OF GOD* led by Fr Brinton.

Thursday, December 12 at 11:30 am in the Lady Chapel. All are welcome and invited to stay for the 12:15 Mass, followed by a light lunch in the Fr Freeland Room.



THE MONTHLY DEVOTION OF THE SOCIETY OF MARY will take place on Tuesday, December 10. Fellowship and discussion will take place in the Fr Freeland Room beginning at 6:15 pm. Rosary and Benediction will take place in the Church at 7:30. All are welcome.

GUEST PREACHER NEXT SUNDAY - 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.



SAINT THOMAS'S CHURCH SCHOOL

Advent is a wonderful time to join our Church School.

During the Advent Season, we will be very much story-based, exploring the amazing recounts of Jesus' birth, and the events that both lead up to it and follow it. For this period, we welcome the wee members of our parish, along with our regular group, who love beautiful stories, illustrations, and music.

Into the New Year, the St Thomas's Church School children will keep adding to their 'Life of Jesus' workbook; learning about his childhood, adolescence, death, and resurrection. By June, the children will own their own biography of Jesus.

YOUR GIVINGS ENVELOPES FOR 2020 are ready for pickup. The envelopes are in the parish hall, filed in alphabetical order. Please speak to Kevin Blaggrave 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 Blaggrave, Envelope Secretary. Email: envelopesecretary@stthomas.on.ca