

SAINT THOMAS'S REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP: HELP NEEDED

St Thomas's continues to be very actively committed to refugee sponsorship. In the late 1970s, St Thomas's responded to the opportunity for the sponsorship of refugees by church and other private groups, and we continued that work continuously after that point for almost 15 years. In the face of the most recent global refugee crisis, St Thomas's re-engaged with refugee work and began sponsoring refugees starting in 2015, including in partnership with our neighbours in the parish. We are now expecting three new groups of refugees to arrive in Toronto in the next few months from Eritrea and Syria.

Later in February, a group of two related Eritrean refugees are expected to arrive. While housing and some furniture for them has been secured, we welcome gifts of housewares and winter clothing for two adult men. Additionally, we would love volunteers to assist us in welcoming these newcomers. If you can help, please contact Andrew Gray.



2019 DONATION RECEIPTS have been sent out via email and Canada Post. If you have any questions or would like a more detailed summary of your 2019 donations, please contact Kevin Blagrove envelopesecretary@stthomas.on.ca.



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Be still and know that I am God



There are two weekly meditation groups meeting at St Thomas's, and they run separately:

- Tuesdays at 7:00 to 8:30 pm in St Agnes's Chapel below the Church.
- Wednesdays at Noon to 1:00 pm in the Fr Freeland Room at the back of the Parish Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch if you wish.

Inquirers are always welcome to audit one or more sessions. No prior experience in meditation is necessary to join a group. Both sessions use the same focus and material each week. You are welcome to attend either, as your timetable permits.

For more information please contact Fr Brian Bartley.

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

SEXAGESIMA

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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	SEXAGESIMA
Mon. Feb 17	Family Day - Office Closed. Mass at 10:00 am
Sat. Feb 22	Margaret (Peg) McKelvey's Funeral - 11:00 am Pancake Supper - 6:00 to 8:00 pm (<i>see article</i>)
Sun. Feb 23	QUINQUAGESIMA Lunch & Vestry Meeting Evensong Prelude - 6:30 pm
Wed. Feb 26	ASH WEDNESDAY - 7:30 am, 12:15 & 6:15 pm
Sun. Mar 1	LENT I Lent education event following 11 am Mass (<i>see article</i>)
Sun. Mar 8	LENT II - daylight savings time begins Lent education event following 11 am Mass
Wed. Mar 11	Society of Mary - 6:15 to 8:30 pm
Sun. Mar 15	LENT III Lent education event following 11 am Mass

PREACHING TODAY—JAMES SHIRE

The Rev. James Shire was recently ordained in the Diocese of Hawai'i and serves at St Thomas's Anglican Church as a deacon. James has been a member of St Thomas's since 2015 and is the coordinator for the parish's Friday Food Ministry. In addition, James is a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto in the Department for the Study of Religion where he studies Christian-Islamic relations in the seventh century.



PRE-LENTEN PANCAKE SUPPER



There will be a Parish Pancake Supper with Games suitable for all ages on Saturday, February 22 at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Adults are \$10 and children are free.

Tickets will be available at Coffee Hour.

If you can't purchase in advance, please RSVP if possible to the church office. This will help us with planning.

Of course, you can still purchase at the door too!

FROM THE PARISH SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The Committee thanks everyone for their time, and very thoughtful and generous input into the consultation process. It was an honour and humbling for all of us to hear the rich, varied and faithful perspectives of many of our parish family and to be reminded of our common deep devotion to this place and its traditions. We are now analyzing the survey responses and other input, and actively drafting the Parish Profile, which we anticipate publishing in mid-March. We also look forward to sharing the parish consultation results at that time.

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.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING - February 23, 2020

The Annual Vestry Meeting will take place next Sunday, 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 sainthomas@rogers.com.

A sincere thank you to everyone who has already submitted their reports to Vestry. They have been added to the Vestry book, and can be found on Saint Thomas's website. Go to <https://www.stthomas.on.ca/announcements> and scroll down to the Annual Vestry Meeting announcement, where you will find a link that leads to the reports.



AN OPPORTUNITY TO GO DEEPER THIS LENT

This Lent, a course will be offered for anyone interested in renewing or deepening their practice of the Christian faith, including those who are preparing for adult confirmation. The text for the course will be *Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality* by Julia Gatta. The proposed meeting dates will be the following Sundays after the 11:00 am service: **March 1, March 8, March 15 and March 22** with the potential to continue meeting for a second session after Easter. Contact Fr D'Angelo for further information or to sign up.