

MARCH 14, 2021

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Saint Thomas's Church,

383 Huron Street, Toronto, M5S 2G5

416-979-2323 www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

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Propers for 8:00 am Eucharist:

Pages 147 & 138, Introit: Psalm 122; Tract: Psalm 125

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

TODAY	LENT IV 8:00 am Said Eucharist 9:30 am Sung Eucharist 11:00 am Sung Eucharist 4:00 pm Evensong Prelude, followed by Evensong 4:45 pm Coffee Hour (on Zoom)
Wed. Mar 17	The Eucharist in a Time of Pandemic (<i>see article</i>)
Thurs. Mar 18	Webinar “Watch Party” (<i>see article</i>)
Sun. Mar 21	LENT V – PASSION SUNDAY
Wed. Mar 24	The Eucharist in a Time of Pandemic
Sun. Mar 28	PALM SUNDAY
Thurs. Apr 1	MAUNDY THURSDAY
Fri. Apr 2	GOOD FRIDAY
Sat. Apr 3	EASTER VIGIL
Sun. Apr 4	EASTER DAY

Pre-Registration to attend Services: Please do this on Eventbrite via the parish website www.stthomas.on.ca or by calling the office at 416-979-2323 X 4.

WEBINAR “WATCH PARTY” OF JEPHTE BY GIACOMO CARISSIMI

Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 pm

Confluence Concerts is partnering with St Thomas’s Church on a special “webinar” event centering on Carissimi’s 1648 musical masterpiece and the prototype of the Oratorio form.

Join guests renowned conductor **David Fallis** and **Father David Brinton** and others as they discuss this wonderful piece from several different perspectives. Confluence Artistic Producer **Larry Beckwith** will host and moderate. We will then all enjoy – virtually – a streamed performance of the work, which lasts approximately 25 minutes. There will be an opportunity after the performance for questions.

To register for this event, please email the confluence managing director, Jennifer Collins, at manager@confluenceconcerts.ca or call Larry Beckwith at 647-678-4923

LENTEN ALMSGIVING

During Lent we are exhorted to prepare for Easter by intensifying our commitment to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It has been said that prayer is about our relationship with God, fasting about our relationship with ourselves and almsgiving about our relationship with others. The old English word almsgiving comes from a Greek root meaning “compassion.” It refers to giving a portion of our own possessions to the poor. To give alms is to acknowledge that what we possess is a gift given to us by God and not ultimately the result of any merit of our own and to concretely identify ourselves with God’s desire for justice and mercy. One way to observe the Lenten discipline of almsgiving is to participate in FaithWorks, the diocese of Toronto agency funding dozens of ministries providing support to the poor and all those “in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity.” You can find out more about these ministries at faithworks.ca and make a contribution on the operating fund donations page of the parish website at stthomas.on.ca If you donate on the FaithWorks website please be sure to indicate that you are a St Thomas Huron Street parishioner as a portion of our parish total can be retained for local outreach here such as the Friday Food Ministry. May God give us all grace to keep a holy Lent.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Private confession to a priest is available during Covid by appointment only. Confessions will be heard in the church observing social distancing protocols while also ensuring privacy. Please contact Fr Brinton or Fr D'Angelo for further information.

EASTER FLOWERS

As in years past, the congregation has donated money to purchase flowers to decorate the High Altar, Lady Altar and nave at Easter.

If you would like to participate, here are the various options for making your donation:

- Envelopes will be available in the church starting the first Sunday of Lent
- Donate online at at: <https://www.stthomas.on.ca> - Select "Donate Now" and "Donate to Easter Flowers"
- Mail in a cheque payable to *St Thomas's Church* with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line

ALTAR MEMORIAL FLOWERS – Dates Available!

Please contact the office if you are interested in having memorial flowers after Lent and up to the end of June.

Dates available include April 11 & 26, May 9, 16, 23 & 30, June 6, 13 & 27.

Right now we are putting flowers on the High Altar approximately every second week, and having two or more families share the cost. If you would like to have a loved one memorialized in April, May, or June of 2021, flowers will cost \$50.00.

As mentioned previously, the cost for flowers has increased significantly over recent years so we will be transitioning from the old rate through this COVID19 period. If you would like to continue your memorial once we are able to have in-person services once more, the cost for High Altar flowers will be \$125.00, and the Lady Altar will become \$75.00.

Please contact Christine at office@stthomas.on.ca if you are interested in one of the dates listed above, or are looking for a specific date at another time of the year.

CREATION CARE FAST RESOURCE CREATED FOR LENT

The Bishop's Committee on Creation Care has produced a resource for Anglicans who want to undertake a fast during Lent that focuses on creation and issues related to the climate crisis. A Fast for the Earth: Lent 2021 provides a fast for each week of Lent, which began on Feb. 17 and ends on Apr. 3. It begins with a meat fast followed by a consumption fast, a food waste fast, a water fast, an injustice fast, an electricity fast and an ignorance fast. It concludes with a resurrection feast for Easter on Apr. 4. In addition to the full resource, there are also week-by-week pages with ideas to participate in each fast. Find the full resource and helpful tips for participating in the fast each week, please go to this website: <https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/creationcare/>

NEWS FROM THE D'ANGELO FAMILY

Now that we are getting closer to the due date, Lindsey and I wanted to share the exciting news that we are expecting our third child in May.

The pandemic has made it difficult to share this kind of news which, under normal circumstances, would have been known months ago. Your prayers for Lindsey, the baby and the rest of us would be much appreciated over the coming weeks and months.

THE EUCHARIST IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC:

Sacramental Theology for when you cannot receive the Sacrament

Four historic Anglo-Catholic parishes are joining forces to offer a special Wednesdays in Lent series at 7:00 pm each week via Zoom. There are two more sessions left in this series:

Wednesday, March 17

Reformation Response with Fr Ogburn & Fr Humphrey What lasting insights did the English Reformation impart?

Wednesday, March 24

Anglo-Catholic Synthesis with Fr Humphrey & Team Faculty How does Anglo-Catholic theology and practice promise life in the midst of death?

Please register through the link on the parish website or through the link provided in the weekly parish e-blast.