

MESSAGE FROM ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Announcements for September/ October 2026



MINISTRIES:

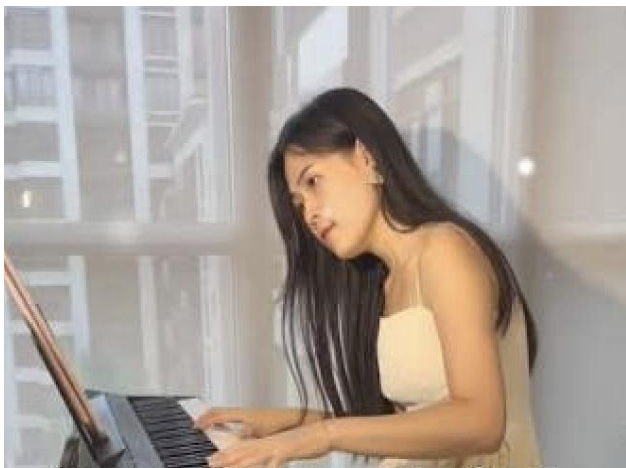
A Message from Our New Music Director

I am delighted to introduce myself to the parish community! As a professional musician, it is a privilege to join you in guiding our musical life.

I view our musical talents as a gift from God, and the music we make as an offering back to Him in worship. Anglican liturgy captures this sacred dialogue so beautifully. Its deep tradition, thoughtful poetry, and rich craftsmanship create a space that elevates our worship together.

Looking ahead, I hope to recruit and grow our choir into an ensemble where everyone feels welcome. Musically, I would like to explore a wide mix of styles, combining traditional repertoire with contemporary praise, fresh arrangements, and high-quality instrumental music. I also look forward to bringing in guest musicians to enrich our services and special concerts.

A choir thrives on community, and we are eager to welcome new voices to share their gifts. Whether you have sung in choirs for years, enjoy singing in the pews, or are just curious about how to get involved, please come speak with me. I would love to connect with you and share more about what we are building! - *Kylie*



Outreach: Indwell Residences

The Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers to assist in holding games nights at their facility. We are looking to have a core group of people who are interested in participating in this opportunity of giving back to our community. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak to Bobby Briones or Fr. Daniel.



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES:

Sunday School: Meeting

Sunday school will resume on Sunday September 13th. We will be holding a meeting after this service at approximately 11:30 p.m. This will be to discuss the upcoming curriculum for the fall and winter program and expectation of the Sunday school. We encourage all caregivers/parents and anyone interested in the Sunday school program to attend.

Confirmation



A Confirmation program for youth 11 + will be offered this fall by Fr. Daniel. The classes will take place on Sundays after church from 11:45 – 1pm for six weeks. Due to the schedule of the Bishop, we will be starting our program later than originally planned.

We will begin after Thanksgiving on **Sunday, October 18th and meet each week until Sunday November 22nd. It is important that youth participating in the program be at as many of the classes as possible.** If you know you are unable to make all six sessions, please speak with Fr. Daniel and to make alternate arrangements.

On the first Sunday of Advent, November 29th, the candidates will lead us in an All Ages Service. Bishop Kevin Robertson will be with us on Sunday December 6th, the second Sunday of Advent, for the Confirmation itself. To register, please speak to Fr. Daniel or contact him: danielbrereton@gmail.com

It is important for parents and caregivers to understand that Confirmation is a personal decision on the part of the youth. After completing the course, each youth will have a meeting with Fr. Daniel to determine whether they wish to be confirmed. While all encouragement will be given, if the youth decides “no”, they will not be coerced. To force them through this rite against their will defeats the entire purpose of the youth making a personal decision to make a lifelong commitment to the Church. If they choose not to be confirmed now, they are welcome to do so at a later time.

As baptized members of the Church, each youth is already a **full** member of it, and while some hold to the tradition of not taking communion until after Confirmation, the rule of the church is that anyone who is baptized may receive the sacrament, whatever their age. Let us encourage and support our youth in their faith development as we ourselves continue to grow in Christ, but let us also respect their questions and doubts, trusting in the timing of the Holy Spirit who is at work within them.

Reaffirmation for Adults

Along with the sacrament of Confirmation, adults in the congregation who wish to formally renew their baptismal vows while the Bishop is present are welcome to do so through the *Rite of Reaffirmation*. There is no formal preparation required, other than a brief meeting with Fr. Daniel in advance of the service on December 2nd.

This can be a meaningful act of commitment for

- those who were never confirmed but who wish to make a public commitment to following Jesus in the community of the Church;
- those who have joined the Anglican Church from another Christian tradition
- those (including those already confirmed) who feel called to re-commit themselves to a more intentional life of discipleship.

If you are interested in Reaffirmation, please speak with Fr. Daniel or contact him: danielbrereton@gmail.com



PARISH PROGRAMS:

As youth return to school and adults return to regular work schedules, so we encourage all members of the church to make participation in the faith community a regular part of their lives as well.

Sunday Services

8 am – a spoken communion service (no music) using the traditional rite of the Book of Common Prayer. 2 readings, a Psalm, a sermon and Holy Communion.

10 am –Eucharist with choir (Sept -June), 3 readings, choral Psalm, sermon, and Holy Communion. A children's program is offered at this service (Sept – July), with children attending Sunday School and re-joining the congregation for communion. Throughout the year the children remain in the church for special "All Ages Services", helping to lead us in worship. The same sermon is preached at both services.

We request that parishioners do their best to arrive a few minutes before the beginning of the service. People are always welcome, whatever time they arrive, and we recognize that sometimes circumstances can make you late on a particular Sunday, however it is disruptive to the liturgy and to the congregation to consistently arrive in the midst of worship. Remember that Sunday worship is not a private time between you and God – it is an offering of the whole community together. Let us try and **be together** from the opening hymn on.



Tuesday Night Zoom Bible

We begin a new season of our popular online Bible Study, Tuesday September 8th at 7:00 p.m. Between Sept and December, we will be studying and discussing the **Book of Job**, looking at 2 chapters a week. Participants are welcome to participate actively or simply listen in. You may have your video screen on, or not. Participants use various versions of the Bible. All are welcome. Please join us using the link provided in the Online Section below.

Wednesday Holy Eucharist with Bible Study

We will resume our midweek Eucharists on Wednesday September 9th at 10:00 a.m. This is a half hour service focused on one of the saints in our Church calendar. It is a half hour communion service, after which we have an hour-long Bible Study in the Payton Room. The Bible Study is optional for anyone who attends the service. This fall we will continue to make our way through the **Book of Genesis**.



Zoom Prayer Group

This group will resume meeting on Thursday, September 10th at 10:00 a.m. This is a time for members of the congregation to pray together for the needs of our church, our world and one another. We meet online for one hour. Even if you can't meet every week, you are welcome to join in whenever you can. We begin by reflecting on a prayer provided by Fr. Daniel before moving into silent time in which individuals are welcome to offer prayers of their own or pray silently. We finish by praying the "Prayers of the People" from the upcoming Sunday service. This is a great way to share in the important work of the faith community and to get to know your fellow parishioners. Please join us using the link provided in the Online Section below.

The Way: Witness

We continue our "The Way" series this fall with a four-week session on "Witness". How do we share our faith in a multicultural, increasingly secular society, often hostile to religion? We will explore this together in a fun, welcoming gathering that brings people together both in-person and online. We will meet Thursday evenings at 7pm for 90 minutes, Sept 17, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct. 8 downstairs in the Reid Room (or you may join us by zoom, using the link provided in the Online Section below). Whether you've been part of previous "Way" groups, or are curious to try one out, this is a great way to grow in your faith and get to know other members of the community. If this is your first session, please let Fr. Daniel know you are interested so he can include you in group emails. danielbrereton@gmail.com

**Practicing
the Way**

Be with Jesus
Become like him
Do as he did

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

New Phone System

The church has joined the cemetery on a phone plan that is operated through an iCloud system. This allows the cemetery and church to share in lower costs. It also allows easy transfer of calls between buildings and offices. We ask for your patience while we learn the new system. Even during regular office hours, the staff may be involved in meetings or away from their desks. You may always leave a message, and we will respond as soon as we can.

UPCOMING SERVICES:

Welcome to Church: All Ages Eucharist

St. John's will be holding our annual Welcome to Church service on Sunday September 27th at 10am. This will be an **All Ages Eucharist**, with the children present throughout the service and participating in different aspects of the liturgy. This would be a great Sunday to invite a friend or family member to join you for.



St. Francis Day Pet Blessing

October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and a lover of nature and creation. It has become a tradition that churches hold special services of blessing for the animal members of our families on or near his feast day.

Sunday, Oct 4th at 2pm, Fr. Daniel will be holding a short Pet Blessing service at St. John's. If the weather is good we will gather outside under the large tree behind the church, to surround ourselves with the nature Francis so loved and of which we are all part. (If the weather is poor, we will meet downstairs in the Reid Room). Please bring your pets on leashes or in carriers, as different animals may not interact well with others.



Harvest Thanksgiving

We will observe Thanksgiving on Sunday October 11th. As the nation observes a day of giving thanks, we as Christians should make every effort to be present at worship to give thanks to God for the blessings we enjoy. It is a wonderful time of year to invite loved ones to join you in church and to let them know that you also thank God for them.

We ask that parishioners make donations of food (dry goods, canned goods and fresh produce) the week prior so that we can create a Thanksgiving display for the service in church. While all donations will be taken to the Food Bank immediately after Thanksgiving, we will continue to accept Food Bank donations throughout the month of October.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Senior Luncheon

The next Senior Luncheon will be on Wednesday October 14th. We will have small eucharist service at 11:15 a.m. prior the luncheon at noon. The guest speaker for this event is a representative from our Cemetery on preparation for end-of-life needs. Please be sure to sign up when sheets are available as space will be limited and we don't want to disappoint anyone.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Website and Social Media

Our website is located at www.stjohnsdixie.org. We encourage everyone to have a look at it for information. It offers a calendar of events, current staff information and access to all live streaming for the church. You can find easy print bulletins for you to follow along with the services, reading sheets and bulletins for Wednesday services and a host of other useful information.

If you're on social media, be sure to follow us on the platforms you use to stay updated!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsDixieChurch/>

X (formerly Twitter): @stjohnsdixiechurch

Bluesky: @stjohnsdixiechurch.bsky.social

Open Door

Each month, we are collecting for either the Open Door or the Food Bank Mississauga. Each month we alternate between the two, **September is Open Door.**

The Open Door services clients who are women, men and children. The Open Door is currently look for Spring clothing. They also accept children's books and personal hygiene items like deodorant, body wash, pads, baby and adult diapers. Cleaning supplies, paper products such as toilet paper, paper towels, and diapers for both children and adults.

E-Transfer/ Canada Help

Please keep in mind that if you are in the local area a donation to us through e-transfer means that we receive all your donation. If you donate through Canada Help, they apply 4% of your donation to administration fees. When you donate by e-transfer you will receive from the church an acknowledgement of receipt of the transfer, and we will provide a tax receipt at the end of the year as well. We appreciate some people may not be comfortable with e-transfers, but we wanted you to be aware of the charge. We appreciate all donations however they are sent to us.

Donating to the church

We have many options in order to ensure your contributions get to the church when you can't. We do accept e-transfers now. You just have to use the email address of church@stjohnsdixie.com There is no need for a password we have auto deposit. You can also donate through Canada Helps there is charge for administrative fees taken off your donation. Their website is www.canadahelps.org. Of course, you can always mail in the offering at St. John's Anglican Church, 719 Dundas Street East, Mississauga, ON L4Y 2B5.

PAR Program

Another option for people in Canada, would be to enroll in the PAR (preauthorized receipts) Program, there is a one – time sign up form available through email or picked up from the office. We deduct the amount you specify on the 20th of the month. The amount can be changed or cancelled at any point with just a phone call or email to the office. Having PAR is easy and we can become compliant with the amount please consider increasing the amount donated periodically. We are happy to assist you in setting up the account or increase it as well.

LINKS TO PROGRAMING ABOVE:

St. John's Church website

www.stjohnsdixie.org

Online Coffee Hour Zoom Link: Zoom Meeting at 11:30 a.m. on alternating Sundays (September 6th, 20th; Oct 4th, 18th)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83962667012?pwd=UGljbnZ2WUIMaVlzNlRtU0Q5SmxxZz09>

Meeting ID: 839 6266 7012

Passcode: 112233

Online Bible Study Zoom Link: (Zoom Meeting only Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82183560553>

To Call In:

Phone # 647-558-0588

Meeting ID: 821 8356 0553

Online Prayer Group – Thursday at 10 a.m.

NEW LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88638859835>

To Call In: # 204-272-7920

Meeting I.D. 886 3885 9835

“The Way” Discipleship Group – Thursdays 7pm, Sept 17-Oct 8

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82396618393>

To Call in:

Phone # 647-374-4685.

Meeting I.D. 823 9661 8393



719 Dundas Street East

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Incumbent: The Reverend Daniel Brereton

If you would like to receive this Newsletter by email, please call 905-277-0462 or email church@stjohnsdixie.com