

MESSAGE FROM ST. JOHN'S CHURCH



Newsletter for April 2023

Fr. Daniel's Message

Fr Daniel will be delivering *several* messages throughout Holy Week! You are welcome to any or all of the Holy Week services to hear them!

Holy Week is (as the name suggests) the holiest time in the Christian calendar. It is a time to praise God for his mighty acts of deliverance, to thank Jesus for his sacrifice and to be inspired by the triumphant overcoming of death in the resurrection on Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is a *Day of Obligation* for Anglicans – on which members of the church are expected to gather for worship and take communion unless prevented by illness. It will be our first Easter Celebration as a gathered community in four years and I hope to see as many of our church members as possible.

Those who must join us online – I urge you to try and worship with us at the time when the church gathers together onsite, so you can be part of the liturgy as it is happening. It is tempting to treat an online worship rather as we do a TV show – with it playing in the background while we do chores, prepare meals or engage in other activities. We may even tell ourselves “I can always catch up with it later this week”. It is however *worship* – which requires us to set aside time and to give both our attention and intention to prayer and praise of God. In Holy Week especially, with so many liturgies, each with a different focus, each an important part of Jesus’ story and our own, we need to try and make the journey *with* the rest of the community. *Common Prayer* is called that because it is meant to be something we do *together*.

In the Garden of Gethsemane, on the night of his arrest, Our Lord asked his sleeping disciples – could you not stay awake and watch with me one hour?” Let us do our part as his followers and keep watch with him, and with the Church, this holiest of weeks.

Holy Week Services

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| April 2, 2023 - Palm Sunday | - 8:00 a.m. Said Holy Eucharist with distribution of blessed palm crosses.
- 10:00 a.m. sung Holy Eucharist with Children’s program offered and the distribution of blessed palm crosses. |
| April 5, 2023 – Holy Wednesday
- Tenebrae | -10:00 am - Eucharist followed by optional Bible Study.
- 7:00 p.m. |
| April 6, 2023 – Maundy Thursday | - 7:00 p.m. |
| - Garden Watch | - 8:30 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. |
| - Compline | - 11:45 p.m. |

April 7, 2023 – Good Friday -10:00 a.m. with Children’s program offered.

April 9, 2023 – Easter Day - 8:00 a.m. Said Holy Eucharist
- 10:00 a.m. sung Holy Eucharist with Children’s program offered

All services **except** Wed morning, the Garden Watch, Compline and Easter 8am will be livestreamed.

Midweek Eucharist

We hold a Wednesday service at 10:00 a.m. with a small bible study after the service. For those who still feel uncomfortable attending the larger Sunday gatherings, attendance at these midweeks services is small and spread out through the church. The bible study after the service is optional. Perhaps this might be your way back into regular worship with the community?

Wednesday, April 12th we **will not** be holding this service due to Fr. Daniel’s holiday this week.

Fr. Daniel’s “Winter Week”

Clergy of the Diocese of Toronto are granted a “winter week” of holidays to make up for extra services and programs run through Lent and Holy Week. Fr. Daniel always takes his after Easter.

The week of April 10th to April 17th inclusive Fr. Daniel will be away and unavailable. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the office. The Church Administrator, Lori Corbett, will be able to redirect you to an appropriate resource.

EVENTS INFORMATION:

The Corporation continues to think of ways to contribute to our community and hopefully benefit from it as well. The following are a few of the programs that we have been entering into in which hope that all may benefit from suppling space for use by the community.

Mississauga Services for Seniors

St. John’s has expanded its partnership with The Mississauga Services for Seniors until the end of the year. We will be advertising for events that they will be holding. Our parishioners are permitted to participate in any event that is held here, but you are encouraged to join for a membership fee of \$20.00. Currently, they will be holding a Seniors Health and Wellness Fair on Thursday April 13th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This will include information about Seniors Mental Health, Pension, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Senior housing, Social Engagement and Eating Healthy. There are plans for other Open House events as well as regular programming which has increased to 4 days a week in the Parish Hall.

Weight Watchers Meetings

The church has entered into a rental agreement with Weight Watchers to hold workshops in the Sydenham Room. They will be meeting here frequently throughout the week and Saturday mornings. The Corporation has made sure that none of the timeframes interfere with our programming.

Joy in the Morning

This group has been meeting here for quite a few years but were forced online during Covid. They are now a hybrid group that meets here but provide online access to the members that are unable to attend in person. This group worships here on alternate Thursday mornings.

Scouts and NPEMA Med & MedRovers

We currently have two groups meeting here on Thursday nights. One is in the Parish Hall, and one is in the Sydenham Room. The Guides and Pathfinders have alternate meeting spaces, but the Scouts have continued to be a part of our church with both leaders of these groups, members of our parish.

Rentals

We continue to entertain rentals of our facilities in both rooms when time and space allows. We have a beautiful facility that has to be maintained and financially this takes a great deal of income to keep us self sufficient.

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

St. John's Auxiliary

This group is meeting on a regular basis on the third Saturday of the month in the Parish Hall at 10:30 a.m. This group helps plan fellowship and other events during the year, organizing volunteers to assist the ministry of the church. All are welcome to attend - men and women. This group is being led by Jean McQuaid and Rosemary Birch. The next meeting is to be held on Saturday, April 15th at 10:30 a.m.

Mississauga Food Bank

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

The Mississauga Food Bank is a very worthwhile charity to donate to. Especially, given the many it supports during the increase food costs. We understand our own parishioners are feeling the stress of increased costs but consider how some of these people must feel not having food for themselves or their children. If you could donate a couple of food items, every little bit helps and is much appreciated. We ask that you look at the expiration date on the item to ensure that it will be accepted by the Food Bank.

Contemplative Prayer

After a successful Lenten experience of weekly contemplative prayer, led by Paula Marshall and Fr. Daniel, there appears to be interest in continuing this group on an ongoing basis. Fr. Daniel will be in discussion with Paula about continuing to offer this ministry and an announcement will be made following Easter with further details to its time frame. Thank you to all who attended in person and online.

LINKS TO PROGRAMING ABOVE:

St. Johns Church website

www.stjohnsdixie.org

YouTube Sunday School link:

<https://bit.ly/3ah5XpW>

Online Coffee Hour Zoom Link: Zoom Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Sunday April 9th, April 23rd

<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/82570649568>

Online Prayer Group – Thursday at 10 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86710167010>

The Rev. Daniel D. Brereton, B.A., MDiv. FSJ

Incumbent Priest

St John the Baptist (Dixie), Anglican Church

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***Sabbath Day: I am not available Mondays**



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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