



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD WARDENS' UPDATE

Dear Friends:

February 2020

A New Year and a new decade! You cannot help but the sense of newness at Christ Church. Whether it be the new decade or the lengthening of the days as we approach of Lent and Easter, there is something in the air. We pray that the "something" is giving you the same sense of belonging that we experience at Christ Church.

As your Wardens, we believe that communication is one of our primary responsibilities. It is one of the tools that keeps our community at Christ Church connected. We had a few Sundays in early January where the weather hampered travel so you may have missed a few things that are on the horizon.

Additionally, as is our practice, a financial summary for the first half of our fiscal year is included. We appreciate that not everyone is interested in the finances of the church but like communications it is an important part of our responsibility ~ actually it is a responsibility that we all share.

All that said, kindly take time to read what is in store for the next couple of months as we head into the Holy Season of Lent.

DISCIPLESHIP

Children, Youth & Family Ministry

Looking backward – There was not a lack of angels and shepherds at our Christmas Pageant and again glow sticks were a big hit on Christmas Eve. Michelle and Tina unpacked the symbols of Christmas at our 5:00 pm Family Service and cleverly got the whole congregation involved with mystery bags left in the pew. We encourage you to take a peek at the photos on our website at: <https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/archived-events-2019> ~ there you will find lots of life and some pretty spectacular Christmas outfits. Once again, we kicked off the New Year with Snow Tubing at Chicopee in Kitchener.

And looking forward - Our Youth Group 2020 Winter/Spring schedule was released with our Christmas mailing and is also posted at: <http://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/youth>

At the end of this month, we will be hosting Youth Worship evening for the North Peel Deanery on Saturday, February 29 on the eve of The Rev. Michelle Jones' Ordination at 7:00 pm. Our theme is "The Face of Christ" focusing on empathy & forgiveness...perfect for the start of Lent. We are blessed that Sally Campbell and Luigi Battista have offered their gifts of time and talent for this service.



And Mark Your Calendars...An Evening in Paris will be held on Saturday, June 6 @ 6:00 pm. More details to follow but we wanted to take this opportunity to let you know. This will be a ticketed event with proceeds to be directed to the Future Ministry Fund. With the success of **Bella Roma** last year, we know that you won't want to miss out.

Summer Children's Church Sunday School does take a break just because the schools do! Cool Church (for ages 4 – 12) will run from June 21 to September 13 at our 10:00 am service.



Confirmation 2019/2020 has been running under the leadership of the The Rev. Michelle Jones since last fall with a fulsome program of 14 sessions. Eight confirmants are being prepared for Confirmation at the Great Vigil of Easter. Please keep these young people in your prayers and plan to attend The Vigil on Saturday, April 11 at 7:00 pm.

Summer Day Camp will be held Monday, August 10 - Friday, August 14 for children aged 4 - 12 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Extended care will be available. Early Bird registration for Christ Church families will be April 15 to April 30. This year's theme, *Knights of North Castle: Quest for the King's Armor*, takes us to a frozen land (albeit without princesses). For the last several years, we have been able to provide Day Camp at no charge and it is proven to be a wonderful outreach to our community. The same is true this year and we will be focussing on sharing God's love in a world that needs it more than ever. In the coming weeks, make sure to check our website or weekly bulletin for more info.



Adult Study Starting Lent 2020 | Signs of Life | Why church matters



Light



Water



Food



Shelter



Community

Worship engages our deepest human needs and has the power to transform our lives. Join us this coming Lent as we explore the riches of our worship traditions, liturgy and sacraments, and the art and architecture of our worship spaces, revealing the full meaning of these signs, deepening our experience of Christian vocation and guiding us toward ongoing conversion.

We are joining the Brothers of the Society of St. John the Evangelist ("SSJE") in exploring the signs and symbols at the heart of Christian worship. This offering has been designed and produced by the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, a religious order for men in the Episcopal Church, and by Lifelong Learning at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. Journeying through Lent with others is deeply enriching. Our leaders and hosts for this 5-session study will be announced shortly.



Why not follow Christ Church Brampton on both Facebook and Instagram. Liking, commenting and sharing our posts is an easy way to share with others about Christ Church. We endeavour to keep all our social media platforms populated with current information and photographs. And there is lots more information on our website: www.christchurchbrampton.ca On a weekly basis, it is an easy way to read the Sunday announcements with no "fear of missing out".



Snow Tubing on January 2, 2020

OUTREACH

The banner on our website uses the words “Celebrating, Proclaiming and Serving” shorten for celebrating God, proclaiming Christ and serving others. We peg all that we do on these three actions and serving others typically hits a high water-mark in Advent and this past December was no different.

International Christian Voice Early in December, we welcomed parishioner Javaid Bakhsh who preached, on behalf of our ministry partner, International Christian Voice (“ICV”), on the plight of persecuted Christians. A special offering opportunity was provided and Christ Church parishioners responded generously. We were able to provide a cheque in the amount of \$2,600 towards their sponsorship of two refugee families currently being held in detention in Thailand. *(See next page for information on ICV’s Annual Gala)*



Scenes from the 2019 International Christian Voice Gala

Caring & Sharing For many parishioners, our Caring & Sharing program represents the spirit of Christmas. Each year, under the leadership of our Outreach Coordinator, Jean Jamieson, families are provided with everything they need for Christmas and more! This year, over \$7,400 was receipted through Christ Church and another estimated \$6,000 that filled presents and stockings for the 11 families that we sponsored this year. Jean does wonders in pulling this program together and we are very grateful to her and to her team of volunteers.



Jean Jamieson (right) with two volunteers at the Caring & Sharing launch.



Deputy Rector's Warden, Rachel Brown on Wrapping & Delivery Day.



A younger parishioner got his hockey team involved.

Mini Bazaar: In the fall it became clear we did not have the volunteers available to run the traditional Bazaar, but a number of volunteers came together in November and we were able to host the Mini Bazaar in December. Funds raised went towards the Rector's Discretionary Fund and General Funds. There will be a meeting after Easter to plan what to do next year.

OUTREACH (Continued)



Coldest Night of the Year is Saturday, February 22. Once again we are forming a Christ Church team. Woo Hoo!

Last year, our team raised whopping \$8,500.

We are walking in support of Regeneration Outreach Community who work with the homeless, the near homeless, the disenfranchised & a growing number of pensioners right in our neighbourhood. Regen is an expression of Christian love in action.

Please consider joining our team or sponsoring a team member. You can simply make a direct donation or use offering envelopes located in the Parish Office. The latter will be receipted by Christ Church but the funds will be directed to Coldest Night of the Year.

Our relationship with Regen runs deep ~ it is one of three 3 local ministries that we partner with. The other two being Knight's Table and Ste. Louise. All three of these ministries operate in our neighbourhood. By partnering, "we do infinitely more than we can ask for or imagine."

About Direct Donation - this link below takes you to the Brampton location page. Select "Team" and scroll until you see the Christ Church Team. You may sponsor either the team or an individual member ~ it's that easy! <https://canada.cnoy.org/location/brampton>

International Christian Voice

Annual Fundraising Dinner – Friday, March 6, 2020 @ 6:30

Location: Chateau Le Jardin, 8440 Hwy 27, Woodbridge

ICV is currently in the midst of sponsoring two families. Huma is a single, Pakistani Christian persecuted for her faith and Yuthasiny & Navarathinam are a Sri Lankan couple forced to flee from their country because of their Tamil ethnicity. Under the Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada ("IRCC") guidelines, \$42,000 is needed to sponsor these families that are currently being held under inhumane conditions in the Immigration Detention Centre in Bangkok, Thailand.

Last year, many of us from Christ Church attended this Fundraiser Gala and it our privilege to do so again this year.

Tickets are \$100 for 3-Course sit-down meal. Tax receipts will be issued through Christ Church, Brampton.

Please contact Martha (phone/text: 416-420-3765) if you would like to join us.

LITURGY & WORSHIP

Our Clergy, Staff and Lay Leaders are in the midst of planning the upcoming Lent and Easter seasons. However, we do want to highlight a few things.

† Shrove Tuesday Family Lenten Service (Tuesday, February 25th @ 6:30 pm)

Enjoy the **Pancake Supper** and then The Rev. Michelle Jones and Tina Clarke, Director ~ Family Ministry, in the church for a brief worship service on the eve of Ash Wednesday. You and your family might just take up the 40 Day Lenten Challenge that will be introduced. It's not hard; it's about love!

† The Rev. Michelle Jones' Ordination to the Priesthood (Sunday, March 1st @ 4:00 pm)

By the grace of God and with the consent of the people
The Right Reverend Jenny Andison
Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Toronto will ordain

Michelle Patricia Jones

to the Sacred Order of Priests
Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 4:00 pm

Christ Church Brampton
4 Elizabeth Street North
Brampton, Ontario

Reception to follow
Liturgical colour: Red



Holy Week

† Family Good Friday Service (Friday, April 10th @ 9:00 am)

Again this year, our family service will be an interactive service that tells the story of Holy Week. Join us in the auditorium.

† Sunday, April 5, 2020 – Palm Sunday

- 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
- 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
- **11:00 am** – Choral Eucharist

† Thursday, April 9, 2020 – Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 pm with foot washing and stripping of the altar

† Friday, April 10, 2020 – Good Friday

- 9:00 am Family Service
- **11:00 am** Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion
- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

† Saturday, 11, 2020 – Holy Saturday

- Easter Vigil @ 7:00 pm with Confirmation & Reception
- Resurrection Party to follow

† Sunday, April 11, 2020 – Easter Sunday

- 7:45 am - Said Eucharist
- 9:00 am - Contemporary Eucharist
- **11:00 am** – Choral Eucharist



February 26th Services

Eucharist with
Imposition of the Ashes at:

- 12:30 pm @ Christ Church
- 7:00 pm @ Christ Church

The Great Vigil of Easter Saturday, April 11th @ 7:00 pm



The Right Reverend Jenny Andison, Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Toronto will be presiding. We will be celebrating Confirmation and Reception of our 2019/2020 confirmation candidates.

Good Friday 2018



Good Friday 2019



COMING SOON...



Invite, Welcome & Connect – You may have heard Byron and Michelle dropping hints of a new ministry under development at Christ Church. Pictured to the right is part of the team that has been meeting for a few months to lay some of the foundations.



While they are still in the planning phase, we wanted to affirm their good work and enthusiasm. We are excited to see how this ministry will unfold over the next year or so and do expect to hear more about it.

Imagine what it would be like if we could harness our sense of belonging to a faith community and take it out to the neighbourhood. Imagine God's love radiating in Brampton & beyond.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

F2020 FINANCIAL RESULTS – QUARTER 2 (December 31, 2020)

On the next page, we have published our financial position as at December 31, 2019. It represents our half-way point of our fiscal year that runs from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. We always keep a close eye on our financial position and believe it is important we share it with you on a regular basis. While we really don't start financial planning for our next fiscal year until after Easter, it is this time of year that we do start giving it consideration.

Key Points:

- Over all we have had a solid half of the year with offerings up 12% from last year and expenses running as planned.
- We were both delighted and grateful to receive two unplanned gifts in the 2nd quarter totalling \$20,000. These extraordinary gifts were, as per the donors' wishes, applied equally to General Offerings and Future Ministries.
- Our regular offerings, budgeted with a modest yearly increase of 3%, is slightly behind at 2%. With a number of families having relocated and an unusual number of funerals in the fall, we are concerned that our regular offerings may finish behind budget.
- We are expecting our insurance costs to normalize in the latter half of the year as a result in the delay of the renewal placement fee being received in January.
- We would also expect to see Program Education costs to normalize over the balance of the year as it is this time of year that historically we see an increase. (e.g. Lent, Cool Church, Day Camp, etc.)
- We are pleasantly surprised by the reduction in utility costs and are hopeful that this is a result of our investment in replacing incandescent and fluorescent lights with LED lighting early in 2019 and the addition of insulation in the ceiling of the auditorium when the roof was replaced in the summer of 2018.
- The special project expense is the costs associated with the refurbishment of the outdoor signs and the replacement of the hymns books. Both of these costs were underwritten by members of the congregation for which we are thankful.
- Professional fees are in relation to our annual audit that we amortize over the year.

Should you have any questions about our financial position, please do not hesitate to ask us. If you have a question, no doubt someone else has the same one!

Christ Church (Brampton)

Statement of Operations

Revenue

	Actual December 31, 2019			Actual December 31, 2018		
	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total
Regular Givings	\$ 178,816	800	\$ 179,616	\$ 175,620		\$ 175,620
Special Donations	10,020		10,020			-
Designated Income	12,252		12,252			-
Other income	4,554		4,554	5,156		5,156
Rental Income	16,200		16,200	13,200		13,200
Investment income	3,500		3,500	3,312		3,312
Memorial income	485	11,200	11,685			-
HST rebates	4,744		4,744	5,950		5,950
Program Offset	1,167		1,167	2,126		2,126
Grant income			\$ -		10,000	10,000
Total revenue	\$ 231,738	\$ 12,000	\$ 243,738	\$ 205,364	\$ 10,000	\$ 215,364

Expenditures

Salaries and benefits	\$ 99,578	\$ 18,696	\$ 118,274	\$ 109,104	\$ 12,224	\$ 121,328
Diocesan allotment	34,380		34,380	34,200		34,200
Repairs and maintenance	20,935		20,935	26,993		26,993
Equipment purchases			-	-		-
Utilities	7,636		7,636	9,548		9,548
Insurance	5,510		5,510	8,603		8,603
Harmonized sales tax expense	6,589		6,589	7,680		7,680
Special Projects	8,867		8,867			-
Program education	5,891		5,891	4,718		4,718
Music	2,101		2,101	489		489
Outreach expenses	1,400		1,400	300		300
Professional fees	3,000		3,000	3,000		3,000
Admin expenses	12,006		12,006	12,642		12,642
Supplies			-	-		-
Bank charges and interest	604		604	517		517
Total expenditures	\$ 208,497	\$ 18,696	\$ 227,193	\$ 217,794	\$ 12,224	\$ 230,018

Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other items

\$ 23,241	\$ (6,696)	\$ 16,545	\$ (12,430)	\$ (2,224)	\$ (14,654)
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Social Media

From time to time, we have been asked about the use of photography in the church. Social media is a public window into Christ Church so that others, particularly the curious and the seekers can see what we are all about. At all times, we attempt to be respectful and kind with our posts and keep the safety of our children, young people and vulnerable adults top of mind.

Special Vestry – Yearly the Diocese of Toronto calls upon the parishes to present a Social Justice motion. This year's motion is entitled "**Taking Action on Climate Change**". We will be having a Special Vestry on Sunday, February 16 @ 10:15 to present the following motion:

We, the vestry of Christ Church (Brampton) in the Diocese of Toronto, recognize that there is a global climate emergency. We acknowledge that all sectors of society, including government, business, churches and other non-profit organizations, and private individuals, have an obligation to do what they can to minimize their contribution to climate change.

We call on the government of Canada to commit to the following:

- End public financing of the fossil fuel industry (oil, gas, coal)
- Bring Canada's climate and energy policy into alignment with the Paris Accord emissions targets to do our part to limit the rise in global average temperatures below 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- Support a just transition to a low-carbon economy through investment in renewable energy sources and infrastructure, energy-efficient technologies, and skills development and retraining for high-quality, sustainable jobs in the renewable energy sector.
- Assist Indigenous, northern, and coastal communities, and other vulnerable populations, to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change on their local environments.

2020 Envelopes – You may recall from our November letter, that we reduced our envelope sets from 180 to 150. Parishioners that previously held envelopes numbered 151 to 180 were reassigned effective January 2020. Carolynne Atkinson worked diligently to make this happen and we remain grateful for her work in this area.

Stewardship – As you review your enclosed 2019 Tax Receipt, prayerfully consider your offerings to Christ Church. Does it reflect your Christian faith? Are you doing your part for your beloved community of Christ Church? For those parishioners who have made a Stewardship Pledge for Fiscal 2020, please note pledge tracking is included. Ideally, as we are half way through the fiscal year, your commitment should be at 50%. Please accept our profound thanks for those who are keeping their pledge commitment current. Please contact our Envelope Secretary, Carolynne Atkinson at 905-453-8323 or email at: carolynneat@yahoo.ca should you require more information or wish to move to monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance.

Our Ask - This Lent, consider inviting someone to church ~ let the task of invitation become your new holy habit. It is the personal invitation that people respond to. You just might be surprised as to who might be longing for such an invitation.

OUR THANKS

In closing, we offer our deepest thanks to all those who join us in partnering with God and His mission in Brampton and beyond. We looking forward to seeing over the season of Lent and into Easter.

Stan Szepesi
Rector's Warden

Jonathan Tyner
People's Warden

Rachel Brown
Deputy Rector's Warden

Shumaila Desrochers
Deputy People's Warden