

Onward From Darkness to Light

Dear beloved in Christ,

As we journey together through this Lenten season, we do so at a very dark time in the history of our world. It is a time of great upheaval and uncertainty. Unanticipated and unforeseen changes in global relationships have brought with them the upheaval of national economies, and the upheaval of the lives of so many individuals and families now grappling to adjust to these changing circumstances. The current wars now raging in eastern Europe, northeast Africa, the Middle East and beyond, have added further uncertainty to the future of our human relationships, and raised important questions about what that future will look like. As individuals and nations, we have become more polarized and entrenched in our views. We seem more inclined to talk past or over each other rather than *to* each other. These are certainly dark times. Yet, this is not the first time in history when believers around the world have found themselves caught in the midst of such circumstances; journeying through the tumultuous geopolitical realities, in contexts of war, and having to navigate the complexities of human relationships. And so, what might the examples from our Christian history suggest we are to do?

The hymn, *The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended*, I believe, offers some insights for our fitting and appropriate response. In particular, the second verse says, "*We thank thee that thy church unsleeping, while earth rolls onward into light, through all the world her watch is keeping, and rests not now by day or night.*" By faith we know that these dark times and seasons in which we now live are rolling onward from darkness into the light of God's present and coming kingdom. As it does, I believe that we – as the body of Christ – are called to keep watch; that is, to endure in the continual offering of prayer and worship to the God who has, in fact, overcome the world! Let us continue to pray earnestly for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and also for our world, and let us truly love and serve one another in tangible ways with the love with which God has first loved and served us.

As we gather on the evening of April 4th for the annual Easter vigil this year, the service will begin with the kindling of the new light; a symbolic reminder of how the light of Christ dispels the darkness of our world. I pray that you will join us at Christ Church Brampton, as you are able, as we enter into Holy Week with its culmination at Easter. I pray that as we celebrate this 50-day season together we may allow the light of Christ to shine more brightly in our lives, so that we may proclaim not only Christ's death, but more significantly his Resurrection, until he comes again. Alleluia!

Fr. Theadore

Holy Week 2026

During Holy Week, we journey from the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through the drama of Holy Week to the glory of Easter. Whether you are joining us in-person or online, we hope that you will journey with us.

Palm Sunday (March 29)

10:00 am In-Person | 4:00 pm Online

Holy Week begins with the Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) as we make the journey from Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Incense may be used at this service.

Maunder Thursday (April 2)

7:00 pm In-Person

At this celebration of Holy Communion, we remember Jesus's Last Supper and his charge to love one another through the washing of feet. We end the service by stripping the altar. Incense may be used at this service.

Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday (April 3)

10:00 am In-Person | 4:00 pm Online

Join us we remember Christ's suffering, crucifixion, and death on Good Friday with a service of Scripture, music, and ancient prayers.

Good Friday Prayer Walk (April 3)

11:00 am In-Person

Our Prayer Walk on Good Friday starts & ends at Christ Church. It is approximately 4km of paved pathways in downtown Brampton and along the Etobicoke Creek path. Please note that there is a set of stairs to access the Etobicoke Creek path; however, there is an alternate accessible route. All are very welcome to join us. Dogs on-leash are welcome too!

The Great Vigil of Easter (April 4)

7:00 pm In-Person

The first service of Easter starts in darkness and with the lighting of the Paschal Candle, light returns to the world. Through music and scripture, we rejoice in the glorious resurrection of the Risen Lord.

Easter Day (April 5)

10:00 am In-Person | 4:00 pm Online

Alleluia! Christ is risen! We will gather around Christ's table and join in music, prayer to proclaim Jesus' victory over death and the Good News of the Resurrection. Incense may be used at this service.

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Palm Cross Workshop
Wednesday, March 25
10:00 am - 12 Noon



All are invited | All are welcome | No experience required

Easter Food Drive
Palm Sunday - Easter Sunday



 **Generation to Generation**
1851-2026

Christ Church
B·R·A·M·P·T·O·N

And on the same day, the Youth Group is invited to learn how to make Palm Crosses from 6:30 -7:30 pm

Celebrating our 175th Anniversary



How grateful we are for those that came before us and had the foresight to plant an Anglican church in Brampton. This year, we are celebrating our 175th anniversary of being rooted in the heart of the city. While more events may unfold, we want to draw your attention to:

✝ **Photo Directory:** A “make-up day” is scheduled for Monday, April 27 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Please do not delay in contacting Peter Harvey at 647-986-8421 to make sure you are included.

✝ **Easter Tea:** While still in the Season of Easter, our Children, Youth and Family Ministry is hosting a tea following worship on Sunday, May 3.

✝ **Spring Concert:** Our Music Ministries are coming together for a special evening on Friday, June 12 @ 7:00 pm

✝ **Doors Open:** A Brampton-wide celebration of history where we join other locations and open the doors for tours on Saturday, October 3.

✝ **Ministry Fair:** What a better way to showcase our ministries than on Harvest Sunday, October 4. Maybe you will discover a new interest or undiscovered gift to offer?

✝ **Visioning Workshop:** We will gather in the fall to imagine where our ministry might be heading in the next 5 to 10 years.

✝ **Rededication Sunday:** We will conclude our formal celebrations with a Rededication of Christ Church on Sunday, November 22, The Reign of Christ followed by a Parish Luncheon.

Other Events to be Announced

Outreach Update

Generosity and care for those less fortunate is very much part of our DNA at Christ Church. Other than the Annual Vestry Report, we don't often see the collective results of our efforts. Here are just a few things that happened in the last couple of months:

Christmas Caring & Sharing: What a tremendous success! We were able to provide a full Christmas for 8 families. We also worked with Angel Tree (a Prison Fellowship Canada initiative), where we provided gifts for 12 children of behalf of an incarcerated parent.

As a result of your generosity, we were also able to release \$2,500 to the following ministries:

- \$500 to BGC (Boys and Girls Club)
- \$500 to Ste. Louise Outreach
- \$500 to Knights Table
- \$1,000 to Clergy Discretion

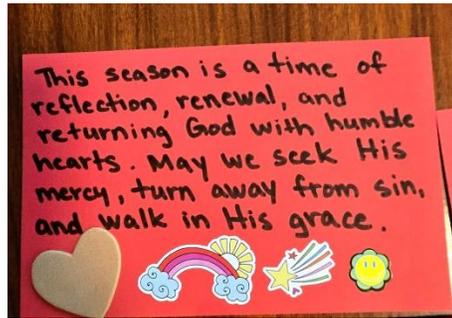
We were able to do the above and still retain \$2,500 to “seed” this year's Caring & Sharing

Pancake Supper: This event continues to thrive ~ it just seems to get better with each passing year. As part of a “pilot project”, we delivered 20 meals to 9 locations to parishioners who could not attend in person. We also invited Christmas Caring & Sharing families and several of them were among us for a meal. As a result of your donations, we were able to provide Ste. Louise with \$520.

CNOY: On February 28, the Christ Church Team participated in the Coldest Night of the Year walk in support of our local ministry partner, Regeneration Outreach Community. To date, **the team has raised \$14,423.55** ~ a record since we have been participating.



Around the Parish



Above Shrove Tuesday: Prepping for home delivery. Each delivery included a Lenten message prepared by our Sunday School (Feb 17/26). **Below** Ash Wednesday: Following the 10:00 am service, our Youth met for a day of learning (Gospel of Mark throughout Lent) and serving (baking Apple Oatmeal cakes for Regeneration).



Below: Our 2026 Coldest Night of the Year team.



(Missing: Jon Tyner)

In Closing

Should you find that we did not cover something that you were curious about or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us ~ we are always available. As you prepare to connect with family and friends throughout Holy Week and Easter, we wish you all God's blessings for this season, and throughout the year.

Stan Szepesi
Rector's Warden

Sean Joseph
People's Warden

Natacha Pennycooke
Deputy Rector's Warden

Elizabeth Charters
Deputy People's Warden

Information on how to support Christ Church can be found at: www.christchurchbrampton.ca/how-to-give