

Dear Sisters and Brothers at Christ Church Brampton:

Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed!

For all kinds of reasons, I always look forward to celebrating Easter with my family of faith. Easter hope inspires me always, especially the promise of resurrection in spite of grave (no pun intended) forces that counter God's Reign.

I can also tell you that the Easter Vigil, the highpoint of the Christian year, our most important worship service, is my favourite. Forty-some years ago I had no intention of ever being a liturgical-sacramental Christian but a friend brought me to an Easter Vigil at the Basilica of the University of Notre Dame. That was a key moment in slowly awakening in me a deep hunger for worship that takes God's mysteries seriously and offers rich praise to our great Redeemer. So there's that.

This Easter, CCB has much to celebrate. We look forward to baptisms during the Easter Vigil – possibly both infant and believer's baptisms. The following week, we welcome Bishop Fenty to celebrate our Confirmation. One of many great joys for me this winter as your pastor has been to work with the incredible group of people preparing for confirmation. (Thanks so much to Shumaila for her stellar work with this class and to Jeannie for her great help too.)

You probably have not noticed, but I'm kind of a sentimental guy. There is something else about Easter Sunday. It falls on 20 April and that intrigues me because I began working here on 21 April. In other words, Easter Sunday will be my 365th day here – even though I thought I had signed up for five months. When I started last year, I did not anticipate being here a year later.

How glad and grateful I am that things worked out this way. I think this is an extraordinary and lively congregation. I so admire my colleagues, Martha and Shumaila, the appointed officers here, and so so many volunteers. I am glad when I see children and youth show up Sunday after Sunday. Not to mention the hard work of many on Sunday services, both the musicians led wonderfully by Ron and Sally, the altar guild, and all the people who work behind the scenes (greeting, sound, hospitality, food). I have been astonished by the mutual care and hospitality I've seen here and by your concern for the community and the wider world.

My time as priest-in-charge is soon coming to an end. I am grateful to all of you for this grand opportunity. And I'll keep praying for you and the next incumbent (lucky priest!).

Thank you one and all for your gracious partnership with God, with each other, and with me in advancing God's Reign through the ministry of Christ Church Brampton.

Easter is a time to number blessings, express gratitude, celebrate together, and generously share with others. Please consider making a special offering at this time in support of work at CCB, a great way to show gratitude, and to mark the end of a transitional year into the church's next chapter.

Your interim priest-in-charge,

Arthur+

Holy Week 2025 & Confirmation Sunday

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 (April 13) **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 to his utter rejection and crucifixion. Incense may be used at this service.

Maundy Thursday (April 17) **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 18) **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 18) **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. All are very welcome to join us. Dogs on-leash are welcome too!

The Great Vigil of Easter (April 19) **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 20) **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.

1st Sunday of Easter/Confirmation Sunday (April 27) **10:00 am In-Person | 4:00 pm Online**

Since early January, our Confirmands have been preparing for Confirmation. Join us, as they take the next step in their journey of faith. Bishop Peter Fenty will be presiding.




Palm Sunday - April 13
In-Person 10:00 am | Online @ 4:00 pm

Maundy Thursday - April 17
In-Person @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday - April 18
In-Person 10:00 am | Online @ 4:00 pm
Family Prayer Walk @ 11:00 am

Holy Saturday - April 19
In-Person The Great Vigil of Easter @ 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday - April 20
In-Person 10:00 am | Online @ 4:00 pm

All are welcome | All are invited | No Experience Required



The Season of Easter | Sunday Worship
In-Person @ 10:00 am
Online @ 4:00 pm

Confirmation Sunday | April 27, 2025



All are invited | All are welcome | No experience required

Parish Selection Committee (PSC) | Update

The Christ Church Brampton (CCB) Parish Profile was posted on December 24, 2024 and strong candidates applied. These candidates were passed on by the Bishop to the Parish Selection Committee (PSC). The next steps for the committee have been to:

1. **Review the candidates**
2. **Interview and short list candidates**
3. **Do second interviews**
4. **Do site visits**
5. **Prayerfully, evaluate who the PSC feels is the best fit for CCB and inform the Bishop**
6. **Work with the Bishop to establish conditions for the new incumbent to start.**

We (the PSC members) can report that the above steps are happening and there are no major issues. However, the process is taking a bit longer than expected. Sadly, we cannot provide any additional details due to privacy concerns. But we do look forward to sharing more when we finish the last step.

The entire process has been covered in prayer and filled with the Holy Spirit. As we draw closer to concluding the selection process, we encourage you to join us in the following prayer:

Lord, we thank you for the many blessings Christ Church has enjoyed over the years and especially during this interim season. We pray that you continue to guide the Parish Selection Committee through the crucial final steps of their search for a new incumbent. Please send your Holy Spirit to guide the selection committee and the diocese, so they may clearly and prayerfully discern the way forward to meet the needs and potential of the parish. May the congregation open their hearts to the new incumbent and the ministry you call us to in the years ahead. We pray our new Incumbent will find inspiration and fulfillment at Christ Church and that the parish will continue to thrive, grow and serve the community in faith.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please feel free to reach out to any of the PSC members.

Charlene Bickerstaffe, Elizabeth Charters, Chinweike Chike, Ken Egbuna, Peter Harvey, John Joukema, Nancy Kee, Stan Szepesi (Chair)

How can you help? If you are able, please give.

You may recall in our last mailing (*Feb 2025*) where we outlined the downward pressure on our finances. This trend is continuing. Because the life and vitality of our Church is important to us, please consider making an offering to Christ Church. Financial contributions ensure that the ministry of our church continues to flourish now and for the years to come. That said, we want to express our gratitude for those who make intentional, purposeful, and sacrificial gifts. Our financial stability enables us to invite, welcome and connect all of us together with Him who abides with us in all times and circumstances. We have several ways to give:

1. **Envelope Sets** are available by contacting the parish office.
2. **Pre-Authorized Remittance ("PAR")** is a monthly amount withdrawn from your bank account.
3. **E-Transfers** via the Interac system. Email address is: christchurchbrampton@bellnet.ca *If you are new to us please include your name and address in the notes section for receipting purposes.*
4. **More information** is available at: <https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/how-to-give>



Sunday School | Creating a Prayer Wall
March 30, 2025

Around the Parish

Below: A wonderful Pancake Supper on March 4



Our Coldest Night of the Year team raised \$13,350 for local ministry partner Regeneration Outreach Community



The 2025 Confirmands gather before heading to St. James Cathedral for Ash Wednesday



On March 9, we welcomed The Rev. Canon Kim Beard as guest preacher.

Sunday, May 25th | Celebrating The Rev. Dr. Arthur Boers

Easter Sunday marks the 1st year anniversary of Arthur ministering among us as our Interim Priest-in-Charge. While the new Incumbent has not yet been announced, we do know that Arthur will be with us through the month of May. That said, we want show our gratitude to Arthur ~ his encouragement, teaching, leadership and pastoral care have been a gift in this time of transition. Please plan on joining us for Worship and a special Coffee Hour on Sunday, May 25th for an opportunity to formally say thank you!

Our Thanks

We continue to be encouraged by solid and steady growth in Sunday attendance and offer our deepest thanks to all those who join us in partnering with God and His mission in Brampton and beyond. We look forward worshipping with you during Holy Week and celebrating our Confirmands on the 1st Sunday in Easter (April 27). God is good!

We pray that you and your family will have a blessed Eastertide and beyond. Alleluia!

Stan Szepesi
Rector's Warden

Sean Joseph
People's Warden

Samir Tikaram
Deputy Rector's Warden

Elizabeth Charters
Deputy People's Warden