

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2022

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saint Thomas's Church,

383 Huron Street, Toronto, M5S 2G5 416-979-2323

www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

Twitter: @stthomastoronto Instagram: smokytomsonhuron

Mattins at 7:30 am: Psalm 33; Isaiah 30.8-21 & Revelation 14.13 - 15.4
Advent: Surge, Illuminare, *page 28*, replaces Te Deum; second canticle,
Benedictus *page 9*

Low Mass at 8:00 am: Pages 102 & 95, Introit: Psalm 19.1-6;
Gradual: Psalm 145.18-22

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

TODAY	ADVENT IV 7:30 am Mattins 8:00 am Low Mass (no music) 9:30 am Sung Mass (BAS) 11:00 am High Mass (BCP) with Christmas Pageant 5:00 pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall
Wed. Dec 21	Advent Book Study – 7:00 pm (<i>see article</i>)
Sat. Dec 24	CHRISTMAS EVE 3:30 pm Christmas Eve Family Mass with Christmas Carols 9:30 pm Organ Recital, followed by Midnight Mass at 10:00 pm
Sun. Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY No Evensong
Mon. Dec 26	Office Closed
Sun. Jan 1	THE NAMING OF JESUS No Evensong
Fri. Jan 6	THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY - 6:30 pm at St. Mary Magdalene
Sun. Jan 1	THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD Epiphany Carols at Evensong

SAINT THOMAS'S PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS

at 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

All morning Masses are in-person. The 9:30 and 11:00 am Eucharists are livestreamed on YouTube, as is Evensong and Devotions at 5:00 pm.

THE COMMON CUP & LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS

As per Diocesan guidelines, communicants are asked *not* to dip the consecrated host into the chalice with their hand as an alternative to drinking from the chalice. St. Thomas's offers low-gluten communion hosts for those who have gluten allergies, sensitivities, or celiac disease. When approaching for communion, please inform the priest that you require a low-gluten host.

ST. THOMAS'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Today, at the end of the 11:00 am service, the St. Thomas's Church School will be putting on their first Christmas Pageant since 2019! Our amazing team, ranging in age from 2 to 15, has been working very hard throughout Advent. As someone sitting in a pew, here are your duties: if your pew is tagged with a number, this means that Joseph will be asking you if you have any space in your inn. Please answer with, "No." When Caesar Augustus orders his Tax Collectors (both of whom are under 2 ½ feet) to gather money from the people, if you have a small bag of 'coins' on your ledge, please hold it up enthusiastically, so that the tax collectors will see you, go over to you, and take it from you, God willing.

Thank you in advance for giving the youngest members of the parish (some of whom are a wee bit nervous) your full attention and support as they recount this beautiful story.

God Bless, Siobhán Dungan, proud Coordinator of St. Thomas's Church School

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS RECEPTION

We will be holding a reception following our Nine Lessons and Carols service this afternoon. We are looking for people to contribute appetizers, baked goods, and other items to help make it a joyous and festive occasion. We are also in need of volunteers to help set up for the reception and clean up afterwards. If you are able to assist, please speak to Fr. Shire, or send an e-mail to frshire@stthomas.on.ca.

YOUR GIVINGS ENVELOPES FOR 2023 are ready for pickup. The envelopes are in the parish hall, filed in alphabetical order. If you have questions, or want to obtain a set of envelopes, contact Kevin Blagrove, Envelope Secretary. Email: envelopesecretary@stthomas.on.ca

OMICRON VACCINE CLINICS

at St Stephen's in-the-Fields - 103 Bellevue Avenue at College Street, west of Spadina

The next community vaccine clinics are scheduled for **Sunday, December 18, from 9:00 to 2:00 pm**; and **Friday, December 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**. These are walk-in clinics, so no appointment is necessary.

ST. THOMAS'S UNIVERSITY AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The University and Young Adult Ministry will be putting its Bible study on hold until January 2023. We will see you all in the new year.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS & DECORATIONS

As in years past, the congregation has donated money to purchase flowers to decorate the High Altar and church at Christmas. There are dedicated donation envelopes in the Narthex, but if you prefer, you can also donate through the website. Please go to www.stthomas.on.ca and click on 'Donate' from the drop-down list.

ALTAR MEMORIAL FLOWERS – Dates Available!

Please contact the office if you are interested in having memorial flowers over the winter.

The cost for High Altar flowers is \$125.00, and the Lady Altar is \$75.00.

Dates available prior to Lent include January 22 and 29 (both Lady Altar). There are five more 'holes' in the schedule after Easter, and several over the summer.

Please contact Christine at office@stthomas.on.ca if you are interested in one of the dates listed above, or are looking for a specific date at another time of the year.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE FRIDAY FOOD MINISTRY

The Friday Food Ministry will be holding its Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 23, and we are looking for people to join us in making and serving a feast for Toronto's homeless and food insecure community. A great deal of work is needed in the days leading up to it, and on the day of. We are in need of volunteers to help shop, prepare food at home, and volunteer at the church on Dec 22 and 23 to make the dinner happen.

We have the following shifts you can sign up for on Dec 22 and 23 (and you can sign up for as many as you'd like).

December 22 Thursday Bee (6pm-7:30 pm)

December 23 Food Prep Shift (2-5 pm)

Setting Up (5-6 pm)

Serving (6-7 pm)

Cleaning Up (7 pm-end)

In addition, we are looking for the following food and clothing contributions:

40 bags of nuts

40 bags of nuts

40 bags of nuts

40 bags of cookies or other baked item

120 pairs of socks (70 men, 50 women)

120 tooth brushes and tooth pastes

If you are interested and able to help, or have any questions, please email Fr James Shire at fridayfoodministry@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE INTERGENERATIONAL FAMILY MASS AT 3:30

Even though our “Midnight” Mass starts at 10:00 pm (and may even be over



before midnight strikes), that may be too late for some of us with earlier bedtimes, no matter how young or old one might be. If you would like to celebrate Christmas Eve early, please join us for our 3:30 pm intergenerational service. (You can always come back for Midnight Mass, as well!) A simple family-oriented Mass with Christmas carols will be celebrated in the Quire of the church; if more people show up than expected, we will open up the nave, but our plan is to use the intimate space around the High Altar to gather as we remember and give thanks for Our Saviour’s birth.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY - 6:30 pm at St. Mary Magdalene

This year the congregations of Saint Thomas’s and Saint Mary Magdalene are combining to celebrate Epiphany. The service will take place at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, at 477 Manning Avenue, near Bloor and Christie Street.

MEMORIAL HIGH MASS OF REQUIEM FOR FR. BRIAN FREELAND

January 21, at 4:00 pm

Saint Thomas’s will be holding a Memorial High Mass of Requiem for the repose of the soul of Brian Freeland, priest, on Saturday, January 21 at 4:00 pm. The Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews will be the preacher, and the Music of the Mass will be the Requiem in D minor, Op. 48, by Gabriel Fauré.

A reception will follow in the parish hall. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Christine Cover at office@stthomas.on.ca so that we have a rough number to give to the caterers.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING – Sunday, February 19, 2023

On February 19, 2023 Saint Thomas's will have a combined service at 10:30 am, followed by our annual Vestry Meeting (this is a week earlier than we normally have it). We are uncertain at this time as to whether this will be an in-person meeting, a Zoom meeting, or a combination of the two; but the basic format will remain the same, with reports on finance, from the auditors, and all of the various departments and people that make St. Thomas's 'work.'

The list of those eligible to vote at Vestry has been prepared, and is posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. If you wish to verify that your name is on the list, or have your name added to the list, please contact Christine Cover by email at office@stthomas.on.ca or by telephone at 416-979-2323 Ext 4.

In order to vote at Vestry, you must be 16 years old and must have been a full communicant member of St Thomas's for a minimum of three months. The Anglican Church of Canada requires that a communicant member be a parishioner at one church only, voting at only one Vestry.

Early in the new year, Christine will be sending out requests for vestry reports to specific people, but you can avoid all that by sending in your report early. Just consider how impressed your fellow parishioners will be, when they read on our website about everything you have done at Saint Thomas's in the past year! You will also be envied by anyone who procrastinates on writing their own reports. Please at least start thinking about what you might have to say, and if you finish your report, forward it to Christine for processing, at office@stthomas.on.ca.

HAVE YOU BEEN RECEIVING ST. THOMAS'S WEEKLY E-MAIL OF THE THURIBLE?

If not, would you like to? The easiest way to get on our mailing list is through our website, at www.stthomas.on.ca/newsletter-signup. Just fill in the form and click 'subscribe,' and you will be included on our next mailing (usually on Saturdays).



St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit qrco.de/smokytoms. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. **We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.**

DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK

(BCP pages 67-86, 102, 95, Advent IV, Yr 1A)

Ordinary Weekday Introit:

Isaiah 45.8, Psalm 19.1, Rorate
(*Antiphon*) Drop down ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness / let the earth open, and bring forth a Saviour. (*Psalm*) The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork
Glory be... (*Repeat Antiphon.*)

MONDAY (19) *Feria* (Violet) 12:15 pm
Judges 13.2-7,24-25; Psalm 71.1-8 (BCP 417); Luke 1.5-25

TUESDAY (20) *Feria* (Violet) 5:30 pm
Isaiah 7.10-14; Psalm 24 (BCP 418);
Luke 1.26-38

WEDNESDAY (21) *Feria* (Violet) 12:15 pm
Song of Solomon 2.8-14; Psalm 33.1-5,
20-22 (BCP 367); Luke 1.39-45

THURSDAY (22) *Feria* (Violet) 5:30 pm
1 Samuel 1.19-28; Psalm 122 (BCP 498);
Luke 1.46-56

FRIDAY (23) *Feria* (Violet) 12:15 pm
Malachi 3.1-5; Psalm 25.1-15 (BCP 358);
Luke 1.57-66

SAT. (24) *Christmas Eve* (White) 10:00 am
2 Samuel 7.1-16; Psalm 89.1-4, 19-29 (BCP 443); Luke 1.67-79
3:30 pm Family Christmas Eve with Carols
9:30 pm Organ Recital
10:00 pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

SAINT THOMAS'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

383 Huron Street, Toronto, ON M5S 2G5
416-979-2323 office@stthomas.on.ca
Website: www.stthomas.on.ca

Rector: Fr. Nathan J.A. Humphrey
647-947-6442; frhumphrey@stthomas.on.ca

Interim Associate Priest:

Fr. James Shire; frshire@stthomas.on.ca

Lay Pastoral Associate & Prayer & Care contact:

Jess Nee, prayerandcare@stthomas.on.ca

Rector Emeritus: The Rev'd Roy A. Hoult

Honorary Assistant Priests:

The Rev'd Jeffrey Kennedy &

The Rev'd Ian D. Nichols

Parish Administrator: Christine Cover

Sexton: Elijah McNeilly

Interim Director of Music & Organist:

Elizabeth Anderson

eanderson@stthomas.on.ca

Outreach Contact: Fr. James Shire

fridayfoodministry@gmail.com

Rector's Warden: Lorne Swan

Deputy Rector's Warden: Carroll Guen Hart

People's Warden: Jessica Nee

Deputy People's Warden: Phil Spencer

E-mail: wardens@stthomas.on.ca

Co-ordinators of Sidespeople:

Anneli Pekkonen: anneli@sympatico.ca

Wendy Woodworth: wendyw@ica.net

Web and E-Newsletter Editor: Julia Armstrong

communications@stthomas.on.ca

Church and Hall Bookings:

office@stthomas.on.ca