

ADVENT 2018



Christmas For Families

Isabelle and I look forward to being with the family of St. James Caledon East this Christmas. We also look forward to the arrival of the new family, your future incumbent, Chris and Amy with their three lovely children. The arrival at Christmas of the Child Jesus as part of the family of Mary and Joseph brought great joy to them and gives assurance to us that all families are precious to God. When we take care of families we are taking care of the whole church and are dutiful followers of Christ. Each month at St. James we announced birthdays on the first Sunday. The prayer which we say recalls the great joy which the birth of Jesus brought to Mary and Joseph and we share the same hope on our birthdays for a joyful family life. We celebrate family with parents, friends and relatives, but also as a church family. We give thanks for this great blessing and privilege. We were reminded in the Sunday Gospel readings on more than one occasion during the past few months that the first will be last and the last first. Jesus tells us that if we want to be the greatest, the first, the leader, to sit at God's right or left hand in heaven, we must first be least, last, servant of all. This tells us that the baby Jesus teaches us that humility is the secret to greatness. Servanthood is the secret to leadership. Our own secret for leadership in our own families, in our church family, and in the place we hold in society at large, lies in the baby in the manger, a humble Jesus emptying himself of his heavenly place to join our family on earth. We each carry this secret baby Jesus inside of us, our own secret to greatness, to holiness, to leadership and to power. We will move from incarnate love to resurrection life and power in loving service to the world.



Christmas for families is precious. Isabelle and I wish you all, a special joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Rev. Canon Jerome Khelawan
Interim Priest-In-Charge

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Wardens' Report

Our biggest task these past few months has been working with the Parish and the Bishop on who will be our new Priest to replace our Interim Priest. We had a great Town Hall meeting, which Bishop Jenny much appreciated, and took to heart all of our concerns and wishes about our future with a new Priest. After a number of meetings with Bishop Jenny we were able to agree on Rev. Chris Dow as our new Priest-in-Charge as of 1 January 2019. He is currently serving as Rector in the Parish of Birch Hills, Kinistino, and Muskoday First Nation in Saskatchewan. They have found a house to rent right in the village and will move in on 15 December. Rev. Chris's first service will be on 6 January but we will be meeting and briefing him during those first few days in 2019. This appointment is in the sincere hope and belief that before 2019 is ended the congregation and the Bishop will agree to Rev. Chris becoming our Incumbent.

We look forward to greeting and welcoming Rev. Chris and his wife Amy and their three young children in the New Year.

More renovation work at the Rectory! As previously agreed the Rectory roof was replaced in September as there were minor leaks last winter. We also noticed that the chimney bricks were breaking down so had the chimney repaired and repointed as well as new cap on top of the chimney. Hopefully we are done for a few years on needing more work there!

We will be contacting our Church roof specialist in the near future as to what he can do for that roof. The sample patches he did last October seem to have weathered our winter quite well, but we do need him to carry out his tests before we get quotes for the repainting.

The Daycare complained about the Toddlers being cold last winter, and that outside air seemed to be coming in through the window seals. We had the window frame re-caulked this summer and hopefully that will help the situation.

A group of guys got together this Fall and tore out all of the overgrown trees, shrubs and vines on the west wall of the church, and replanted with some low evergreen shrubs. Hopefully you all agree it looks much better!

This year's Remembrance Day services were memorable with the Church Bell being tolled 100 times to recognize the 100th anniversary of the end of the Great War. It was certainly wonderful to see so many people from the village turn out for this service!

As always, we are pleased to serve as your Wardens,

David and Claire



Women's Advent Retreat

By Joanne Redhead

At our third annual Women's Retreat Day on November 3, we were greatly inspired by Bishop Jenny and her message of hope and encouragement in our Christian faith. The Bishop spoke about grace and the fact that we need to allow the grace of God to enter our lives. She referred to the painting of Jesus standing at the door and knocking, noting that we need to receive his grace by opening the door to allow grace to enter. She reminded us that true grace embodies both truth and love. Love without truth is mere sentimentality, whereas truth without love is harsh and unkind. Grace involves truth and love as we face the sin and weakness in our lives and in the lives of others, and yet receive and offer Christ's love.



We were given opportunities to discuss and apply Bishop Jenny's message in our table groups as we reflected on the extremes of a life that caters to rule following out of duty versus a life of hedonistic pursuits and monetary gain. She pointed us to the reality that if we base our hope on anything other than Christ, we will fall apart when we do not have that person, item, goal fulfilled in our lives. Our foundation needs to be firm in Christ in order to keep our lives in God's perspective.

At the end of her message, Bishop Jenny invited women to share about the ways in which they turn towards God on a daily basis, and many women shared ideas such as daily journal keeping, gratitude for the events of the day, recording prayer concerns and noting God's leading and answers, spending time in nature and in the garden, and taking time to be still. Bishop Jenny's passion for Christ and her down to earth approach gave an entry point for each woman to reflect in a personal way and to find encouragement in her faith journey.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the day by helping with set up, clean up, baking, soup-making and other details that all helped the day go smoothly! Also special thanks to Jim Farmer for sorting out the sound for us!

News & Views is a newsletter for the people of St. James Church.

It is published four times per year – Lent, Pentecost, Fall and Advent.

For submissions in the newsletter:

Any member of the Parish of St. James Church may submit an article for the newsletter.

To do so, email newsletter@stjamescaledoneast.ca

or leave your articles in writing or on a CD in the newsletter box at the church office. Articles are considered, based on space availability and relevance.

Thank you for your submission.

Donna Davies, Editor

Next Newsletter: Lent 2019

Deadline: February 10, 2019

Publication: February 24, 2019



Bells of Peace

Bells of Peace marked the occasion 100 years ago, when church bells across Canada rang out to share the news; the First World War was over and we were at peace.

St. James joined in this Canada-wide commemoration. Members of our congregation – men and women (and one little boy, Jonathon Hollinger) - participated in ringing the bell 100 times at sunset on November 11.

We were unsure if many would come out. However, as 4:45 approached the church was pleasantly full. Members of the parish, members of the Caledon East United Church, and others sat in the candlelight beauty of our worship space. Diane Allengame opened with words of welcome and prayer, and David Finch organized those wishing to take a turn on the bell rope. The sound of our 117 year old bell pealed through the valley with solemnity. As the last peal died away, Allan Lawrie played a lament and then Amazing Grace on his bagpipes. David ended with a reading. Events such as this remind us how important it is that the church still plays a role in our community.



Bell Tower Boutique

Drop by and do some Christmas shopping – new items weekly!

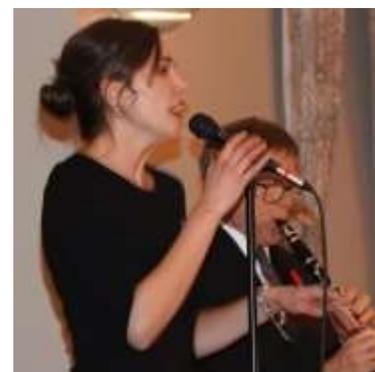
Since the summer the Boutique has been open every Wednesday, thanks to those who have been taking afternoon shifts. A smart red sign outside alerts passers-by that the room is open.

Proceeds from the room are supporting our Outreach program. Thank you to everyone who has donated items, and of course, our loyal shoppers. Drop by for great bargains on beautiful Christmas items, not to mention our vast library of used books, perfect for post-Christmas reading.

Cabaret Night with Jessica Lalonde

St. James' friends and family gathered on November 10 to enjoy the gorgeous vocal talent of Jessica Lalonde. Organizers Jim and Diane Farmer would have loved a slightly larger crowd, but those who could make it had a great time and requested an encore next year! Special thanks to Meghan Thain and her wonderful mom, Claire Olorenshaw, who prepared and served us very interesting refreshments -- fish and chips on a skewer, for example!

Editor's Note: Thanks to all! Those who couldn't attend missed an evening with a special warm, friendly atmosphere.



The Advent Giving Tree 2018

Once again, St. James Anglican Church will be donating gifts and/or gift cards to help people in our community to have a happy and brighter Christmas. We will be taking our donations to The Bridge, Caledon Community Services and Choices. We will be doing this via our Advent Giving Tree which is set up in the church. On it there are gift request tags which will indicate the kind of donations needed.

- Red for The Bridge
- Blue for CCS
- Yellow for Choices

If you would like to participate, please take one or two tags from the Advent Tree to take with you on your next shopping trip. We are asking that the three types of tags on the tree are supported equally. Bring your gift(s), with the tag attached, to church and place them under the Advent Tree any time between now and **December 9th**.

Thank you for your support in this worthwhile endeavor.

Your Outreach Committee,

Valerie, Howard, Trudy and Claire



Silent Auction

At the time of writing the auction is still ongoing. Coordinator Diane Allengame notes many 'buy it now' items are sold, already earning around \$500.00. The auction will close on November 24 with a pot luck dinner. Thank you to all who set this up.

Do Not Miss!

Come young and old with us on the **Journey to Bethlehem**. Meet a wonderful cast of characters who, with God's help and good humour, help Joseph and Mary on their epic adventure. This play was written especially for St. James and features some of our parish 'characters.'

The hymns, prayers and the play will replace our 11 a.m. service on Sunday, December 16.

Note: if you have school- aged grandchildren, this would be a great Sunday to bring them. They can wear a costume if they wish, and there are no lines to learn.

Please come for the fun



Editors' Note:

Once again a huge thank you to Diane Allengame for all the wonderful photos in this issue.

Journeys of Faith

We at St. James have been fortunate to hear a series of Journeys of Faith from our fellow parishioners. It has been very interesting and rewarding to listen to the personal stories of their life and how their faith has sustained them on their journeys.



The latest of these, #6 in the series, was with Colonels Robert and Gwenth Redhead.

Thank you Joanne for arranging these interesting moments in our service.



Milestones

Deaths: Margaret Forbes, Dee McEnaney

Baptism: Cadence Diana Davidson



"I know we will all approach the New Year with renewed hope, faith and trust."

CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

Sunday, December 2– Advent One

9 a.m. **Service** –11 a.m. **Nine Lessons and Carols**
Gifts for the Advent Tree

Sunday, December 9 - Advent Two

9 a.m. **Service** - 11 a.m. **BAS Eucharist**
Final day for gifts for the Advent Tree

2 p.m. - **Joint Community Christmas Concert and Carol Sing with the United Church at St. James**
Please join us!

Friday, December 14 – 10 a.m. - Decorating the St. James Christmas Tree – all are welcome to help

Sunday, December 16 - Advent Three

9 a.m. **Service** - 11 a.m. **“Journey to Bethlehem”**

12:45 p.m. **Caroling in the Village – All are welcome!**

Sunday, December 23 - Advent Four

11 a.m. **BAS Eucharist**

Monday, December 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

7 p.m. **Traditional Family Candlelight Service**

Tuesday, December 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

10 a.m. **Holy Communion with Carols**

Sunday, December 30 - 11 a.m. BAS Eucharist
A Thank You to Fr. Jerome and Isabelle



**For unto you
is born this
day in the city
of David a
Saviour which
is Christ the
Lord.**

Luke 2:11



The People of St. James Invite You to Join Their Christmas Celebrations

*Joined by faith, recalling the past,
embracing the future*

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