



Connections

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1

**Volume 3
Number 2
November 1 to 15
2020**

ARE YOU BECOMING A SAINT – A MEANS OF GOD’S GRACE?

Please join us at coffee hour as we encourage each other as saints on Nov. 1 at 1pm. And, if you don't think of yourself as a saint, at least think of yourself as becoming a saint.

See Frederick Buechner's quote below.

"In His flirtation with the world God occasionally drops a pocket handkerchief. These handkerchiefs are called saints."

Blessings, Fellow Saints....

Pastor Pam

Many people think of saints as plaster saints, men and women of such paralyzing virtue that they never thought a nasty thought or did an evil deed their whole lives long. As far as I know, real saints never even come close to characterizing themselves that way. On the contrary, no less a saint than Saint Paul wrote to Timothy, "I am foremost among sinners" (*1 Timothy 1:15*), and Jesus himself prayed God to forgive him his trespasses, and when the rich young man addressed him as "good Teacher,"

answered, "No one is good but God alone" (*Mark 10:18*).

In other words, the feet of saints are as much of clay as everybody else's, and their sainthood

consists less of what they have done than of what God has for some reason chosen to do through them. When you consider that Saint Mary Magdalene was possessed by seven devils, that Saint Augustine prayed, "Give me chastity and continence, but not now," that Saint Francis started out as a high-living young dude in downtown Assisi, and that Saint Simeon Stylites spent years on top of a sixty-foot pillar,

you figure that maybe there's nobody God can't use as a means of grace, including even ourselves.

The Holy Spirit has been called "the Lord, the giver of life" and, drawing their power from that source, saints are essentially life-givers. To be with them is to become more alive."

Published in Wishful Thinking

Join Zoom Meeting for coffee hour: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83170762761?pwd=aXY2WUllZmQrL2pxeTR5WVlpZVNDUT09>

Phone-in: 647 374 4685 ID: 831 7076 2761

Passcode: 193101





Scripture Readings

November 1 (All Saints Day)

Revelation 7: 9 to 17

Psalms 34: 1 to 10

1 John 3: 1 to 3

Matthew 5: 1 to 12

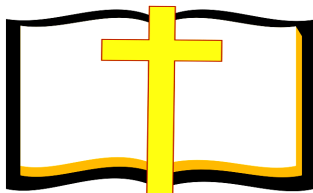
November 8 (Remembrance Sunday)

Micah 4: 1 to 4

Psalms 46: 9 and 10

James 4: 1 to 8a

John 14: 7 to 31



Calling all young people!

If you are a youth, this is for you! On November 29th join us for a fun Youth Group Activity session filled with entertaining games. The first session that was held last month was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who attended!

This is a mostly student-run group whose objective is to bridge the gap of social-distancing while sharing with our younger generation on global issues and concepts from the Bible.

The topic for this month is climate change. The meeting will take place virtually through Zoom on November 29, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Be sure to join us!

Topic: Youth Group

Time: Nov 29, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85749859405?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85749859405?pwd=OGxMMWN5Zno0SUhVK3ozNjRpQ2t1UT09)

[pwd=OGxMMWN5Zno0SUhVK3ozNjRpQ2t1UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85749859405?pwd=OGxMMWN5Zno0SUhVK3ozNjRpQ2t1UT09)

Meeting ID: 857 4985 9405

Passcode: 536802



Standard Time begins on Sunday, November 1 this year, so don't forget to turn your clocks **back** before you go to bed on Saturday night, especially your alarm clock, if you plan to arrive on time for church on All Saints Day!



KEEPING IN TOUCH

For a variety of understandable reasons, many of our members are choosing to worship at home through our on-line service, rather than worshipping in-person at church on Sunday morning. They are missing the personal inter-action which makes our fellowship at Christ Church so meaningful. Some maintain contact through our occasional Zoom Coffee meetings. All of them are kept in touch through our bi-monthly 'Connections' and our quarterly 'Parish Window'. But there's no warm smile or cheery greeting.

A few of these 'on-liners' are forming a "Keeping In Touch" ministry by making a weekly phone call to five parishioners of their choice.

Nothing complicated.
No reports to complete.
No organizational

structure. Juist five 'how are you' calls every week. That's real keeping in touch!

If you would like to join them and be a 'keeper in touch', call Fr Roy at 416-269-1506 or e-mail him at revroyshep@gmail.com. Please contact Fr. Roy before you begin making phone calls, as we don't want to have duplications.



*What if you woke up
this morning with only
the things you thanked
God for yesterday?*

Don't wait !

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you.

You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them.

You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around.

You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk.

So don't wait to be kind.

Don't wait for someone else to be kind first.

Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change.

Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

**November 13 is United Nations
World Kindness Day**



2021 CHURCH CALENDARS

Due to the present circumstances, we have pre-ordered a small number of the 2021 Canadian Church Calendar for purchase at Christ Church. If you are not currently worshipping in person but would like to purchase one or more calendars, please contact Deacon Jacquie at jacquie.boutheon@sympatico.ca or 416-264-4726.

She will gather orders and obtain the appropriate number at the end of November. As far as we know the price will still be \$6.00.



FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY TO OCTOBER 21ST

Because of your faithful support and subsidies received from the Diocese and the government, we are continuing to financially weather this challenging time very well. Thank you, to all those who have maintained, and in some cases increased, their offerings this year. As a result we have a positive financial balance at present. The subsidies received have cushioned the loss of some rental income and the limited fundraising events. There has been a major expansion in the foodbank operation, and foodbank income and spending are both more than double last year. A summary financial report follows:

	<u>Jan - Oct 21, 2020</u>	<u>Jan - Oct 21 2019</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<u>Operating Income</u>			
Envelopes & open	\$89,710	\$92,698	-\$2,988
Space usage	37,224	45,786	-8,562
Outreach	9,937	4,451	5,486
Fundraising	903	6,745	-5,842
Other normal income	<u>23,478</u>	<u>26,337</u>	<u>-2,859</u>
Total Operating Income	\$161,252	\$176,017	-14,765
Diocesan & gov't subsidies	<u>35,845</u>		
Total Income	\$197,097	\$176,017	+21,080
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>180,816</u>	<u>177,143</u>	<u>+3,673</u>
Balance	<u>\$16,281</u>	<u>-\$1,124</u>	



In addition, we have also received \$22,230 for Rejuvenate projects, including a very generous \$7,000 donation from Barbados Overseas Community Canada (BOCC). Capital projects completed this year include the sign (\$15,072), sidewalks and other concrete work (\$18,180), exterior windows painted (\$4,000), and the church roof resingled (\$20,268). Refurbishing of the fellowship room is underway.

Faith Tabernacle Church has continued to pay their rent throughout. The Daycare was shutdown for 4 months and then started up again in mid July. On their behalf, we applied to the government for the tenant rent subsidy and were successful in receiving a subsidy equal to two months rent. As part of this program, we had to agree to forgo one month of rent. The end result is that the Daycare paid one month's rent, and we received 3 months rent for the 4 months (the government paid for the other two months). Other rental shortfalls include cancellation of summer STEM camp, suspension of Youth link, and loss of one time usages. Total space usage income shortfall will be \$11,700 for the year.

Most fundraising projects have been cancelled, but the Christmas Ham & Turkey sale will go ahead. The Beard fundraiser brought in \$555. It is expected that fundraising income will be down \$11,500.

The Diocese covered 3 months of clergy compensation and Diocesan assessment charges. The government has covered 75% of 2 months of our staff compensation costs.

Summary: Rental and fundraising income will be lower than normal extending well into next year. If we can carry a positive balance into next year, it will help our financial stability.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please let me know. I can be reached at

Ian-Campbell@sympatico.ca or 416-265-5995.

Treasurer, ***Ian Campbell***



DEACON'S CUPBOARD UPDATE

Let me begin by expressing our heartfelt gratitude for the generous contributions of food and money over the Thanksgiving Food Drive, which was liberally supported not only by our own congregation but also by the members of Faith Tabernacle. Thank you to everyone who responded to our appeal.

HUGE INCREASE IN CLIENTS

Due to (I won't say thanks to!) the triple jeopardy of pandemic, job losses and benefits expiry, the traffic through the Deacon's Cupboard has grown exponentially. We have therefore had to somewhat modify our procedures in order to efficiently serve what has become approximately 50 clients every Thursday morning, seeking food for 160 people or more in total (not to mention a few cats and dogs)! What was originally a 9.30-11.00 opening has gradually stretched to 8.15-noon!

COVID PRECAUTIONS

Masks and distancing made it difficult to communicate requests from clients downstairs to volunteers upstairs gathering the items; borrowing an idea from one client who always brought her "shopping list", we created a checklist of basic items, which goes upstairs with the client's bag if they brought one. While that is being gathered, clients are encouraged to select their fresh produce and other occasional items from the table, and then move to the bench outside Pastor Pam's office to await their "order" so that we can bring in the next person with adequate distancing.

SCARBOROUGH FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE

A few weeks ago, the bulletin from Councillor Gary Crawford mentioned a food drive by Scarborough Food Security Initiative, something we did not know about. An email query produced the information that this is an agency of Daily Bread Food Bank, and that for the price of a little record-keeping we could become recipients of a weekly shipment of "dry goods" (cans and packets) and

fresh produce as available. A representative of the agency came on October 8 to help with the first registrations, and as we register newcomers

each week and make a report on line, we will receive shipments each Wednesday, which is our "prep" morning (bagging veggies, breaking down bulk foods, etc.). We have received two shipments now, containing the usual staples, plus bread when they have any, fresh milk, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes,

cucumbers and cauliflower. We now know what items they rarely or never see, and can therefore better target our spending and our appeals.

WRAPPING AND BAGGING

Speaking of "prep" mornings, this is a great opportunity to come and give a hand if you have time: we need to wrap toilet paper rolls individually, portion out 20 kg bags of rice and 2 kg bags of sugar as well as large containers of instant coffee, hot chocolate, cat food, dog food and anything else that comes in large packages.

There are also vegetables to be bagged (depending on what we

get as above). If this ministry appeals to you, please call me at 416 264-4726 or

jacquie.boutheon@sympatico.ca.

In addition to food donations and the bulk foods mentioned above we use a lot of ziplock bags of varying sizes. We are grateful for donations of these (except snack size), as it is a relatively expensive item, even at Dollarama

A FAITHFUL TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS

Let me finish with a major "shout-out" to our faithful team of volunteers: Detra Powell, Donna Campbell, Merle Caraballo, Eleanor Lorde, Tammy Durdle, Deborah Cloakey, Diane Dean and Beverley Mason. We look forward to the day when Margaret Bovell and her friends Pat and Neeta will feel able to come and share this ministry with us again.

(Editor's Note: And another shout-out to Deacon Jacquie, who organizes this whole enterprise!)



Please pray for these members of our community and their families

Anita F	Jenille L
Anne S	Joan N
Annet K	John J
Beverly Barber	Ken K
Christina &	Lennox &
Joshua	Leonora Y
Corinne P	Leonora B
Deb A	Linda & Robert E
Deborah T	Margaret B
Ebun D	Maureen C
Gwen P	Philip I
Hector B	Robbie & Bev R
James Y	Sherri-Ann & Ron

and for all those affected by COVID-19, racial discrimination or any injustice

Our Neighbours Celebrate

Diwali is the Indian festival of lights, usually lasting five days and celebrated this year beginning on November 14 by Hindus everywhere. One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, Diwali symbolizes the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance". Diwali, or Deepavali, is a Sanskrit word meaning "rows of lighted lamps". During the five-day celebration - also known as the "festival of lights" - clay lamps known as diyas are lit to signify the victory of good over evil.



Hindu symbol

Over time, Diwali has become a national festival marked by most Indians regardless of faith, with Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs also celebrating. In each faith it marks different historical events and stories, but the festival always represents the same symbolic victory of light over darkness. Diwali also celebrates the Hindu goddess of wealth and prosperity, Lakshmi.

During the festival, Hindus, Jains and Sikhs illuminate their homes, temples and work spaces with diyas, candles and lanterns. Diwali is also marked with fireworks.

What do you say to your Hindu neighbour at Diwali? A simple "Happy Diwali" will do the trick, but there are other Diwali wishes you can offer to anyone celebrating the festival. If you are brave enough to try a few words in the Hindi language, this translates to "Shubh Diwali". Most greetings are much more elaborate, and focus on joy, prosperity and good health.

Our history informs our present ...

461 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, is remembered on November 10. He is best known for having met Attila the Hun in 452 and persuading him to turn back from his invasion of Italy. Leo is one of only two popes who are called "the Great".

1512 Michelangelo unveils his 5,808 square foot masterpiece on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican.

1773 marks the birth of Stephen Grellet, Quaker clergyman and missionary. He travelled through Europe and America, reporting on conditions in prisons and poorhouses, which led Elizabeth Fry to begin her life's work on behalf of prisoners.



1784 On November 14 the church commemorates the consecration of Samuel Seabury as Bishop of the Church in Connecticut. He was the first Anglican bishop in North America.

1935 The American evangelist William Ashley "Billy" Sunday dies. Until the arrival of Billy Graham, no other American evangelist preached to as many people or counted as many conversions as Billy Sunday.

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