



Connections

*I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, but by me. John 14: 6*

**SPECIAL
ISSUE #8**

SEPARATE BUT TOGETHER - A NEW WAY TO WORSHIP

Businesses have long known all about teleconferencing; televangelists caught on to the power of TV and the internet years ago. But we Anglicans have identified "fellowship" as sitting in a pew with other believers in a building set aside for worship. We are not accustomed to being at home on Sunday morning, when "going to church" is part of our lives and probably has been since childhood. The present situation has forced us to realize a profound truth - WE are the church, "the body of Christ in the world", wherever we are and whatever we do.

So Christ Church and many other parishes birthed the idea of video services. Some were already tech-savvy, so the nuts and bolts of getting the services off the ground were no problem. Others were more tentative, barely able to deal with Word programs and e-mail, so the learning curve was steeper for them. We are very fortunate that we have in our parish a young woman, Ritika Luther, highly skilled in computer matters. Ritika has guided us gently and patiently through the pitfalls of video production.

Now you can participate in a virtual service of Morning Prayer or Ante-Communion, sing along with our organist Sam's music, hear a sermon, follow the prayers you know so well and receive the blessing that is part of our Christian fellowship.

It takes many people to make a service come alive. There are the clergy, but we also need readers for the scriptures and someone to write and deliver the Prayers of the People. If you would like to be part of this exciting way of "being the church", get in touch with Deacon Jacquie, who is our scheduler, and she will find a place for you.

It's easy to enjoy Christ Church online services. Just go to our website, www.christchurchscarborough.com and click on the service you want to connect to. Pastor Pam also invites you to be encouraged by viewing the faces of our Christ Church family on the website in the section of photos under Parish News.



Scripture Readings

May 3

Acts 2: 42 to 47

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2: 19 to 25

John 10: 1 to 10

May 10

Acts 7: 55 to 60

Psalm 31: 1 to 5
and 15 and 16

1 Peter 2: 2 to 10

John 14: 1 to 14



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF PARISH COUNCIL

We plan to have a quarterly meeting by telephone conference to review finances and to check-in regarding other church matters. Meeting time is Sunday, May 17 at 1 pm. Please mark your calendar. You will be contacted about call-in details. Let Pastor Pam know about any agenda items at ptrondson@gmail.com



FUN WAYS TO BUILD THE FAITH OF CHILDREN- ONLINE RESOURCES

The Bishop's Youth Ministry Committee is sharing videos with suggestions for youth leaders and parents about how to talk with teens and model a sense of calm and faithful trust in God

Here is a good source for families with children <http://www.short-story-time.com/childrens-bible-lessons.html>

The Green Door, a new web series from St. Michael and All Angels, will introduce you to Barley the dog and Nosebag the dragon, who are on a journey of making sense of the world and the coronavirus situation day by day. With episodes uploaded five days a week,

The Green Door helps children and adults alike adjust to the times we're in. This series takes into full account Jesus' command: Love your neighbour as yourself. It is carefully made for ALL people, regardless of faith or non-faith. Find all episodes on St. Michael and All Angels' website.

Daily video messages from St. Philip on-the-Hill for children and youth to deepen their faith and learn coping skills through the corona virus situation. Videos will also include ideas for family activities while in self-isolation.

Online Junior Church program from St. Olave, Swansea on its website

Zooming into Church School activities, compiled by Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St. (topic is prayer)

Psalms 23 for children and youth, from St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto

Anglican Family Hub from the Diocese of Niagara

Resources and ideas from Messy Church UK
Children's Chat for March 25 from St. Martin, Bay Ridges on YouTube

Ideas & resources for families at home
compiled by Messy Church Canada

Virtual youth group from St. Paul, Lindsay

Sunday School lesson from St. Martin in-the-Fields, Toronto

Kids' video messages from St. John, York Mills

Links to these resources can be found at
<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/2020/03/13/covid-19-updates/> . **Scroll down to the section on Kids and Families.**

While you are on this site, check some of the many other interesting areas.

A New Dictionary

Fashion - PJs all day, and hair that is crying out for a beauty salon, to say nothing of the other half of the parish, where whiskers are sprouting everywhere. We can only hope that when this is over we will look in the mirror and make some changes.

Home-schooling - when a parent who was never very good at arithmetic, and can't remember what "the New Math" of the 80s was all about, tries to help a child with whatever kind of mathematics they're teaching now.

Sermons - no longer the exclusive responsibility of the clergy, the preaching community seems to include politicians, scientists, astronauts, sports celebrities and even your next door neighbour. We've heard their homilies called "wash your hands", "stay home" and "keep your distance" many, many times. I liked the old one about "love one another" better.

Zoom-room - the room in the house that you keep clean for video-conferencing. There's often a bookcase as a backdrop, filled with important-looking books. HGTV addicts are enjoying this peek into other people's homes.





Every Sunday morning a group of children and their teachers gather in the fellowship room to study lessons from the bible. This year we will not be able to get together in person, but we still want to express our gratitude for our mothers and grandmothers and aunts and Godmothers on this Mother's Day. In 2 Timothy 1:1-7 Paul reminds Timothy of how blessed he is to have had his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois, who he called women of strong faith, pass down faith to him.

Faith is a "good treasure", a gift from God, to share with those entrusted to us, whether that be a child or Godchild or grandchild or niece. We give thanks to those who have led us and encouraged us in faith by providing traditions that make a connection to the past. Faith that lived in others now lives in us: it is alive and growing.

We are grateful for baptismal promises and those who brought us to church for Sunday School and confirmation and whose witness has enlightened us and brought us closer to God.

Now more than ever we are seeing the importance of family, as they sustain us in

difficult times. Let us not just remember strong women around us on Mother's Day but every day, as they help us to grow up to our full potential.

May everyone have a blessed Mother's Day!

With love,
the Sunday School children

(written on behalf of the children by their teacher,
Miriam Mifsud)

A STUDENT'S TRIBUTE TO HER MOM

Now we are inside all the time my Mom helps me with my school work.

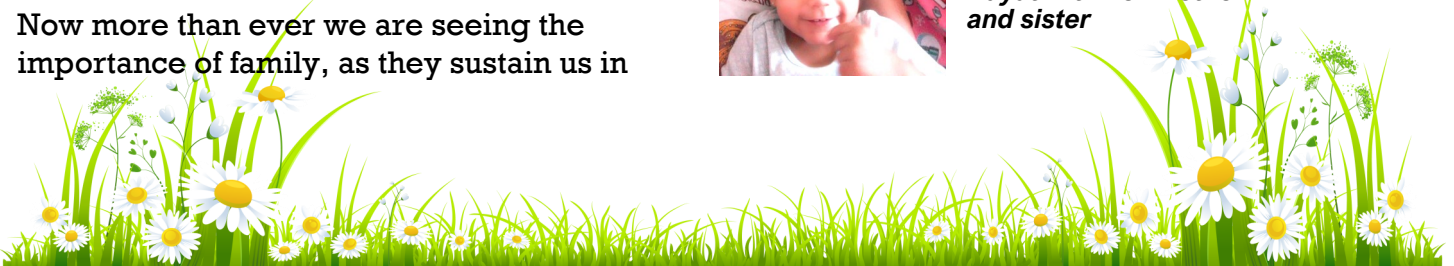
Every day we pray, sing, dance and paint.

I find my sister, Mom and I agree on the same things like what to bake, especially brownies, banana bread and carrot tart.



Aayat with her mother and sister

Aayat Aneel
(Christ Church
Sunday School)



REFLECTION - The Church's ministry of healing

Rev. Virginia Herring

There is within the human condition an overwhelming desire to be WELL, to be whole. We seem to know instinctively that life is best when body, mind and soul are all healthy. It is therefore no wonder that this protracted encounter with the coronavirus is beginning to get on our nerves.

Perhaps the worst part of this disease is the possibility that one might have it, yet not have any symptoms. How do you protect yourself against such an enemy?

The answer, of course, is "with great difficulty." All of which led me to ponder anew our church's ministry of healing. Biblically the words for healing and for salvation are the same. To be healed is to be saved. To be saved is to be healed. Biblically, both of those are not events, but processes. It takes time for a process. It takes intentionality. It takes the ministry of the community.

One of the things I miss about not holding corporate worship is that we cannot offer prayer stations every Sunday for folks who have particular prayer needs. It always lifts my heart during communion to glance over to the side chapel and see a small group of two or three folks, heads bowed, hands on shoulders, engaged in earnest prayer. What a wonderful gift that is to offer! I will remind you that as we phone one another, healing prayer is a gift we can offer and we can ask for. As you chat with the person on the other end of the phone, ask them if they have any particular prayer concerns. If you are not comfortable offering extemporaneous prayers, suggest that you say the Lord's Prayer together. If you yourself are covered with worries and anxieties, call up someone and tell them. Ask for their prayers. There are also the psalms, which are wonderful words to share with each other. Call someone and invite them to get their prayer book. Last Sunday our psalm was 23 – a favorite. Try reading it – either together or alternating verses. I promise it will change the nature of your phone calls.



We have all the tools we need to offer healing to each other. It is up to us both to offer and to ask. Healing is what we are meant to do. Our Jewish brothers and sisters call it "repairing the universe." We need to pray for our planet, and of course, we need to cover this pesky virus in healing prayer, so much that it can no longer stand!

There's my thought for the day. Can you offer healing and prayer to the folks with whom you have contact? How might you begin? What holds you back? Reach out to one another – we are all we've got right now! May your days be filled with blessings, peace and joy.

Ginny Herring is the Rector of St. Wilfred's Episcopal Church in Sarasota, Florida. Like ourselves, she and her people are struggling with the limitations placed on them by the temporary closure of their church

*Please pray for these members
of our faith community
and their families*

Anne S	Jenille L
Annet K	Joan N
Beverly B	Ken K
Christina & Joshua	Margo P
Corinne P	Maureen C
David M	Philip I
Deb A	Rosita
Euphrasia	Sam
Felicia, Lucia, Sam R	Sherri-Ann & Ron
Florence S	Viggy M
Hannah M	William I

*and for all those affected
by the COVID-19 virus*

