

Hello St Hilary's Parishioners,

In this week's email you will find news, important announcements, and the bulletins for Sunday, December 22nd, 24th and 25th, 2024.

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- **Bishop's Levee: Presentations of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto**

Jane DeCheverry is receiving the well-earned Order the Diocese of Toronto. For her ongoing dedication to St Hilary's, her role as treasurer since 1997 and for the many other gifts she has given to our parish. The ceremony will occur at St Jame's Cathedral January 1st, during the Eucharist service, which begins at 12.15pm. A reception and festive music concert will follow. All are welcome to attend.

Said Eucharist at 12:15 p.m.

Receiving Line and Reception from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. with the ringing of the Bells of Old York

Festive Music at 3:00 p.m.

Choral Evensong at 3:30 p.m. with presentation of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto

Evensong will also be live streamed on the [diocesan YouTube channel](#). [Click here for more information](#).





Christmas Memorial Flowers 2024

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>
Loved ones	Pat Brown
Loved ones	Bob Phaneuf & Jane DeCheverry
Clotilda & Vernon Scott Rita and Hasely Callender	Janet & Allan Scott
William Gleeson Winifred and William Allan	Loving family (Sandra Gleeson)
Mom and Dad	B. Waul
Louisa & Theresa, Sisters, Brothers & Grandson	Jean Peters
Anna Rita Filippone	Lucy, Steve & Alina Roscoe
Mom & Dad	Rev. Adrienne
Family & Friends	Joyce Skeete
Cyril, Monica & Raymond Choy	Jennifer Chin & Family
Elena, Relue, Nesu	Otilia Scriuba
Sonia, Lucia & Ciprian	Octavian Scriuba
Veronica Scott-Walker (Beloved Auntie)	Sonia & Osbourne Shaw
Rev. Owen and Margaret Barrow Bill & Phyllis Davies	Olwen & Ed Davies & Family
Hugh & Guy Reid	Ann Morgan
Edmond & Theresa Mbulu Daria & Nick Kordiuk Paulette "Mere Mere" Theodule	Chief Mbulu & Family
Sister – Margaret Richardson	Dorothy Williams
Eulene Walcott	Cynthia Grannum & Family
Loved Ones	Gale & Paul Taylor
Elaine Golding	James Golding
Our parent & brothers – Jack & Bill Sidney	Eleanor & Leo Foss
Eriazali & Elizabeesi Wanzala	Bernard Buyinza & Family

- **A Christmas Prayer**

Shout for joy
the whole earth,
and everything within.
Rejoice!
For Light has come into the world

The mountains sing,
the seas resound
to the praise of your name.
Salvation
once promised is here on earth

The angels' song
rings in the air,
a child has been born.
Hallelujah!
The Saviour of the world is here.

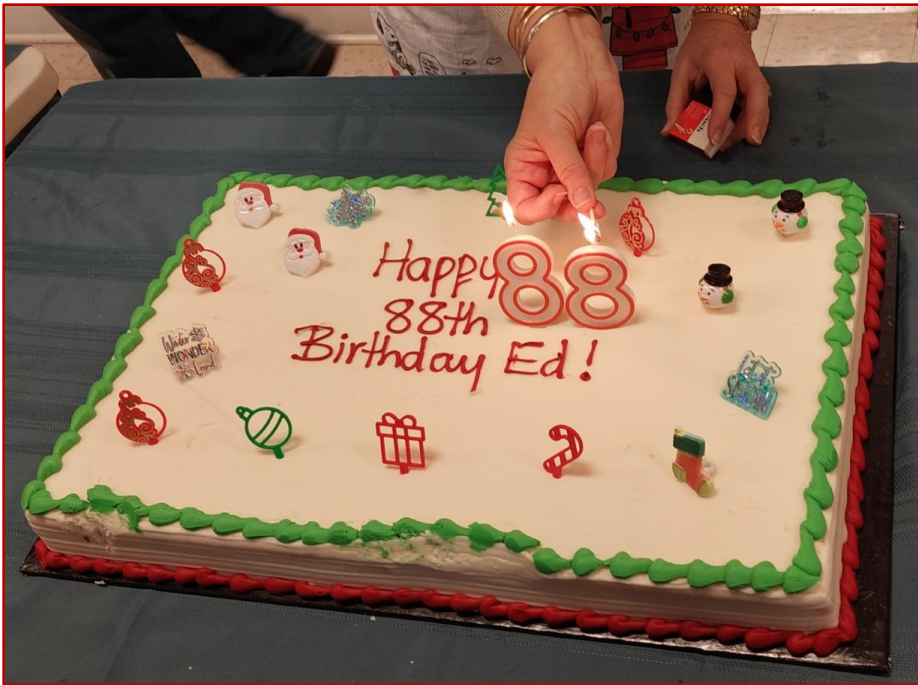
Amen.

(Faith and Worship)

- **Photos from the Turkey Supper**









- **Advent Prayer List**

Advent is a time of preparation.

How do we prepare during Advent?" One way is prayer.

Prayer is about "growing into the measure of the full stature of Christ." (Eph. 4:13) Why do we pray? Origen and Archbishop Williams suggest that we should pray because "God has decided to work out his purpose through what we decide to say and do. So, God has chosen our prayers as part of why he will bring something about, healing, reconciliation etc." Prayer "takes us into heaven, it gives us direct access in Christ to the Father and makes us equal to the angels because God's glory is opened to us" (Origen).

This Advent, let us prepare for Christ's arrival by praying for those we love and care for, those who need our prayers. Let us help give them 'direct access to Christ' and his healing.

Each week, in this year's Advent, I will print copies of our Prayer List. Take a copy home and everyday read it to yourself, out loud. This is a list of people who both need and want our prayers. Add whomever you would like add to the list, the cousins you cannot stand, the snow-plow driver that fills the bottom of your driveway. Add a few people who you know need your prayers.

Read the list daily – take a moment in quiet reflection. This is prayer.

It will mean a great deal to you, to those you pray for and to God.

A prayer to begin with:

Lord, You walked on the earth, understood the broken world, yet also rose from death into resurrected life. I pray for my loved ones and members of our community, that they would be held at this time in your loving arms. Bless the work of the doctors, surgeons and hospital staff, and bring the power of your resurrection life into their body. Come fill my loved one with your restorative Spirit. May your resurrection life bring healing and wellness into their being. May your grace carry them through this hard time into a new season filled with hope and joy. Amen.

¹⁹ "Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;
²⁰ he sent out his word and healed them,
and delivered them from destruction."

Psalms 107:19-20

Those to hold in our prayers:

Delores, Janice, Dorothy, Sharla, Gloria, Ed, Roy, Philip, Yunnis, Vernon, Angela, Sheila, Richard, Nathan, Kathleen, Pearl, Len, Jane, Valentine, Nora, Audley, Mary, Daniel, Imandeep, Lauren, Avery, Andy, Andrew, Lucy, Mary, Roger, Nadia, Nigel, Larry, Sophia, Mildred, Pauline, Boston, Emerald, Katelyn, Charlie, Fred.

- **Letter from Bishop Andrew | Friday, December 13th, 2024**



Dear Friends,

Gratitude. The season of Advent provides us with the opportunity to prepare, to anticipate, to imagine and to make room. And these sentiments mean something unique at different points in one's life. Like the year I spied the street hockey goalie pads tucked away in a hiding spot two weeks before Christmas. I think I was about 13. Street hockey was an everyday pastime on our street. Kids from our neighbourhood would flock in front of our house with sticks and ball, net and gloves. We would get hoarse yelling "CAR!" We played late into the afternoon and under the streetlamp until we were called in for supper. I loved playing in the net, though once the tennis ball got cold, hard and wet, a slapshot within close range always hurt like blazes. I asked Santa for street hockey pads from Canadian Tire. I even cut out the advert in the flyer, so that Santa might find them. And there they were tucked away in the closet. I couldn't wait for Christmas.

At other junctures the anticipation, preparation and imagination of the season revolved around making Christmas for the kids a wonderland, making space at the table for a stranger, providing for a refugee family, grieving the loss of a family member and much more. And with each passing year, the anticipation of Christmas is met by moments of grace and the surprise inbreaking of God's presence. Sometimes it was what a particular child said beyond the script of the pageant, a word in a carol that struck a chord of hope, a kind word spoken in the pew, the savouring of Christmas pudding that Dad used to make, a pause in the frantic pace of life to remember. In Advent we remember that God came and dwelt among us.

Gratitude. With each passing year my heart sings more and more the simple song of gratitude for every breath, every memory, every ministry, every church community, every opportunity to serve alongside so many in our Diocese who strive every day to serve the God of love that dwells in each of us. Our churches are full of gracious people of love.

Last evening, we gathered to say farewell and express our deep gratitude for two servants of the Church who have given so much of their time, talent and treasure to the enterprise in the Diocese. Canon Paul Baston has served as the registrar and vice-chancellor for almost 25 years. With his guidance, steady hand and wise counsel, synods have run like clockwork, the paperwork and licenses and procedures properly in order.

We did the same for Canon Rob Saffrey. For a combined service of 32 years, Rob served as the comptroller and director of finance for the Diocese and then as director of operations at St. James Cathedral before coming back next door to serve as executive director for the past six years. Rob epitomizes the idea of servant leadership. He has supported, championed and blessed the ministry of our Church. He has always served with such warmth, good humour, wisdom and faith. Rob always knew that the numbers represented people, and not the other way around.

Gratitude. Gratitude is always tinged with grief and joy, of parting and changing, of something old and something new. As we slowly gather in Bethlehem this Christmas, may our hearts be filled with deep gratitude for the gift of our lives. May you find ways of expressing your gratitude for friend and family, coworker and colleague, neighbour and pew mate. May you be richly blessed with joy and anticipation.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil
Bishop of Toronto

- **Reading The Bulletin on Your Smart Phone**

If you would like to read the bulletin on your Smart Phone, please follow these steps:

1. Go to sthilarys.com
2. Click on the menu icon
3. Click on Worship
4. Click on Worship Services
5. Scroll down to 'Download This Week's Bulletin'
6. Click on 'Click Here'
7. The bulletin will appear in PDF format for you to peruse.

OR

Open Weekly Email and then click on the bulletin attachment.

Viewing on your phone is beneficial as you can zoom in on text to make it larger and easier to read and it saves paper!

- **YouTube Link to Livestreaming**

[Please click here](#) to view the livestreaming of this Sunday's 10.30am service.

- **Memorial Flowers & Aumbry Candle**

There are several open spots for the remainder of 2024 for Memorial Flowers and the Aumbry Candle.

Should you wish to kindly donate flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact Molly on 416 253 6443 / mollymangalathu@gmail.com. Please include who the memorial is for, who the memorial is from, the short message that you would like to have in the bulletin and the date you would like it to appear in the bulletin. An example of a bulletin message is: 'To the Glory of God and in Loving memory of Jane Doe, Grandmother of Anne Doe, and Great-Grandmother of Mary Doe, from her family.' Please note there is a \$40 fee for this request.

To light the Aumbry Candle in memory of a loved one, please contact sthilaritycooksville@toronto.anglican.ca or 905 279 2304. A \$5 donation fee is requested.

- **Giving to St Hilary's**

If you would like to donate you can do so by:

- Sending an e-transfer to sthilaritycooksville@toronto.anglican.ca (please email us the password)
- Signing up to PAR (Pre-authorized Remittance). PAR is automatically withdrawn on a monthly basis and will go toward the area of your choosing

We thank you for any contribution you are able to make.

For more information on giving, please call the church office at 905-279-2304.

- **Good News from Around the World**

Please [click here](#) to enjoy good news stories from around the world.

- **Upcoming Special Dates**

Sunday, December 22nd Fourth in Adent

8.30am Said Eucharist

10.30am A Service of Lessons & Carols

Tuesday, December 24th Christmas Eve

5pm Pageant & Eucharist

10pm Sung Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day

10am Sung Eucharist

Sunday, December 29th Celebration of the Nativity

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Sunday, January 5th The Epiphany of the Lord

8.30am Said Eucharist

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Sunday January 12th The Baptism of the Lord

8.30am Said Eucharist

10.30am Grannum Baptism & Sung Eucharist

Saturday, January 18th

2-4pm Games Day

Sunday January 19th Second Sunday after Epiphany

8.30am Said Eucharist

10.30am Sung Eucharist

Please note the office will be closed Wednesday, December 25th and will reopen on Monday, January 6th. The Food Cupboard will be closed on Thursdays December 26th and January 2nd. The Weekly Email will resume on Thursday, January 9th.

Thank you for reading.

Merry Christmas!