Hello St Hilary's Parishioners,

In this week's email you will find news, important announcements, and the bulletin for Sunday.

- Service on Sunday, May 11th
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Service on Sunday, May 11th

Please note that on Sunday, May 11th, there will not be an 8 .30am service. There will be a Morning Prayer Service at 10.30am.

• The Season of Spiritual Renewal

We are now well into the final year of the Season of Spiritual Renewal initiative and have enjoyed two wonderful Lift Up Our Hearts services. If you missed them in person both the <u>Cathedral</u> and <u>Trinity Streetsville</u> services are available on YouTube. Particularly for those located in the eastern regions of our diocese, plan now to join in <u>worship</u> at All Saints, Whitby, on May 31st at 2 pm.

Let's remember once again the key place that prayer holds in spiritual renewal. Please include in your Prayers of the People:

- A prayer for the spiritual renewal of our churches and diocese. The Collect we have been using in the Lift up our Hearts Services is on the website.
- A prayer for the people in our communities who have spiritual questions and longings. Let's pray for God to empower all of our churches to help such people come to know Christ.

Registration is now open for the April to June online workshops- due to feedback received, we have changed the time for these 'lunch and learn' sessions to 12 noon to 1 pm.

These include a rich variety of topics including such things as: starting a youth ministry from scratch, Education for Ministry (an in-depth small group based discipleship program), reconnecting spirituality and social justice, a training session for lectors, best practices for hybrid worship, reflecting theologically about music in worship, Alpha Course leader training, and connecting with families in your neighborhood. Please remind your congregation to explore the workshops, register, and participate!

Finally, we are making available prayer resources from <u>Thy Kingdom Come</u> for you and your church community for free. Please email <u>Jacqui</u> to request these free prayer journals or novena's for use in your parish during Ascensiontide.

Judy Paulsen

Coordinator

The Season of Spiritual Renewal

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Season of Spiritual Renewal On-Line workshops

Registration is now open for the April to June online workshops. These include a rich variety of topics including such things as: starting a youth ministry from scratch, reconnecting spirituality and social justice, a training session for lectors, best practices for hybrid worship, reflecting theologically about music in worship, Alpha Course leader training, and connecting with families in your neighbourhood. Please note that, due to feedback received, we have changed the time for these 'lunch and learn' sessions to 12 noon to 1 pm. A downloadable list is available and registrations are now open.

- May 7: Reimagining Evangelism with Jason Persaud *12:00-1:30pm
- May 8: Especially for Lectors: Offering a Beautiful Ministry of the Word with Judy Paulsen
- May 13: Spiritual Journaling for Groups & Individuals with Neil Mancor
- May 14: The Hybrid and the Holy with Cynthia Majewski, Elizabeth McCaffrey and Tim Ralph

- May 15: Theological Reflection: finding meaning and direction with Carol Kysela and Annette Cowan
- May 20: Sing a new song: helping your community find their voice with Dan Norman
- May 21: Connecting with Families in the neighborhood with Elizabeth Achimah
- May 22: Alpha Course Leaders Training with the Alpha Canada team *12:00-1:30pm
- June 12: Praying our Song, Singing our Prayer panel discussion led by Tom Bell.

For more information and to register, click here.

Letter to the Diocese from Bishop Andrew

May 2nd, 2025

Dear Friends,

The Feast of St. Philip and St. James is commemorated on May 1. The two apostles, Philip and James the Less, are celebrated on the same day because their relics were taken to Rome and placed in the Church of the Holy Apostles together. They are remembered for their devotion to following Jesus and propagating the Good News.

The Very Rev. Duncan Abraham, retired Dean of the Diocese of Toronto and Rector of St. James Cathedral, presided yesterday at the noon Eucharist for St. Philip and St. James in the cathedral's St. George's Chapel. That day, May 1, also marked his 70th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Just before the apostolic greeting, he spoke a few words of gratitude for being called to serve as a priest, a life that included both ups and downs, a vocation of deep privilege and joy. While Dean Abraham may not have navigated the sanctuary with the agility of a younger man, he presided with a loving presence that has been shaped by the grace and mercy of God and the wisdom that comes from years of following in the way of Jesus. I have to say, I was so deeply moved by the experience.

During the celebration, I brought to mind my own journey, almost 36 years of priestly ministry: the ups and downs, the challenges and mercies, the joys and defeats, the easy and burdensome. I thought about the many people, the places and the ministries that have shaped me along the way. And what a joy and honour it is for me to serve you as the Bishop of Toronto. And then I found myself thinking about this coming Sunday afternoon, when we will gather once again in St. James Cathedral for the ordination of four transitional deacons: Michael Brain, Denise Byard, Rajini Lyman and Tiffany Robinson. While one servant celebrates 70 years, four begin.

This will be my last Friday letter to you for a while. Immediately after the ordination, I will be taking a Sabbath Leave until Sept. 2. The time away will give me the opportunity for rest, for study, for play, for Mary, for family, for friends, for prayer, for reflection and for stillness. It will

be good to rest. After all, if Dean Abraham is the measure, I am just at the halfway mark of ministry. I will miss you. And I look forward to the fall and the renewed energy for the journey.

The Diocese is in great hands.

Yours in Christ,

+ Aelw Toronto

Read the Bible in One Year

The Bible is alive.

The Bible gives us wisdom. Written over a period of centuries, the inspired scrolls provide solutions for every situation we can face.

The Bible tells us of the Savior who loves us.

The Bible feeds us. Jesus is God's Word in the flesh, and He is the bread of life for our souls.

Please join us over the next year as we read the bible together. Follow the daily readings and join us every three months at St Hilary's as we come together to both celebrate and explore what we've been reading.

Pick up a list of readings and add your name to the sign-up list at the church. We will keep you updated on all the planned gatherings and activities.

Reading the Bible in One Year - Month Four				
Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalm	Proverbs
22-Apr-25	Joshua 24: 1 - 33	Luke 21: 1 - 28	89:38-52	13:20-23
23-Apr-25	Judges 1:1-2:9	Luke 21:29 -22:13	90:1-91:16	13:24-25
24-Apr	Judges 2:10 - 3:31	Luke 22: 14 - 34	92:1-93:5	14:1-2
25-Apr-25	Judges 4:1 - 5:31	Luke 22:35 - 53	94:1-23	14:3-4
26-Apr-25	Judges 6:1 - 40	Luke 22:54-23:12	95:1-96:13	14:5-6
27-Apr-25	Judges 7:1 - 8:17	Luke 23:13 - 43	97:1-98.9	14:7-8
28-Apr-25	Judges 8:18-9:21	Luke 23:44 - 24:12	99:1-9	14:9-10
29-Apr-25	Judges 9:22 - 10:18	Luke 24:13 - 53	100:1-5	14:11 - 12
30-Apr-25	Judges 11:1 - 12-15	John 1:1-28	101:1-8	14:13-14
01-May-25	Judges 13:1 - 14:20	John 1:29-51	102:1-28	14:15-16
02-May-25	Judges 15:1 - 16:31	John 2: 1 - 25	103:1-22	14:17-19
03-May-25	Judges 17:1 - 18:31	John 3: 1 - 21	104:1-23	14:20-21
04-May-25	Judges 19:1-20:48	John 3:22 - 4;3	104:24-35	14:22-24
05-May-25	Judges 21:1-Ruth 1:22	John 4:4-42	105:1-15	14:25
06-May-25	Ruth 2:1-4:22	John 4: 43 - 54	105:16-36	14:26-27
07-May-25	1 Samuel 1:1 - 2:21	John 5:1 - 23	105:37-45	14:28-29
08-May-25	1 Samuel 2:22-4:22	John 5:24-47	106:1-12	14:30-31
09-May-25	1 Samuel 5:1-7:17	John 6:1-21	106:13-31	14:32-33
10-May-25	1 Samuel 8:1 - 9:27	John 6:22-42	106:32-48	14:34-35
11-May-25	1 Samuel 10:1-11:15	John 6:43-71	107:1-43	15:1-3
12-May-25	1 Samuel 12:1-13:22	John 7:1-29	108:1-13	15:14
13-May-25	1 Samuel 13:23-14:52	John 7:30-53	109:1-31	15:5-7
14-May-25	1 Samuel 15:1-16:23	John 8:1-10	110:1-7	15:8-10
15-May-25	1 Samuel 17:1-18:4	John 8:21-30	111:1-10	15:11
16-May-25	1 Samuel 18:5-19:24	John 8:31-59	112:1-10	15:12-14
17-May-17	1 Samuel 20:1-21:15	John 9:1-41	113:1-114:8	15:15-17
18-May-25	1 Samuel 22:1-23:29	John 10:1-21	115:1-18	15:18-19
19-May-25	1 Samuel 24:1-2:44	John 10:22-42	116:1-19	15:20-21
20-May-25	1 Samuel 26:1 - 28:25	John 11:1-53	117:1-2	15:22-23
21-May-25	1 Samuel 29:1 -31:13	John 11:54-12:19	118:1-18	15:24-26

Youth Corner

John 10:22 - 30

"Loving God, help us to hear your voice and to follow you. Be with us as we listen to your word that we might know you better. Amen."

In today's story, Jesus talks about how no one can separate him from his followers. One of the reasons Jesus says this is because he knows that the more his followers learn about God from him, the more his followers will learn to trust Jesus.

At first, this may not make sense. But, if I were to ask you to help me play a game on my phone, you would be able to teach me how. I have seen you play on your phones and you clearly know what you are doing. So, ultimately, if I listen to you, I will learn and I will grow to trust you, because you know what you are doing.

The same thing happened with Jesus' followers. The more they learned from Jesus, the more they learned to trust Jesus. But if his followers had never tried what Jesus said, then they'd probably not trust Jesus very much. We see this lack of trust with the Pharisees in today's story. Since the Pharisees do not try what Jesus says about connecting with God, they don't learn to trust Jesus.

Talking about learning, Well, I ask my children to show me how to play a game on my phone and look at that! It is working and I can play that game 'Bubble Shooter 'now. I learned something, how to play a new game and that I can trust my children to teach me something new.

And, just as I was taught a new game, so too does Jesus teach us to connect with God. As we learn how to connect ourselves to God with Jesus' help, we learn to trust Jesus **and** we get to know God better. That's the good news for today.

"Thank you, God, for choosing us and not giving up on us. Help us to hear you as you call our name. Amen."

(Adapted from: rfour.org and Episcopal Church Lessons that Work)

What We Heard on Sunday

John 21: 1 – 19

There are moments on our lives when we are not in control and things we didn't plan just happen. It is at these moments that we begin to dream of getting away, taking a break, getting back to our normal, known day-to-day routines and the quiet security they offer us.

In this Gospel passage this is what the disciples are experiencing. The past 3 years have been a whirlwind affair and the past 3 weeks have been tension filled – and they had lost Jesus. Now, they were experiencing shock, grief and anxiety. Experiences like these can overwhelm the best of us. The human spirit can take only so much.

The disciples have left Jerusalem and the chaos and dangers there. They went home, to the familiar and safe. And now they are sitting together wondering, ok now what? And Peter says "I am going fishing." It is what he knows. Fishing can be a time to get away from it all, concentrate on only one thing – and for Peter to do what he knows well.

We can understand his choice. It was a return to a normal course and routine life.

As they prepared to fish, a man on the shore told them to drop their net over on the right side, and they did. And they hauled up so many fish – 153 types, all the types in the sea – that the net was nearly broken. Then they realise who they were speaking with – Jesus.

Jesus was waiting for them. He showed them their new direction – to reach out to all types of people to bring them his kingdom. There is no way to be rid of this kingdom, when you have glimpsed it. So, the disciples returned to following Jesus.

Just as the disciples found themselves lost, we too can feel this way at times. But like the disciples who were taken out of the safety net of their old fishing lives, then reconstituted, reshaped and pushed in to action – so are we.

Chapter 21 of John returns us to the 'dynamism of Christ's ministry, to the resilience and vitality of God's word. It reaffirms that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness does not overcome the light.'

Jesus is inviting us to come and share a meal and a life. God's love set loose in the world needs our hands and feet and hearts to make it concrete in our place and time. Like Peter, we are asked to take the risk and cast our nets on the right side of the boat, where God's love is available for us an so many more. Amen.

Upcoming at St Hilary's

Sunday, May 11th 10.3am Morning Prayer Service

Wednesday May 14th 10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist

Thursday, May 15th 10am until 12pm Food Cupboard

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 <u>sthilarys.com</u>
- 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

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 2025 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 or 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 sthilaryscooksville@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 sthilarycooksville@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.

The Anglican News

Click here to read the latest issue of the Anglican.