

St Hilary's Weekly Email Updates, Announcements, and Bulletins, for services on July August 2nd, 2026

- **Rev Adrienne's Last Service and Luncheon**
- **Yuan Art Studio | Sketching Afternoon**
- **Book Drive for St Hilary's Lending Library**
- **August Services Change**
- **Youth Corner**
- **What We Heard on Sunday – July 26th, 2026**
- **Reading The Bulletin on Your Smart Phone**
- **YouTube Link**
- **Memorial Flowers & Aumbry Candle**
- **Giving to St Hilary's**
- **Good News from Around the World Link**
- **The Anglican Newspaper Link**
- **Diocese of Toronto Link**

• **Rev Adrienne's Last Service and Luncheon**

We invite all members of the parish and community to join us for Rev. Adrienne's final service on Sunday, August 2nd starting at 10.20am, as we celebrate and offer our prayers and best wishes for this new chapter in her life.

The service will be followed by a special celebration luncheon in honour of Rev Adrienne. If you have any questions about the luncheon, please see Jane and or Sharon.

We wish Rev. Adrienne every blessing, joy, and peace in her retirement.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." — Matthew 25:23

• **Yuan Art Studio | Sketching Afternoon**

Over the past few years, [Yuan Art Studio](#) has had the opportunity to work with many children and families through art. Now, they're curious about creating meaningful creative experiences for adults as well—not a traditional art class, but something more relaxed, social, and enjoyable.

Would you enjoy spending an afternoon outdoors drawing in a local park, meeting new people, and simply enjoying a few peaceful hours surrounded by nature?

Yuan Art Studio would like to give a **complimentary Community Outdoor Sketching Experience** exclusively for our church community.

What to Expect

- 🧐 All drawing materials and equipment will be provided.
- 🌿 A relaxed outdoor sketching experience in a local park.
- 🕒 No previous drawing experience is needed.
- 😊 Just come, enjoy the afternoon, and create at your own pace.

The session would last approximately **3 hours**.

To keep the experience comfortable and personal, this pilot session is limited to **12 participants**.

During the event, they'd also love to hear everyone's thoughts through a short, friendly questionnaire. They're interested in learning what kind of creative activities adults genuinely enjoy, so they can design future community programs that are meaningful and enjoyable.

If you are interested in this great opportunity, please let Nadine (Church administrator) know on this email address or by calling 905 279 2304.



- **Book Drive for St Hilary's Lending Library**

We are in need of books which you've enjoyed and are willing to donate as our lending library stock is getting low. Thank you!

- **August Services Changes**

On Sunday, August 9th we warmly welcome Father Dwight Thomas at 10.30am

There will be no 8.30am services from August 9th until August 30th

- **Youth Corner**

Matthew 14: 13 – 21

“Loving God, we ask you to be with us as we explore what your words mean for our lives. Help us to understand how we are fed by you and by those around us each day. Amen. “

In today's gospel story, we hear that a large crowd has followed Jesus and that Jesus spent the day with them, healing and teaching them. When dinner time approached, instead of sending the people away for dinner, Jesus told his disciples to feed the crowd. The disciples looked at the food that they had (five loaves of bread and two fish) and must've been very confuse. There just wasn't enough!

So that's what they told Jesus. They told him, "There's not nearly enough food to feed everyone!" And Jesus replied, "There is enough food, here. You just have to ask God to help you share it." Jesus then showed them how to "distribute" the food they had. Jesus took the food, and prayed for God's direction and then blessed the food. Then the disciples distributed the food. There was so much food after Jesus, prayed and blessed it that there were baskets and baskets of food left over.

The disciples didn't know how to take a small amount of food and feed over 5,000 people. But Jesus knew. He knew he could do it with God's help. In this story, Jesus showed the disciples how to ask for God's help.

The great thing about this story is that receiving God's help doesn't have to be limited to just food. There are other things in life where it will seem like there just isn't enough of a thing, be it time or money or food or energy or attention. And, in those times, when we feel like we don't have enough, we can do what Jesus showed his disciples to do, in today's story. We can take what we have, we can ask for God's help and direction with what we have, we can then listen for and act on God's directions. In that acting on God's directions, we will be able to better use, and share what we have – which will be good for us and for those around us.

Loving God, help us understand your words and stories so that we can hold onto the gift of your message. Guide our ears, eyes, mouth, hands, and feet that we may engage in your mission in the world. Amen. “

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

- **What We Heard on Sunday – July 27th, 2026**

Mathew 13: 44 – 52

Surprises, they come to each of us, whether we want them or not.

Not so long ago I heard about one really good surprise. A young woman friend of our son received a marriage proposal from her boyfriend. They had been dating for some time and she had pretty much given up on the idea that he wanted to get married. She was overjoyed. If you heard shouts of joy about a week ago – that was probably her. That was good surprise.

The element of surprise flows through many of Jesus' stories – like in today's stories of the hidden treasure and the pearl merchant. Imagine that workman's surprise. He had left his home as usual to face another hard day of labour, plowing stony land for very little pay. And then while guiding the plow through a field, he felt the blade strike a solid object. He got down on his hands and knees to investigate, and he discovered buried treasure. What a surprise!

In those days the land was constantly being conquered by one group or another. The prudent householder, knowing troubled times were coming, gathered the family valuables and hid them in a field for safe keeping. There were no bank deposit boxes back then. Afterward, if things returned to normal, the family would retrieve their treasure. However, sometimes this didn't happen. Treasures were forgotten, land conquered, people killed. And years, even centuries later surprise discoveries of hidden treasure happen from time to time. You have probably heard of the various Celtic and Viking 'hoards' found in Britain.

What happened to the workman in today's gospel, occurred in a slightly different way for the pearl merchant, but still a surprise. Imagine a Suk, a marketplace, where the merchant would have found his pearl. The markets remain today, I have been told, much as they were 2,000 years ago. Long, narrow, cobblestoned streets where a myriad of people crowded together amid unforgettable sounds, odors and fascinating goods.

There are few price labels in these markets. The cost is agreed upon through a process of bartering. It would have been into a scene like this that the merchant would have come. He knew what to look for. I imagine his experienced gaze missed nothing. And then suddenly he saw it, a pearl that was lustrous, large, beautifully formed. He would have known a good deal when he saw it. And he knew that this was the dream pearl he had been searching for. He soon knew it would cost him everything he had to purchase it. And after much inner debate, the decision was made. Now he owned the pearl.

Our Lord compares the hidden treasure and the pearl of greatest value to the kingdom of God – his purposes and way of life.

There are many different facets to these stories, one important one is the attitude that underscores the joy of discovery. The New Testament is full of people searching for something and then being surprised by joy. Zacchaeus sought out Jesus of Nazareth passing by and was so overcome by him that he ended up sharing half of his possessions with the needy.

Peter, who openly denied Christ before Good Friday, was broken-hearted by his own actions. He had no opportunity to express his sorrow to Jesus before the crucifixion. He was shattered by his own actions. Then he heard the words with which the angels greeted the women at the empty tomb. They said "He is risen; He is not here... but go, tell the disciples and Peter." These words affirmed Peter's forgiveness and acceptance. Surely, they were imprinted on his mind and heart the rest of his life.

In the Damascus Road incident Saul experienced God's Spirit illuminating his soul. Saul, soon to be Paul, gained insight into himself and his Saviour. The joy of that discovery infused his life ever afterward.

And then the two dejected disciples, walking a mountainous road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, were startled by a stranger who then shared their journey. But the moment of recognition didn't come through a theological argument, but as they sat down to break bread together.

Can you identify with these types of experiences? Have you ever been surprised by joy – God breaking through into your life in some unexpected moment? Perhaps it came as you contemplated the beauty of nature, or in some instance of prayer or worship, or in finding the strength to see through a difficult time, or the laughter and joy of little children, or in the helping hands of another when you least expected it.

Of course, our expectation of what God might do for us and through us, even our expectations of what the church's ministry may accomplish are often frustrated by our own closed minds and fears. Are we afraid to be open to God's power because we might have to reassess our life-style, or our political philosophy, or the way we spend our money, etc.? And who wants change what we are used too?

Jesus said, "seek and ye shall find." But he didn't say that we will necessarily find exactly what we are seeking. Instead, we often find something far more valuable. The important thing is to adopt the attitude of the expectant seeker. To be ready for what God sends our way.

There are so many ways that we can receive the power and promises of God's kingdom. For one person it can be a stirring emotional experience. For many of us it is the slow gradual maturing in faith with all the doubts and joys we experience in life, yet a faith built upon the heritage we received in our church and from our families. For some

it comes as a heartbreaking tragedy. For others it can be an experience much like the one C. S. Lewis had. C. S. Lewis was a professor of literature at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Lewis delighted the world as an author of science fiction, stories for children, - the Chronicles of Narnia. He also wrote literary criticism, and Christian apologetics. In his early twenties, Lewis crossed the border from doubt to atheism. He decided he didn't believe. Later he would move from atheism to theism, then theism to Christianity. He explained his move from skepticism to religious belief as: "I wanted to be left alone to feel I am my own master, but in my seeking, the facts seemed to prove just the opposite. And I had to give in." When C. S. Lewis wrote his autobiography, he described this process as being 'Surprised by Joy.'

We all go about our daily tasks, seeking, expectant, open.

The attitude of expectancy is not just about sitting around waiting for something good to happen. You can miss so much by just sitting and waiting.

-the workman acted to legitimately own the buried treasure. The merchant was forever looking for the pearl of great value and once he found it he did everything necessary to acquire it. There is a will that can act on the joy of our discoveries.

The spirit of God is continually unleashed, continually providing opportunities and instances for us to receive his Spirit and power, often when we least expect it. The spirit of God is ever ready to enter our lives with strength, love, mercy, wholeness. But if we are not ready, or not searching, or not expecting, we can miss it.

It doesn't require a heroic act to receive God's spirit – acting in our lives. More it calls us to surrender to Christ. It is a call to come into relationship with God. To allow ourselves to be a channel for his Spirit in all of our living.

What are we seeking in life? What is of the highest value? What truly sustains us? Take some time to ask yourself these questions.

Can we say that the kingdom of God is our pearl of greatest value, our hidden treasure? Does the purpose of God infuse the way we live, the way we give, the way we care for each other?

A boat pilot who skillfully guided a large luxury liner into a difficult port was praised by an observer who said, "You know where all the shallow places are and avoid them so well." The pilot listened, then replied, "you are wrong on that. I know where the deep waters are to be found and stay within them." Do we yearn for the deep waters, waters that will sustain us?

Something of this is what our Lord sought to communicate to us through these parables. It is the purpose of our life's journey with God – seeking, expecting, responding – and ultimately, being surprised by joy.

Amen.

- **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**

Please [click here](#) to go to St Hilary's YouTube page.

- **Memorial Flowers & 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 either fill out the list at Church, 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, otherwise we won't be able to deposit the transfer)
- 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.

- **Diocese of Toronto**

Please [click here](#) to go to the Diocese of Toronto website for their latest news.

Thank you for reading and have a great weekend!