



Trinity TODAY

A newsletter of Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill

April 21 2023

COMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 16 8 am Said Eucharist
- 10 am Sung Eucharist
with special music presentation
- 22 Earth Day
- Diocesan ACW AGM –
Registration required
- 23 Earth Day Sunday (Easter 3)
- 29 1:30 to 4 pm
ACW Fun & Fellowship Day
See p 4
- 30 HTC Gardens Prep Day

MAY

- 6 9 am to noon
Cemetery Clean Up
- 7 FAITHWORKS SUNDAY with
guest speak Peter Mentis
See p 4
- 14 Mothers' Day
- 15 Deadline for Eva Rea
Bursary applications **See p 2**
- 28 Pentecost
- 21 Ascension Sunday
- 22 Victoria Day

JUNE

- 4 Trinity Sunday
HTC PICNIC



Hi Everyone!

With spring busting out all over, it feels so good to be outside. Why not put your spring fever to work? Our gardens at HTC need a clean-up. Join us **Friday April 28 at 1 pm** to deadhead old stalks, rake winter debris from the flower beds and the like. Let us know if you plan to be there (through the office), and bring your clippers and garden gloves. If it is absolutely pouring, we will arrange another day. See you soon!

– Marilyn and Ruth

[Image by kie-kur from Pixabay](#)



2023 Thornhill Ministerial *Lenten Series*

This year, the 54th of this ecumenical event, saw a return of in-person services. Our theme was “The Gathering of God’s People” and after not being able to meet for more than two years it was very appropriate. Paul Gibbon, Heather Vais and Mimi Choi each spoke on one of three ways God’s people gather: for worship, to grow and for service. The series culminated with a performance by a mass choir of more than 50 voices, a powerful and moving experience.

– Hillary Irving-Brown

The **Eva Rea Millennium Fund** is accepting applications for the 2023 **student bursary**. One graduating student from each of four Thornhill high schools will be nominated by their schools to receive a post-secondary entrance bursary. **HTC members**, or children and grandchildren of members, **who are in any year of post-secondary schooling** may apply individually. Request the application form from info@holyltrinity-thornhill.ca. The **deadline** for completed applications is **May 15 (no extensions)**.



Is university, college or trade school out of your financial reach?
Holy Trinity Thornhill can help.

Active members of Holy Trinity Thornhill are invited to apply for the Eva Rea Bursary by May 15, 2023.

Contact Laura for the application at:
info@holyltrinity-thornhill.ca or 905. 889.5931



IT'S PICNIC TIME

Sunday **JUNE 4**

Games? Ice cream? Music? What's part of a perfect church picnic for you?

Plans are still in the early stages for a church picnic on Trinity Sunday (June 4). If you have ideas, we'd love to hear them. Better still, join the planning committee! Talk to Nancy or Robin or send an email to the office: info@holyltrinity-thornhill.ca

See p 5 for more info.

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PSC Update

In our last PSC communication, we said we were updating our Parish Profile and doing some digital marketing in the US. The revised Parish Profile was posted on various websites in February and on the US Episcopal job board. We are still considering an expanded digital communication and recruitment initiative, particularly in the US. I'm pleased to tell you that these efforts are starting to bear fruit. Bishop Andrew is continuing to receive applications from interested candidates. The Bishop is quite open to receiving suggestions from



us about possible candidates. If there is someone you'd like the Bishop to consider, you should provide the name to the wardens or a member of the PSC, and it will be forwarded to the diocesan office. The Bishop will in turn decide if the person is a suitable candidate that he should approach. As part of the Diocese's recent restructuring, our Archdeacon, Theodore Hunt, will now be assisting Bishop Andrew in supporting our search for a new priest.

As we've said before, we have to keep the details on potential candidates strictly confidential, but I wanted to share the good news that progress is being made. Hopefully, we'll have more good news to share in the near future.

Please keep the Parish Selection Committee and potential candidates in your prayers.

– Eric Preston, Chair, Parish Selection Committee



... from the MUSIC DIRECTOR

Last week's warm weather brought the cheerful forsythia into full bloom and the signs of spring are around us. We love the sights, sounds and smells of this season of hope and cheer.

On April 23, the service prelude is "Herzlich tut mich erfreuen" (My faithful heart rejoices) by Johannes Brahms. Brahms wrote comparatively little for the organ, but 11 organ preludes are among the last works he composed. They are based on Lutheran hymns, and I'd like to share the text of this one.

*Herzlich tut mich erfreuen
die liebe Sommerzeit,
wann Gott wird schön verneuen
alles zur Ewigkeit.
Den Himmel und die Erden
wird Gott neu schaffen gar,
all Kreatur soll werden
ganz herrlich hübsch und klar.*

English translation (by Michel-Dmitri Calvocoress)

*My faithful heart rejoices;
the summer comes at last,
when God, all things reviving,
shall bring Eternity.
The heaven and earth in splendour
will he afresh create,
and all of us, his creatures,
shall pure and flawless be.*

– Rachel Yoon

THE FIRST FLOWERS OF HTC





HTC is hosting an ACW day of fun and fellowship! Registration is required (see above). Let's seize this opportunity to demonstrate a warm welcome. Plan to attend!



To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, the Cathedral Choir is presenting a gala concert with orchestra of the coronation anthems by G. F. Handel on **Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 7:30pm.**

A generous donor purchased a block of tickets and has made them available to Canon Stephen Fields for distribution, including to HTC members. Canon Stephen will get the required number of tickets to the HTC office by Friday, in time for Sunday April 30.

If you are interested in attending this event, **please let the office or churchwardens know how many you would like before Wednesday April 26.**

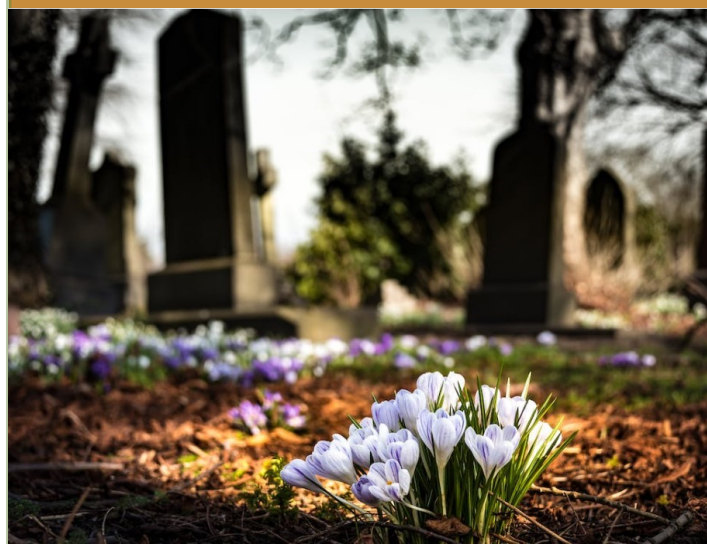
– Robin, Cassandra, Princewill, Nancy
corporate@holyltrinity-thornhill.ca

IT'S SPRING!

Saturday May 6 2023 9am to noon

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Come and have some springtime fun with your HTC friends. We'll clear our beautiful churchyard grounds to make way for the flowers of spring. Fresh air and exercise are free! Bring your own rake if you have one, and gloves are highly recommended.



MAY 7 is Faith Works Sunday. We welcome to the 10 am service guest preacher Peter Mentis. We will hand out the information packages on that Sunday. For those who attend through the Virtual Chapel, please request a package from the office (info@holyltrinity-thornhill.ca) and it will be mailed to you.

A Word from the Wardens

We are sorry to report that Rev'd Fran Kovar fell last Sunday (not at HTC) and broke her hip. She had surgery almost immediately and is now recovering. She has been asked to help at Aurora Trinity when she is fully recovered, and so will not be returning as celebrant to HTC. Canon Barb will return to the 8am service on Sunday, April 23.

We were delighted to have close to our pre-pandemic numbers at the 8am service on Easter Sunday, but our normal attendance is 8 to 10 faithful worshippers. We believe now is the time to review our service plans, **at least for the summer.**

On June 4 there will be only one service at 9am with the church picnic to follow. Thereafter, we have two options:

No change – We continue with two services each Sunday and see what happens with our numbers and the search for a new incumbent. If we have not found anyone by fall, we will have to reconsider our service schedule and the demands on Canon Barb.

Go to one service for the summer

At 10am: I.e., stop the 8am service but make no other changes

At 9am: An hour earlier start for the 10am congregation together with an earlier start for Fellowship Hour

Recommendation – At this time, your churchwardens are recommending that we go to one service at 9am for the summer, beginning on June 4th. The form and nature of this service will vary but we will have one service a month using p. 230 of the BAS. We will assess how it is working in September.

Next Steps – We are planning to introduce this proposal to both congregations on April 23. The membership will have a week to raise points for consideration or ask questions. On April 30, we will vote on the matter. A “no” vote means staying with two services through the summer.

– Robin, Cassandra, Nancy and Princewill

“I encourage you not to look back”

Adapted from an article by Peter Misiaszek in the [March, 2023 edition of The Anglican](#).

A friend and former colleague was fond of saying that many church leaders suffer from “terminal nostalgia.” That is to say, they retain memories of a church long past and yearn for that same model of church to return. That terminal nostalgia clings to an assumption that if only we did things the way we used to in the 1960s and '70s, the ministry and position of the Church would blossom once again.

Recently I was told the story of a church in our diocese that once boasted 400 students in its church school program. I asked, “Where are they now?” Sometimes I think it's really easy to look to the past through rose-coloured glasses without acknowledging that things weren't always as straightforward as we would have liked them to be. Times change, after all, and so must the Church.

Terminal nostalgia can be a form of inertia that prevents churches from responding to their new reality. Now that we are on the other side of the pandemic, I want to encourage you not to look back. I actually want to plead with you not to yearn for the way things were. Yes, cling to the relationships and the good memories of church life, but also recognize that so much has changed in three short years. During that time, we've made some impressive changes to the way we do church that we might not have gotten around to in another 10 years without the pandemic.

Hybrid worship, online events, electronic giving, virtual Bible study and enhanced website design are just some aspects of our new reality. These can be a gateway for seekers, the housebound or even the sluggish to stay connected and engaged in it. Thanks to technology, we can share the Anglican journey with more people than ever before.

As we emerge from the testing experience of the pandemic, let us embrace these opportunities to cast the net wider through technology, engagement with young people, new leadership, the welcoming of seekers, and renewed conversations about mission and generosity.

The lessons from the pandemic might be a lifeline that has forced us to innovate in ways that weren't even on our radar screens. So, while there is pain in transition, there is always hope.

See the whole article on the east-door bulletin board or by clicking the link above.



As of publication, there have been at least **14 deliveries** to the Richmond Hill Food Bank from HTC. Keep those donations coming! They are much appreciated. And thanks to **Peter Paterson**, our faithful courier!

Trinity Today is published monthly and welcomes submissions of news, upcoming events and *especially* photos. If you have a special story to share, send it to info@holytrinity-thornhill.ca with "For Trinity Today" in the subject line. (Please note that all submissions are subject to editing for brevity, clarity or suitability.)

Remember: Trinity Today is *your* newsletter, because *you* are Holy Trinity Thornhill! If there's something you'd like to see in these pages, drop us a line!

— The Editor

Next issue: May 26. Submission deadline May 15.

HELLO
my name is

Sidesperson / Greeter

Join the HTC Welcome Team!

Sundays 8 am and 10 am
Contact Peter Paterson or the office to
join this important ministry.

Worship with us



Sunday 8 am and 10 am
at 140 Brooke St, Thornhill

Sunday 10 am Virtual Chapel

On Zoom, live on your device or phone – go
to www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca for details

Watch anytime on YouTube

Live Sundays at 10 am or whenever you like

Get in touch

905.889.5931

The Rev'd Canon Barbara Hammond,
Priest-in-charge (x23)

Brother Reginald Crenshaw, Lay Pastor

The Rev'd Canon Stephen Crowther,
Associate Priest

The Rev'd Fran Kovar, Associate Priest

Rachel Yoon, Director of Music

Laura Peetoom, Office Administrator (x21)

Hours: T 1:30-5:30 WF 9:30-5:30

Jesús Cruz Arango, Custodian (x24)

Hours: M-F 10-4:00

Robin Parravano & Nancy Cutler,
Churchwardens

Something good is happening here!

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