

St James Anglican Church



Arise come sing in the morning,
and praise our God every day
Live God's love every moment of our lives.
Say yes in every way.
Every day.

— Joseph Zsigray, Jr. —

With all good wishes, my hope is that this note finds you nearing the end of a summer that has brought moments of respite and peace from a busy and sometimes, less-than-compassionate world.

As we head into fall, I am taking this moment to touch base, share information, and extend an invitation to collectively prepare ourselves for a busy Autumn of education, celebrations, and some great St. James' hospitality. The season ahead promises to be full with connections. Liturgically, we will be observing both the Season of Creation and Ordinary Time. The Season of Creation is a four-week block that gives us an opportunity to reflect on our stewardship of the earth and will end with a service of Blessing of the Animals and celebrating the life and witness of St. Francis on October 1st. On October 8th, with the celebration of our Canadian Thanksgiving and the Harvest Feast, we begin a period of Ordinary Time that extends to the celebration of The Reign of Christ on November 26th.

Ordinary Time is a liturgical season that actually weaves throughout the year and reflects our own rhythm of life with celebrations and a spirit of growth and change. Ordinary Time — *tempus per annum* — means ordered or numbered time and the colour of the church hangings and vestments during this season is usually green, the color of hope and growth. The Church counts thirty-three or thirty-four Sundays of Ordinary Time, during which we meditate upon the life of Christ incarnate, Christ the person who shared with us what it means to be human. It is in the 'every day,' in the 'ordinary,' that we experience the blessings and challenges of what it is to be in community and to discern how we follow The Way.

On the reverse of this letter, you will discover a schedule for all of the upcoming Fall events. I want to highlight that beginning September 17th, Start-Up Sunday, we will be offering a children's programme at the 10:30am service. I want to encourage you to spread the word to neighbours, friends, and family, that St. James welcomes people of all ages and stages of life's journey. Start-Up Sunday will also be a chance to reconnect with friends, old and new, and to discover the various ministries ongoing in our community.

Many of you have taken the time over this summer to check in with me and to ask how I am settling in to my new role as Priest. Let me say simply that I continue to feel blessed with the opportunity to serve with and among you. I have been warmly welcomed, included, and supported as our journey together has begun. May we continue to travel this exciting path of living The Way, in Fergus and beyond.

Together on the journey,
Rev Ann †

Fall Schedule

Monday, September 11	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 13	6pm	Bishop's Visit, Worship and Dinner
Saturday, September 16	5pm	Pork BBQ
Sunday, September 17	10:30am	Start-Up Sunday with Ministry Fair to follow service
Wednesday, September 20	10am	Morning Prayer resumes (every Wednesday at 10am)
Wednesday, September 20	2-4pm	Harvest Tea in support of Famine Relief and Rehabilitation in South Sudan (PWRDF)
Sunday, October 1	10:30am	St. Francis Day and the Blessing of the Animals with Garden Reception to follow
Sunday, October 8	10:30am	Canadian Thanksgiving and Harvest Festival
Wednesday, October 11	7pm	Oasis: Spiritual Practice for Living Guest: Rev'd Sue Nicholls, "Praying with Beads" (Learn together and create your own spiritual tool.)
Saturday, October 14	tba	Community Blanket Exercise: An Education Event about the experience of First Nation's communities and other Indigenous people
Sunday, October 15	4pm	Order of Niagara, Christ's Church Cathedral (Hamilton) We celebrate the induction of parishioner, Cathy Sweeney into the Order of Niagara.
Monday, October 16	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, October 22	10:30am	PWRDF Sunday with Guest Speaker, David Steeves
Wednesday, October 25	7pm	Oasis: Taizé service of Music and Meditation
Sunday, October 29	10:30am	All Saints Day
Sunday, November 5	10:30am	Remembrance and Peace Sunday followed by pasta lunch
Wednesday, November 8	7pm	Oasis: Spiritual Practice for Living
Monday, November 13	7pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, November 19	10:30am	An Instructed Eucharist: Everything you wanted to know about what goes on in a Service and why!
Wednesday, November 22	7pm	Oasis: Taizé service of Music and Meditation
Saturday, November 25	11am-2pm	Christmas Bazaar
Sunday, November 26	10:30am	Feast of the Reign of Christ

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