



Saint James' Anglican Church

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Correction to Weekly Update - June 4, 2020

CORRECTION - Our apologies Maxine, we messed up!

Thank you to those who donated and those who planted the geraniums last Sunday for Pentecost. The church received 90 plants and all have been planted, **thanks** to the hard work and dedication of **Nicolette Bravo, Nicole Tomkins, and Maxine Whelan!**

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"No Peace Until Justice" Demonstration - Friday, June 5, 3:00 pm.

You may have heard about the demonstration planned for tomorrow, Friday afternoon, at the U.S. embassy on Sussex Drive as Ottawans march in support of #BlackLivesMatter and to condemn the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

If you attend, I pray for your safety and your health, that the demonstration remains peaceful and serves to stand in stark contrast to the racism, violence, and hatred we have all be horrified to witness over the course of the last weeks.

A silent vigil is planned in Manotick for tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

Participants are welcome to assemble in socially-distanced placement starting at Bridge and Main and up along Main Street toward the business area.

The United Church and St James will ring their bells to mark the start and end of silence. Participants may then, at the final bell, walk to the Mill and disperse.

Masks are strongly encouraged.

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Church Closure

The Bishop's office shared this week a communique from our Metropolitan, Archbishop Anne Germond in which she announced the provincial House of Bishops has agreed "that regardless of where the Government of Ontario is with its reopening plan, our churches will not be reopening for in-person worship until at least September. This decision was made in consultation with public health experts as well as our diocesan executive officers and chancellors, with the well-being and safety of all our parishioners and the communities we serve uppermost in our hearts and minds."

I understand this is not the news you are you hoping for and I empathize with the longing many of you are feeling for returning to St James and to each other. In the meantime, I continue to encourage you not to hesitate to reach out if you're feeling lonely, stressed, or unwell in any means. I continue to be available for parking lot or laneway visits by appointment, and am always available via telephone or email.

I hope you're finding new ways of keeping entertained and active now that the weather is nicer! Stay safe.

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Online Services - Pre-recorded

You will certainly have noticed changes in our worship service last Sunday as we celebrated Pentecost. Ellen, Stephen and I agreed to pre-record our service to help work out some of the kinks we've been having. We felt the service was smoother, with improved audio and possibility for additional people included for reading. We continue to invite your feedback In the coming weeks.

The service is posted by Sunday 8:15 a.m. on St. James' [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) and our [Website](#). See our [bulletin](#) to follow along.

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Preaching

As you will have noticed, Jordan Sandrock has been preaching every couple weeks. As a postulant for ordination and a member of our congregation, it is part of our role to support

Jordan in their faith development and discernment, preaching being one thing they can cultivate at this time. I have offered to share the pulpit once a month with Jordan and hope the parish will continue to extend its encouragement and constructive feedback to them. I know Jordan finds the experience very valuable and is appreciating the opportunity. Our being in the midst of unusual (and turbulent) times, I imagine only provides exposure they might not otherwise experience in a “regular” student placement.

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Readers

If you are interested in recording one of our Sunday readings for our worship service, please reach out to me early in the week. I can provide you with the reading in advance for practice. All you require to record the reading is a smartphone!

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National Indigenous Day of Prayer - Sunday, June 21

I'm excited to share that we will be holding a special service on Sunday, June 21 to honour the National Indigenous Day of Prayer. We have invited Knowledge Keeper William Mameanskum to sing and drum during our worship, and Elder Denise Anne Boissoneau to lead us in prayer. Denise Anne has been working consistently with us through the Indigenous Relations Circle to provide wisdom and insight, especially as we have carefully worded the territorial land acknowledgement. If you recall earlier this year I shared the ceramic feather each parish was gifted at Synod 2019. I mentioned that while we have had a territorial land acknowledgement written in our bulletins, we would soon be including that acknowledgement verbally. In consultation with the Indigenous Relations Circle, I am prepared to begin that tradition on the 21st. You will hear the statement at the commencement of the worship service. We will reserve the unveiling of the feather in a permanent place in our worship space once we are again all able to gather together. Until then, I hope you'll hear the acknowledgement with open hearts, open hands, and open ears. And should you find you have questions or emotions about the acknowledgement you're unsure how to grapple with, please reach out to myself or Sharla Sandrock.

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Book Study

Our next scheduled book study on Richard Rohr's “Immortal Diamond” is this **Wednesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m.** If you are interested in receiving the link reminder for this book study please click [here](#) and a reminder will be emailed to you on Tuesday.

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