

RECTOR'S NOTES

As I write this I realize that you will have heard that I am on a medical leave of absence. For those parishioners who have been around St. Peter's for a while, you may remember that I suffered with post-partum depression after the birth of each child. From time to time in my life depression has reared up and I have, each time, managed to recover. For the past 18 months or so I have been on the depression journey yet again. I'm grateful for the excellent care and support I'm receiving from medical practitioners, diocesan leadership and family members. With this collective strength and encouragement, I have decided that I need a leave of absence, allowing me time and energy to focus on my treatment process.

I know you may see me being energetic and smiling each week, and that is who I am. It might surprise you to learn of my struggle. One way I cope with my wounds is to work hard to lift people up and care for them, and I thank each of you who has invited me in to your lives.

I am aware that as a caring parish you will want to share your love with meals, cards or flowers but at this time your prayers are sufficient. Right now I need some personal time and space. All queries and concerns should be directed to Maria who will remain in touch with me as needed.

I have faith that I will be back in the pulpit soon, and I know that you will be well cared for and nurtured in my absence. May God's love shine through us all.

Jennifer

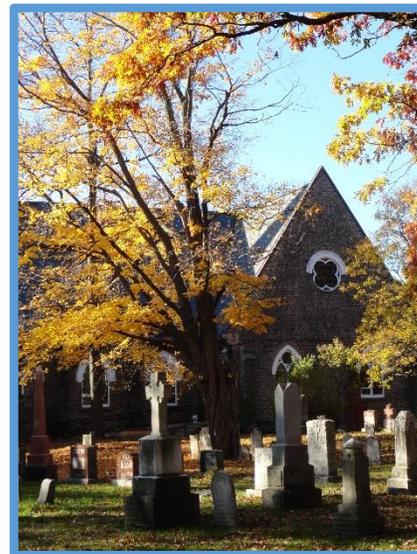
ASSOCIATE'S NOTES

As I sat down in front of a blank page on my computer, following a week of Zoom meetings, I felt rather at a loss on what to write. I feel like I'm still reeling with the news of Jennifer's decision to take medical leave for the sake of her mental health. I imagine many of you are as well. We are blessed that the Rev. Canon David Long has agreed to be the interim priest-in-charge to, as he puts it, "keep Jennifer's prayer desk warm" for her return. He has a wonderful team approach to ministry and I am grateful that he will be handling a lot of the administrative aspect that comes with keeping a parish the size of St. Peter's going, in order to free me to do pastoral work and chaplaincy to Seniors. As well, I have watched this parish pull together and deal with all the changes the pandemic has brought about and I am confident that we will pull together to support one another through the fall and all the new changes it will bring.

An enormous amount of work has gone into getting policies and procedures in place for a limited re-opening of the church building. You can read about the plans for a return to worship in the building in this edition of SPAN. A big thank you to Brian Edwards, Gary Spence, the whole re-entry team, and the Wardens for their attention to detail and their hard work to ensure all the many Diocesan and government requirements are met.

We aren't going to lose some of the new ways we've discovered to connect to one another and worship together though! Our Sunday morning Zoom worship will continue, Sunday School will be online in the Fall, and we have exciting plans for an online version of the Thanksgiving Seniors' Tea. This online Tea will be complemented by the Thanksgiving Prayer Care package for Seniors. The Prayer Care package is available as a physical package or as an electronic version. Please contact me if you would like to receive either version.

Prayer is enormously powerful. Please continue to pray for Jennifer and her family, for the leadership team, and for one another. I ask you to respect Jennifer's request for no contact right now. Please direct your pastoral needs to me (hospital stays, prayers for a loved one, weddings, funerals, etc.). Any email you send to Jennifer's work email will be automatically forwarded to me, but it's better if you contact me directly at associate@stpeterserindale.org or call 905-828-2095 x52.



Also, please be aware that Fridays are my day-off, so if you send email or call the church number after 5pm on a Thursday you may not get a response from me until Saturday. If it's a real emergency, though, please do not hesitate to call my cell phone.

God bless you!

Maria

GET READY TO RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

The Return to Worship Committee has been working hard these last few weeks to prepare the way for return to in-person worship at St. Peter's. We are anticipating that we will get approval from the Diocese of Toronto to hold our first in-person services as early as September 27th. We will not be able to fill the church as we did pre-COVID. The current plan is to start with one in-person service on Sunday afternoons with approximately 40 worshippers while continuing the three Sunday morning Zoom worship services at 8:00am, 9:15am and 11:00am.

Because of the need to limit numbers, if you wish to attend in-person services you will need to let us know by completing a simple registration form, which will allow us to invite you to attend. If you don't have access to a computer, you can simply call the church office at 905-828-2095 and ask to be registered for in-person services. We will collect your contact information and put you in the registry.

For more details and to register, please visit the "Return to In-Person Worship" page on our website at <https://www.stpeterserindale.ca/return>.

ON-LINE VBS

This year, thanks to the pandemic, we needed to get creative with the way we offered Vacation Bible School in July. Here's a description from Sarah LeMay on how things transpired, along with a photo and some feedback from one of our attendees:

"Vacation Bible School was run for a week online this summer with an emphasis on compassion. Each day we went over a different bible story that highlighted different elements about compassion such as empathy and self-care. Children read and discussed a bible story, did a craft, followed different daily prompts and goals for themselves and the community, and ended the hour with a snack. This was all possible because of VBS boxes that we created and distributed with all the materials, stories, and snacks the children would need for the week. The crafts ranged from pipe cleaner flowers they were about to give family or neighbours to puzzles they were able to put together that shows joy while teaching them that they are capable of doing hard things. Despite the difficult task of trying to keep children focused and learning through a computer, the children were able to share stories of how they viewed the different morals being displayed in their own lives, along with getting to know one another and helping each other through a screen. The camp was a success and the children are looking forward to being able to do it next year, except hopefully in person!"



"Thank you, Sarah and Jennifer, for Vacation Bible School last week. You definitely made a lasting impression. Thank you for all your efforts, guidance and teaching in a new virtual setting!" – Marcia Tupling

SENIORS' TEA

We had a wonderful year in 2019 with the Seniors' Communion and Tea. It was well attended with an average gathering of 50 to 70 guests; coming both from the retirement homes and from our parish.

This year, unfortunately, we were not able to celebrate our event at Easter due to the onset of the COVID-19 crisis.

Looking forward, although we will be unable to have an in-person Thanksgiving Tea, plans are well underway for an online version of the Tea that will premiere on YouTube on October 15th at 2pm. The link for the event will be posted in our weekly email to parishioners. It will also be sent to participating Long-Term-Care and Retirement Homes.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support with this ministry. Also, I am very thankful to The Rev Maria Nightingale for the wonderful work she is doing to keep all the seniors in tune with Gospel.

Keep safe, everyone, and many blessings to all.

Lenna McLaughlin

LETTERS OF THANKS

Dear Rev. Jennifer,

Thank you and St. Peter's for the very generous award (The Bev Harvey Memorial Award). I am now employed at the hospital in Sudbury as an RN in the emergency department. So far it has been amazing and I am so happy to have chosen this path for myself. Rev. Beverley sounds like an incredible woman and I am honoured to have received this.

Thank you.
Ariel Humphrys
July 2020



Dear People of St. Peter's,

I wanted to thank you for the wonderful welcome and great learning experience with all of you over the past year. You welcomed me, supported me in my learning and were so very kind when I took a stab at singing Morning Prayer and singing with the 9:15 choir. I greatly valued your trust in the prayer corner, and appreciated your feedback on my preaching. Of course, I also learned so much when the physical building closed and we moved to Zoom - thank you for encouraging me in officiating, leading children's ministry and even preaching my first virtual sermon on Zoom! Jennifer, Maria, Clem and all of you have been so wonderful to get to know and learn from. It has been a Spirit-filled experience.

Thank you for the lovely flowers St Peter's sent me at the end of June and the honorarium that followed in the mail. I have set the funds aside for a practicum in pastoral care at St. John's Rehab Hospital - this has been delayed due to COVID-19 but should happen in the coming months.

Currently I am taking some Sabbath summer rest after a busy spring, but as a postulant for ordination to the priesthood, my formation and learning will continue, with a potential ordination date (first as a transitional deacon) in May, 2022. This means I have time for more learning experiences, and I hope these will be in places as loving, joyful and caring as St. Peter's! I will stay in touch, and wish you every blessing in your ministry – may St Peter's continue to be a shining light of God's presence in our diocese.

Blessings,
Louise Simos, Postulant
August 15, 2020

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS FALL

- September 20th **Vestry** – 1:00 pm on Zoom
- October 4th **Blessing of the Animals** at our Zoom services. Stay tuned for how your pet can be a part of this celebration of St. Francis of Assisi Day.
- October 11th **Harvest Thanksgiving**
- October 15th **Virtual Thanksgiving Seniors' Tea** premiering on YouTube at 2:00 pm.
- November 1st **All Saints Day**
- November 2nd **All Souls Day Service** on Zoom. A service to honour loved ones who have died.

rites of passage

Weddings

August 22, 2020 – Laura Alsip & Stephen Bowen
August 29, 2020 – Sumira Mathews & Veeral Gohil
September 12, 2020 – Sue-Ann Elizabeth Mills & Craig Matthew Anthony Brissett

Deaths

July 1, 2020 – Garnham George Croxon
July 7, 2020 – Marian Hayward
July 21, 2020 – Joan Lois Cope
August 10, 2020 – Renee Patricia Adams
September 11, 2020 – Gordon Maxell Francis

Clergy

Incumbent: The Rev. Canon Jennifer E. Reid
Chaplain to Seniors: The Rev. Maria Nightingale
Honorary Assistants: The Rev. Canon William Kibblewhite, The Rev. James Ferry,
The Rev. Canon David Long
Deacon & Music Director: The Rev. Clement Carelse

Wardens

Rector's Warden: Lucy Hart
Deputy Rector's Warden: James Beckwith
People's Warden: Rod Lewis
Deputy People's Warden: Carol Bailey

Email: stpeters@stpeterserindale.org

Contact Us

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