



The Olave Branch

www.stolaves.ca
Fall 2019



Reaching out to **ST. OLAVE'S** community
ANGELICAN CHURCH

Twitter @StOlavesTO | Facebook.com/stolavesevents

360 Windermere Avenue, Toronto M6S 3L4

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Left to right: Thomas, Pietro, Olivia, Zahra, Matthew and Alex enjoy a day in High Park.

DON'T MISS GATHERING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Blessing of the Backpacks, Junior Church and choir resume, plus lunch on the lawns. Bring your friends!

Kids enjoy church camp fun!

This summer six kids participated in a brand new camp program being developed and tested by the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund of the Anglican Church of Canada. For three days our campers learned about food security by studying Soil, Seeds and Animals. Check out more pictures on page 3!

Growing together in faith – and numbers

Rector's Letter

The Rev'd Robert Mitchell

I am very excited about this new season of services and programmes at St. Olave's. Our roster of services for feast days and Sundays is growing, and our offering of educational events is as extensive as it's ever been.

We will be starting the fall with a brand new boiler, the cost of which was so generously offset by many parishioners.

We intend to continue making small improvements to our physical spaces as time and budget permit. We have a new Child and Youth Minister in place to lead our chil-

dren's programming and support youth ministry (see page 3). And, of course, we have our Deacon and Curate, Alexandra, to teach, preach and pastor in our midst. There are many reasons to be excited about our parish and our common life together as Christians, here at St. Olave's!

I believe that God has a special purpose for our parish. Our traditional form of worship strives to reflect the beauty of God's love; we are a welcoming place of friendship and compassion; we desire to grow in numbers and increase in faith. And we are growing (as you'll see on page 2), but I believe God wants us to grow even more, and to become even more faithful. The clergy,

wardens and other parish leaders all share this vision, and we hope you share it too.

I have a deep hope that this year will be a great year for our parish. And I would like to invite you to experience it fully with us. Remember to read the weekly eblasts, and consult the enclosed Season Brochure of special services and events, and to check our website regularly for updates. If you are on Facebook, you can also stay up to date by liking our page @stolavesevents and then liking or sharing our posts with your friends. There is a lot going on, and it can be hard to keep it all straight!

May God bless you and your family this fall. Rob+



Autumn series brings private prayer to life

Curate's Corner

The Rev'd Alexandra Pohlod

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which are written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms concerning me. – Luke 24.44

God gathers people into his Church in many ways. Some of us grew up in the Church, some didn't. Some of us left and returned. In the course of my studies and work in the Church, I've had the privilege of hearing from many people what it is that drew them.

For me, it was prayer. Before I knew whether or not I even believed in God, I decided to begin praying.

This part of my story seems very mysterious to me. But that comes as no surprise. As I would come to learn later on, prayer isn't actually something we do. When we form the intent to pray, what we're really doing is inviting the Holy Spirit to work in and through us. St. Paul talks about this in his



Epistle to the Romans: "the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is in the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."

It's for this that prayer, along with the Sacraments and our love for one another, has always stood at the centre of the Christian life. It's one of the ways we actually participate in the life of God. And over time,

AUTUMN SERIES
Fridays, Sept. 13,
20, 27 and Oct 4
6 - Evening Prayer
6:30 - light supper
7 - talk

by offering our minds, our desires, and our words to God in prayer, these parts of us are able to grow more and more into the desires, the mind, and the words of Christ himself. It's one of the most important ways that we, the Church, learn how to be his Body on earth.

I'm leading a series on the history of private prayer this September and October because, for me, living into my call as a Christian and a member of the Body of Christ has been enriched by the way the Spirit has spoken through our sisters and brothers in other ages.

The Early Church, the Church in the Middle Ages, and the writers of the Reformation have all contributed to the way we pray today. Join me to learn more about how those who've gone before us thought about prayer and to talk about the role of prayer in our own lives today.



Bringing in a new boiler

WARDENS' WORDS

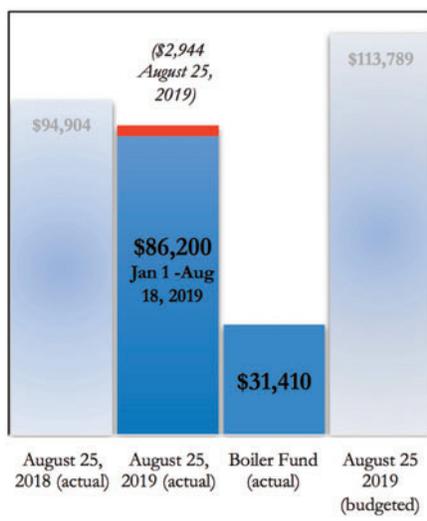
Janice Douglas, Annis Tebbutt,
 Sandra Franke, Paul Scrivener

Have no fear, St. Olave's will be nice and warm this winter. After considering several quotes, Ferguson Heating was contracted and a new boiler is being assembled at a cost of \$70,000. We thank Sheila Tait and Dave Webb for their help in putting this together. The work includes dividing the church into four heating zones each with their own thermostats. This will improve comfort in all spaces in the church and also reduce heating costs.

We have been most gratified by the generous response of parishioners to our appeal to help pay for the boiler. More than \$31,000 has been received (including \$4,000 from the ACW). And we thank parishioners for their increased summer offerings as well, which when coupled with boiler offerings exceeded our target of \$113,789.

We have also been busy looking at new tenants to further augment income for St. Olave's. An after school tutoring program and another musical series are not yet con-

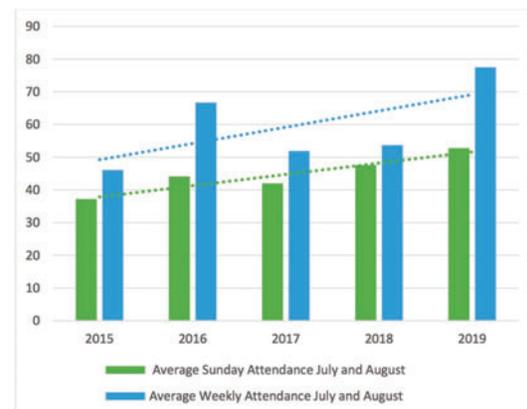
Givings (Jan 1 - Aug 25, 2019)



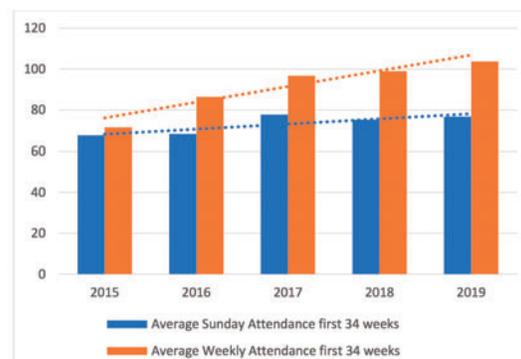
firmed but in the works.

As the charts at right show, attendance in the summer and for the first 34 weeks of the year is steadily increasing. We are also grateful for the participation of parishioners in non-worship summer activities, such as Wednesday Bible Study, movies and day camp.

Average Attendance during the Summer (July and August)



Average Attendance for the First 34 Weeks of the Year (January 1 – late August)



Welcome to our new Child & Youth Minister!



By Janice Douglas

The selection committee is thrilled to announce that Martha Riddell is joining our St. Olave's family, starting September 8.

"I'm excited to meet and get to know everyone and learn more about Jesus with the kids," she said.

Martha was born in Lahr, Germany and was baptized at the Anglican chaplaincy in Strasbourg shortly before moving to Toronto. She grew up as a server at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene and also regularly attends St. Bartholomew's, Regent Park where she is a reader, server, and a volunteer leader of their children's catechesis programme. Martha also has experience as a camp counsellor and loves music and drama. She is looking forward to getting to know our young parishioners.

Martha has a bachelors in Classical Studies from Bishop's University in Quebec. She is now working towards a Masters of Divinity at Trinity College.

She loves to travel, ride her bike around the city, and is a proud owner of Homer, an African lovebird. You can reach Martha by email at children@stolaves.ca.



St. O's youth represents at St. Mike's

By Aden Shapland
Youth Group Correspondent

This year in late August, Claire Hewitt and I were privileged to attend the St. Michael's Youth Conference and represent St. Olave's, with Andrewes Sissons returning again as a counsellor.

Shortly after arriving back in Toronto, my dad asked me if I would like to go back again for next year. Despite it being merely one word, I believe my reply said it all: "Definitely!"

It was glorious weather for the five days, broken only by mild showers on one night of the trip. The location was a beautiful campground in northern Haliburton, and it boasted fine recreational activities, a lovely beach for swimming, a grassy volleyball court, indoor crafts for the creative types. There was even a ping-pong table in the lodge, which was certainly well-enjoyed by camper and counsellor alike.

Additionally, there was inspiring daily worship, which I greatly appreciated. Morning Prayer everyday before breakfast, daily classes on Psalms and religious concepts after that, and Evening Prayer before dinner. There was even a few sessions of Compline, and Communion on the last day of the trip before we left, which was all quite nice!

An innovation this year was the addition of a full-time chef on staff. She was a lovely lady – the mother of two of the campers on the trip – and her food was absolutely delicious. It made all the difference, really. All the meals were first-class!

And, of course, I can't help but acknowledge my appreciation to St. Olave's ACW. Once again, their generous donations funded the entire registration fees. I couldn't be more grateful if I tried.



Digging In: scenes from PWRDF Day Camp

(clockwise from top)

Campers and youth leaders get busy with a Nature Scavenger Hunt. Olivia and Zahra roll up beeswax candles; colourful bird houses for our favourite seed eaters; campers check on the worms in the vermicomposter.



We ♥ cake!



Nothing brings out a crowd at St. O's like the promise of cake! Above, King Olaf adorns the Patronal Festival cake, with thanks to resident baker Caroline. Left, celebrating Patricia and Martin Mills' 50th anniversary.

Mark your calendar for these events

Email the office at stolaves@stolaves.ca to receive weekly e-blasts, follow us on Twitter @StOlavesTO and like us on Facebook @stolavesevents

SEPTEMBER

4 (Wednesday) 2-4 p.m.

Pilgrims Bible Study with the Rev'd Dr. Schuyler Brown

8 - 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks and picnic lunch on the lawns

10 - 7 p.m.

PFLAG meeting

13 (Friday) - 6 p.m.

Autumn Series - Private Prayer Through the Ages - The Early Church

20 (Friday) - 6 p.m.

Autumn Series - Private Prayer Through the Ages - The Church in the Middle Ages

27 (Friday) - 6 p.m.

Autumn Series - Private Prayer Through the Ages - The Reformation

29 - 4 p.m.

Choral Evensong for Michaelmas with St. Peter's Erindale choir, followed by Peach

Tea during which the choir's director **Clement Carelse** discusses the life of Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015), choral conductor, organist and composer most famous for his work at King's College, Cambridge.

OCTOBER

3 (Friday) - 6 p.m.

Autumn Series - Private Prayer Through the Ages - Today

6 - 10:30 a.m.

Dedication Festival followed by third anniversary of For the Love of St. Olave's stewardship program. with guest speaker Michael Cassabon, Manager of Major Gifts and Legacy Giving

13 - Harvest Thanksgiving with blessing of the harvest

19 (Saturday) - Grounded and Growing in Christ Outreach and Advocacy Conference (see below and toronto.anglican.ca/outreachconference for more info).

27 - 4:30 p.m.

Choral Evensong for St. Simon and St. Jude with Cathedral choir of St. James, followed by Pumpkin High Tea, during which the Cathedral's music director, **Robert Busiakiewicz**, discusses his life in music.

NOVEMBER

1 (Friday), 7 p.m.

Holy Communion for All Saints

3 - Holy Communion for All Souls

Meetings

Second Century Mission Fund
Tuesday, September 10, 10 a.m.

ACW Executive
Tuesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19, 10:30 a.m.

Mary & Martha Group
Tuesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19, 2 p.m.

Advisory Board
Tuesday, September 17, 7:30 p.m.

Worship Committee
Sunday, September 22, following 10:30 a.m. service.

10 - Service of Remembrance with visiting Scouts and Guides

16 (Saturday) - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Annual Christmas Craft Show and Coffee House. Come shop our collection of unique handmade items, enjoy a delicious lunch, find some great reads at the ACW book sale and more! \$2 admission to benefit LOFT Community Houses

18 (Friday) - 6 p.m.
Incredible India: A service of Evening Prayer is followed by a light supper at 6:30 and at 7, **Debbie Cowling** presents an illustrated talk on a land where many religions co-exist.

20 (Wednesday) 6 p.m.
The Future of the Church in the City: A service of Evening Prayer is followed by a light supper at 6:30 and at 7, we welcome guest speaker **Douglas Stoute**, Dean of Toronto responsible for St. James Cathedral for over 21 years, until 2016.

DECEMBER

1 - 4 p.m.

Choral Evensong for the First Sunday in Advent with Voices Chamber Choir followed by Christmas Lights with St. Olave's Arts Guild

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY CONFERENCE 2019

GROUND & Growing in Christ
Church as a centre of resistance and hope

Connect with Anglicans from across the Diocese as we explore hope-filled ways to engage faithfully with the world around us.

Workshops on living land acknowledgements, rural and small-town outreach, creative housing initiatives, responding to eco-grief, and more

Youth program (for ages 11-18)

Saturday, October 19, 2019
Havergal College, 1451 Avenue Rd
Toronto (south of Lawrence)
9:00 am: Registration and refreshments
9:30 am to 3:30 pm: Program
Cost: \$30 (\$15 for students or unemployed)
Lunch provided;
Child care provided on request.

Prayer Book services in the heart of Bloor West Village

SUNDAYS

Every Sunday 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel	1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday 10 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel
2nd & 4th Sunday 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (anointing on the first Sunday of the month)

WEEKDAYS

Tuesdays-Fridays 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 4:30 p.m. Evening Prayer	Wednesdays 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel	Fridays noon - 1 p.m. ORA - Quiet time of prayer in the Chapel
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The weekday service schedule is published in the bulletin, e-blast or online at stolaves.ca/weekly-announcements.