

December 2017 Announcements

If you are new to St. Olave's, or if you would like to learn more about our parish, please pick up a copy of our "Newcomers' Pocket Guide" from the table in the Narthex. To receive our weekly e-blasts, please give your email address to our office at stolaves@stolaves.ca. You can also follow us on Twitter @StOlavesTO or like us on Facebook @stolavesevents.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

CHORAL EVENSONG FOLLOWED BY CHRISTMAS

LIGHTS: Please join us this afternoon for **Choral Evensong** at 4 p.m., followed by our annual Christmas Tea with delicious cakes and assorted snacks, followed by **Christmas Lights** beginning just after 5 p.m., brought to you by St. Olave's Arts Guild. Details of the program include:

- Violin solo in A minor by **Vivaldi**, performed by Sora Sato
- A **Mystery Tale**, read by Iris Jabobs
- **Racoon** by Raymond Sorester, read by Jack Suttaby
- Dramatic excerpts from A **Christmas Carol** by Charles Dickens, with Iris Jacobs and Annis Tebbutt
- Vocal and guitar pieces performed by Olivia Chidley
- A Christmas reading from **St. Luke**, with Patricia Mills

All hosted by our very own comic juggler, Craig Douglas. Fun for all ages, this will be a great kick-off to Advent!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- Pilgrims Group at 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

- Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal and cast breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

- Service of Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m.
- Service of Morning Prayer at 10:30 a.m. featuring **34th Annual Children's Nativity Play**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

10 a.m. - ACW Executive Meeting

1 p.m. - Mary & Martha Group Christmas Potluck

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 7:30 p.m.

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSON AND CAROLS

Our annual Lessons and Carols service is one of our best attended and most cherished traditions at St. Olave's. The church will be decorated for Christmas and immersed in candlelight. A reception follows in the parish hall. Invite your family and friends and plan to make this service a part of your Christmas celebrations.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4 p.m. - Family service - a short service of carols and stories designed for the young, and the young at heart.

7:30 p.m. - HOLY COMMUNION - NEW TIME!

After discussion with the Wardens, Worship Committee and Advisory Board, we have decided to try something new this year and move our Christmas Eve Communion to 7:30 p.m. The goal is to make this service more accessible to people who find 10:30 p.m. too late. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this very special candlelit service!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Choral Evensong for the Epiphany of our Lord and talk by Giles Bryant (January 7 at 4 p.m.); Holy Communion for Candlemas and talk by Debbie Cowling (February 2 at 6 p.m.); Choral Evensong for the First Sunday in Lent with Clement Carelse and Schola Ecclesiam (February 18 at 4 p.m.). For more details please see the Special Events brochure on the table at the back of the church.

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST AND BIBLE STUDY

This program will take a Christmas Break on December 20 and 27 and January 3 and will resume on January 10.

TOY DRIVE

The Junior Church is leading a toy drive again this year. It is a great way to teach children about giving to those who are less fortunate and involve them in a charitable act. Please bring new and unwrapped toys to the Parish Hall on Sundays, or to the office during office hours. Children will be leading a procession to the Swansea Fire Hall after church on Sunday, December 17. For more information, contact Brittany Hudson.

GIFT BAGS FOR LOFT SENIORS

At the request of the LOFT staff the ACW will not be providing bags for seniors this Christmas ... BUT we will be providing them for EASTER, so look ahead for notices!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

We hope to have the Church beautifully decorated with Poinsettias in time for the Service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 17. If you wish to donate a poinsettia to decorate the Church at Christmas, please put your name and telephone number on the Flower List located in the Narthex. (Deadline for the list is Tuesday Dec 12.) Poinsettias may be delivered to the Church the week commencing Monday December 11 - Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and noon; or on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday afternoon when the church office is open.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES

For those who use envelopes for your weekly donation, please note that the new boxes of envelopes for 2018 are now available for pickup on the last pew at the rear of the church.

GIVING TO ST. OLAVE'S

If you would like to become a regular donor, please sign up for pre-authorized giving (PAG) from your bank account. Forms are available on the table in the Narthex. If you prefer to donate by cash or cheque, please ask for a box of dated "duplex" envelopes from our envelope secretary, John Cannings. You can also donate online at stolaves.ca, where secure credit card payments are processed by Paypal. You are also welcome to use the Visitor Envelopes or Second Century

Mission Fund envelopes found in the pew clips, or donate anonymously into the collection plate.

2018 CHURCH CALENDARS are available from Judy Beal in the Church Office. \$7 each. Cheque or cash – exact change appreciated. (*Only 6 left!*)

THANK YOU! Thanks to the congregation for their love and support for the McArthur family with the loss of our Mom. Also a special thanks to The Rector for his amazing support, his many hours of ministry and sharing of his wisdom and The Word in his ministry to us. We are more thankful than any words that can be said. Graydon, Laurie, and Glen McArthur

GREETERS

Thanks to Caroline Audet, Michael Ball, Karen Bennedsen, Sarah Mundinger, Paul Scrivener, Jim Shapland, and Annis Tebbutt for greeting during the month of November. Please see the sign-up sheet at the back of the church if you can volunteer some time between now and the end of the year to help with this important church ministry. There are still a few services where help is needed.

NARTHEX UPDATE

By now you may have noticed the Narthex has been freshened up and looks quite spiffy. Besides painting the space, our sexton Dave Webb also cleaned and refinished the baseboards, painted the light hardware and exterior door hinges; the runner on the Windermere stairs and landing has been replaced to match the existing red carpet (thanks to the generosity of the ACW) and the stairwells at both Ostend entrances have been painted. Extensive plaster repair to all the spaces took place in the summer. Dave also refurbished the old bulletin board and it is now hanging at the parking lot door. The Wardens would like to thank Dave and Property Chair Sheila Tait for implementing these much-needed improvements, as well as the ACW for funding the carpet. As we continue to throw our efforts behind growing our church, these changes will help St. Olave's make a much more positive first impression on everyone who comes through the doors.

ST. OLAVE'S LIBRARY is asking that you please look at your shelves and bedside cabinets at home to see if you have any books that should be returned to the Library shelves. Thank you for using the Library!

2017 CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW & COFFEE HOUSE - A Thank You!

With the help of many dedicated volunteers, another successful and enjoyable Christmas Craft Show and Coffee House at St. Olave's is now complete. On behalf of our Craft Show sub-committee, this is to express our gratitude to the many that contributed and helped to make this event happen. It takes a lot of work to put together, from set up to those volunteering to make the day go so smoothly from start to finish.

Our Christmas Craft Show & Coffee House brought in a steady stream of attendees through most of the day and it seemed to them, our vendors and volunteers to be a warm and festive event. Through our admissions, over \$500 was collected, to go towards support of our Hunger Patrol, while over \$1,000 was brought in through vendor rentals, for support of St. Olave's.

Appreciation is to be especially expressed to the ACW, with their book sale, popular pies and display of crafts. And we thank the members of the Growth Committee, Youth Group, Scouts 101st and all the volunteers for their dedication!

FREE ADVENT RESOURCE FROM PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund has produced a series of devotional readings and reflections for Advent. Written by the Reverend Shawn Sanford Beck, the devotionals make connections between Advent Bible readings and the work of PWRDF. These daily readings are an opportunity to deepen your participation in Advent as well as your knowledge of PWRDF. To download a PDF of the entire resource, or to subscribe to receive daily emails from December 3 to December 24, go to <http://pwrdf.org/resources/seasonal/>

THIS ADVENT, GREET OUR LORD WHEN HE APPEARS!

The season of Advent is about expectation, attention, and preparedness for Christ's appearing in our hearts. The Sundays of Advent begin, not with daybreak on Sunday morning, but with sundown on Saturday night. Why not make it your Advent discipline to greet Our Lord with the Church at full Gregorian Evensong at St Bart's (509 Dundas Street.East) Saturday evenings at 5 p.m.? "Now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed!" (Romans 13:11)