



# The Olave Branch

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Lent/Easter 2019



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

Twitter @StOlavesTO | Facebook.com/stolavesevents

360 Windermere Avenue, Toronto M6S 3L4

416-769-5686

## This Lent, give up some time to pray



### Rector's Letter

*The Rev'd Robert Mitchell*

**W**e are now in the midst of Lent. Giving something up for Lent is a long-held tradition among many Anglicans and other Christians. If you haven't yet decided on whether you will give something up for Lent, why not consider giving up some time each week to develop your spiritual life. The Prayer Book reminds us to make Lent holy through self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial, and by reading and meditating upon God's holy Word. (BCP p. 612) I would add another one to this already great list: increase your frequency of attendance at church.

Coming to church is good for the soul. At church we grow in our relationships with others and with God, we learn more about Christ through sermons and prayer, we experience the rhythm of the church year, and we take time from our busy lives to experience beauty and holiness.

Attending church regularly is a discipline. It requires a consistent effort to arrange schedules and preserve time for worship. And this can be hard – especially if other members of our family don't attend or have other commitments on Sunday mornings. But the benefits of attending regularly are enormous.

St. Olave's is here for you. This church is more than a building. It is the beating, praying heart of our community. Prayers are said here nearly every day; somebody finds friendship and companionship here almost every day; God works small miracles here regularly; lives are made better here. Come and take a bigger part in the life of this church. Come and worship. Come and learn. Come and have fun. Simply come inside this place more often – you will be glad you did!

Caroline and I wish you and your family a blessed and holy Lent, and a joyous Easter.

Rob+



**WELCOME BISHOP ANDREW!**  
For our annual Combined Service with our South Sudanese brothers and sisters we were pleased to welcome Bishop of Toronto, the Rt. Reverend Andrew Asbil, and his wife Mary, just one week after his installation!

# Second Century Mission Fund... did you know?

By Siobhan Carmichael

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good work, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*  
Ephesians 2:10

When I first was asked to join Second Century Mission Fund, my first thought went to overseas missionary work, to which I thought "wow that would be cool, but I'm pretty sure my kids and husband wouldn't find it as exciting." As I quickly learned however, my role did not require travel abroad, but it did lend itself to learning more about missionary work and how we as a church community have supported Christian Outreach for the past 27 years.

There are three arms of our work: Global Engagement, Educational support and Local Community Outreach.

**Global Engagement** is what my mind goes to when I think about helping others; people in developing countries, where we can provide monetary support to various community development initiatives, child sponsorship, equipment training, delivering



fresh water, education and more. We as a church have had this since the fund's inception and have so many success stories.

**Educational Support** is in the form of Wycliffe College Student Bursary Fund for assistance to Anglican Theological students. The support specifically went in a named Fund to honour a former Rector, Versey Wigmore. Wycliffe's priority is to provide each student an environment in which they can study, and worship and in turn, thrive as future church and community leaders.

**Local Outreach** is when we identify a spe-

cific need in our community and provide services to these people with a Christian focus. This year we are going to spend extra resources and attention on this arm. As we heard at our Vestry meeting, poverty is a big problem at home, with 17% of Ontarians living in poverty. We are also seeing skyrocketing rates for children living in poverty right in our own backyard, with nine federal ridings within the GTA showing the highest rates in Canada ranging from 28%-32%.

So how do we help all of these areas? Well as mentioned, the fund has been around for 27 years, and due to the hard work and diligence of Robert Ragsdale, the fund is in healthy financial state, and allows us to donate to the three arms of the Mission. It's also important to know that we also rely on weekly donations at the church, as well as memorial donations.

So, our approach this year is going to be simple and we hope you can support us with the following;

- Learn more about the Second Century Mission Fund. So if you've gotten this far in reading my article - congratulations - you've done that. Now consider how you can contribute to the fund this year, and what this work means to you.

- Engage our youth groups in learning and participating in our Mission work. I strongly believe that in order to achieve longevity in our work, we need to include all generations. I am happy to say we have a youth and kids' group who are excited to help us take this to the next level this year, so look out for great things to come.

- Invite Social Justice Officer, The Rev'd Don Beyers, to our church as an expert on how we can as a congregation work towards our goals of local outreach. Sometimes we need expert advice to lead us in the right direction or brainstorm the next steps. We will keep everyone posted on when Rev'd Beyers will be with us - as we welcome everyone to participate.

In closing, as I may not be traveling around the world just yet on some exciting and worldly mission to do good work, I am excited to be part of this wonderful group, which I know will continue to be a successful arm of St. Olave's ministry.

*On behalf of the Second Century Mission Fund Jean Lilley (Chair), Robert Ragsdale, Leslie Challis, Rev'd Robert Mitchell, and our newest member John Drake.*

## Vestry report and more!

### WARDENS' WORDS

Janice Douglas, Annis Tebbutt,  
Sandra Franke, Paul Scrivener

### A Year in Review

On Saturday, February 24, 2019, parishioners met after the 10:30 service, in the Ethel Brown Room. Following coffee, tea and fellowship was St. Olave's annual Vestry Meeting. Included at the meeting were financial reports, the 2019 budget, the Narrative Budget and reports from organizations and entities at St. Olave's.

During Vestry, Janice Douglas was appointed by Rev'd Robert Mitchell to serve as Rector's Warden and Paul Scrivener to serve as Rector's Deputy Warden. The following officers were then elected by acclamation: Annis Tebbutt, as People's Warden, Sandra Franke as Deputy People's Warden, Karen Bennedsen as book-keeper, David Hutcheon as Capital Fund Investment Committee Chair, David Pickering and Jon Ingall as Synod Representa-

tives, Sheila Tait, as Property Chair, Jean Lilley as Second Century Committee Chair and Douglas Hewitt as Envelope Secretary.

### Around the building

In case you haven't had the opportunity to check out the newly refreshed Wardens' Vestry, you can now add the refurbished Chapel to your list of must-sees. We thank Dave Webb for all his help in completing these projects.

### Art Committee

This January, an informal Art Committee, including Bev Jarvis, Sandra Franke and Annis Tebbutt, convened with the purpose of considering artwork at St. Olave's, both currently on display and in storage. All the present art in the church building has been reviewed and listed. To date, you may have noticed that some art selections have been hung in places to further enhance the beauty of our fine church.





# Enjoying a busy winter with young people



The children of St. Olave's started the year off right with a fabulous skating party at Rennie Park in early February. Then we celebrated our preschool/kindergarten students by launching Kidventure, a Sunday School class geared to teaching the Bible to a younger audience (above).

For Thinking Day this year the children welcomed visiting Brownies, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and demonstrated their talents through music and drama. They sang "Who You Say I am" by Hillsong during the service and also dramatized the New Testament reading from 1 Corinthians 13 (while Ayelen narrated)

Currently, both the Junior Church and Kidventure classes are decorating flower pots and growing something beautiful. Lent this year is all about growing into who Christ would have us be. As our plants grow, we hope our understanding of Christ will also.

— Brittany Hudson



## YOUTH GROUP DATES

Our youth, led by Carol Ambler, love to get together for Friday night activities. These are youth hosted, but all are welcome to join us!

### Family Games Night

Friday, March 15, 6:30 - 9 p.m.

### Movie Nights – Star Wars Series

Fridays, March 22, April 12, May 10, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. May the force be with you!



# Mark your calendar for these events

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

## MARCH | March 13, 6 p.m.

(Lenten Series) Evening Prayer followed by light supper and **The Prayer Book: Your Guide to Daily Living** with Rev'd Rob Mitchell. Tonight: Living Holy Time.

## March 17 (Lent 2)

**8:30 & 10:30 a.m.** | Part 3 of Seven Last Words of Christ sermon series: "Woman behold thy son. Son, behold thy mother." (John 19:26-27) |

(After 10:30 service) The Rev'd Mike Daly and HALO presentation exploring our role as economic driver of the community. Youth Group meets.

**March 20, 6 p.m.** | Lenten Series  
Tonight: Hearing Sacred Stories

## March 24 (Lent 3)

**8:30 & 10:30 a.m.** | Part 4 of Seven Last Words of Christ sermon series: "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46 & Mark 15:34)

**March 27, 6 p.m.** | Lenten Series  
Tonight: Praying Hallowed Words

## March 31 (Lent 4 & Mothering Sunday)

**8:30 & 10:30 a.m.** | Part 5 of Seven Last Words of Christ sermon series: "I thirst." (John 19:28) |

(After 10:30 service) Reader Workshop with Sally Armour Wotton. Whether you are a seasoned lay reader or an aspiring one, or just want to get more out of the Bible, you'll enjoy this afternoon of drama and reading.

## APRIL | April 3, 2 p.m.

Pilgrim's Group Bible Study

## 6 p.m.

Lenten Series  
Tonight: Cherishing Sanctified Beliefs

**April 7, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.** | Passion Sunday and Part 6 of Seven Last Words of Christ sermon series: "It is finished." (John 19:30). Youth Group meets.

**April 10, 6 p.m.** | Lenten Series  
Tonight: Seeking Blessed Lives

## April 14, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday and Part 7 of Seven Last Words of Christ sermon series: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

## ACW Meetings

**Tues. March 19** 10:30 a.m. ACW Executive  
2 p.m. Mary & Martha

**Tues. April 16** 10:30 a.m. ACW Executive  
noon - Mary & Martha

**Tues. May 21** 10:30 a.m. ACW Executive  
2 p.m. Mary & Martha

**Tues. June 18** 10:30 a.m. ACW Executive  
1 p.m. Mary & Martha

## April 15, 16 and 17, 7 p.m.

Holy Week Communion and Stations of the Cross

## April 18, 7 p.m. | Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion with foot washing and stripping of the altar; Rev'd Pearce Carefoote guest preacher

## April 19, 10:30 a.m.

Good Friday, Cross of Christ service

## April 21, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Easter Day Holy Communion

## MAY | May 5

Youth Group meets after church

**3 p.m.** | Windermere String Quartet Concert (Alpha and Omega)

## May 8, 2 p.m.

Pilgrim's Group Bible Study

## May 12, 4 p.m.

Choral Evensong for St. George's Day with St. George's Tea and **The Best Acts of Courage** (see right)



Janice and Sarah Adjonye, a South Sudanese refugee who is a Warden at an Anglican Church in a refugee camp.

## May 19, after 10:30 service |

My Trip to Uganda (an illustrated talk with Janice Douglas). Youth Group meets.

## May 30, 6 p.m.

Ascension Day Holy Communion followed by light supper and **A Personal Focus on Israel** (see right)

# Spring into summer at St. Olave's!

Spring is the busiest time of the year for our afternoon and evening Special Events at St. Olave's. There are two extended discussion series, a feature talk and two presentations of music and entertainment.

**The Prayer Book: Your Guide to Daily Living, Wednesdays during Lent, 6 p.m. Evening Prayer, 6:30 light supper followed by talk from 7 to about 8.** It's not too late to join our Lenten discussion series in which our Rector, Rev'd Rob Mitchell, discusses how to use the Book of Common Prayer as a daily companion, for personal devotion and structuring your life. The five Wednesday evening sessions are completely self-contained and continue until April 10.

**Eastertide Series, Why God Won't Go Away, with Dr. Schuyler Brown, Wednesdays May 1 to 22, 6 p.m. Evening Prayer, 6:30 light supper followed by talk from 7 to about 8.** Schuyler Brown discusses Andrew Newberg's book *Why God Won't Go Away: Brain Science and the Biology of Belief*. He focuses on the new science of the brain; mysticism; and ritual as the manifestation of meaning. He also examines *The Hound of Heaven* by Francis Thompson and *Paul in Ecstasy* by Colleen Shantz.

**Ascension Day Holy Communion, Thursday, May 30, 6 p.m., followed by light supper and talk, A Personal Focus on Israel with the Rev'd Margaret Rodrigues.** Margaret will present an illustrated talk on meeting Jesus in His homeland, including her visit to present-day Israel and the Sinai desert. She has long been associated with St. Olave's and lives within our parish, currently an Honorary Assistant at St. John's, West Toronto.

**Choral Evensong for the Feast of St. George, Sunday, May 12, 4 p.m. followed by St. George's Tea and The Best Acts of Courage.**

This presentation will feature St. Olave's Arts Guild and the steel-pan band Pan4Christ, led by Glenn Hudson. Items include *The Courage That My Mother Had*, by Edna St. Vincent Millay; *Casey at the Bat*, by Ernest Thayer; *St. George and the Circle of the Dragon* by Richard Johnson; and a short extract from Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

**Choral Evensong for Trinity Sunday, June 16, 4 p.m. followed by annual Strawberry Tea and at 5, Improvisation and the Italian Baroque.** Soprano Emily Klassen and lutenist and tenor Ben Stein (Musicians on the Edge) explore the repertoire of 17th century Italy in a spontaneous way, reflecting the fact that musicians of the baroque era were similar to jazz musicians of today, with the ability to vary written scores, bringing unpredictable elements before your very ears.

