

# St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

## “KEEPING IN TOUCH – February 2023”

Website: <https://www.stthomascambridge.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St.Thomas.the.Apostle.Cambridge>

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### A FEW DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR



Thursdays (1:00 pm)

**Midday Prayer Service:** Anyone who might prefer a smaller, quieter gathering for worship, or who would like some extra time of reflection and learning in addition to the regular Sunday service, is invited to join Rev. Craig every Thursday afternoon.

Thur Feb 9 (10:30 - 2pm)

**Baking for the Bridges:** Please join us in baking some Valentine’s Day treats for our neighbours at The Bridges. Drop off your goodies at the church between 10:30 and 2:00 and Rev. Craig will ensure they are delivered.

Tues Feb 21 (5:00 pm)

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner:** We are not holding our own pancake dinner this year, however both St. Luke’s and Trinity are serving pancakes at 5pm and invite you to join them.

Wed Feb 22 (10:00 am)

**Ash Wednesday Service**

Wednesdays in Lent

(10:00 am at St. Luke’s)

**Steve Robinson’s Lenten Piano Meditations:** See details in Rev Craig’s message.

Fridays in Lent (10:00 am)

**Morning Prayer Service:** See Rev Craig’s message for details.

**St. Tom’s:** Feb 24, Mar 10, Mar 24 / **St. Luke’s:** Mar 3, Mar 17, Mar 31

Thur Mar 9 (1:00 pm)

**Guest Speaker Police Detective Kristy Zimmer** has been invited by the ACW to come and talk about fraud/scams and how to avoid them. Everyone is welcome to attend and learn more about this very important subject. Refreshments are provided and there is no cost. \*\*

Fri Apr 28 (6:30 pm)

**“Famous Couples” Tribute Show:** The ACW are hosting another wonderful musical evening with Jackie Grainge. Come and enjoy some great tunes from your favourite “singing couples”. Tickets are only \$15 and include refreshments. Please contact Marion for tickets.



\*\* Speaking of scams, this is just a reminder that if you receive an email from Rev. Craig, please always check the email address it has come from. Only messages coming from "[craiglove@diohuron.org](mailto:craiglove@diohuron.org)" are legitimate. If you are unsure, please reach out to him by phone to confirm. We have had quite a few fraudulent emails sent out to parishioners in the past few years which looked like they were being sent by the priest, but weren't.

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### A MESSAGE FROM REV. CRAIG

Time often feels like it is moving quickly, & Lent is soon approaching. Some people have tried & true traditions for observing this season of penitence -- practices of prayer and/or abstinence from certain worldly goods, or perhaps more outward-tending practices, such as doing unto others above & beyond one's ordinary way of being. Any practice or tradition that yields good fruit deserves our continued efforts. And so, if you keep such traditions, may the Holy Spirit fill you with the gifts that you need most at this season of your life!

Beginning on the first Friday of Lent, I will be holding Morning Prayer services (BCP) each Friday at 10:00 am, alternately at St. Tom's & St. Luke's. I invite you to join me as you are able. My own experience of Morning Prayer is that it makes a great contribution to the day. There will be no sermon. The emphasis will be on saying our prayers & soaking in God's Word. We will have time for conversation afterwards, as desired.

If you are more inclined to grow alone & might benefit from some personal direction, I encourage you to schedule a visit with me. I would never underestimate the power of a good talk to help us re-collect ourselves, perhaps to redirect our energies. I am here to listen -- both to you, & to the Spirit (as I am able to hear both of you!).

I would also strongly encourage you to join us at St. Luke's on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm during Lent (beginning on March 1), for organist/pianist Steve Robinson's Lenten piano meditations. I arrived in time to attend two such evenings during Advent, & I was very glad to do so. It was a refreshing, restful experience. (All music, no talk!) Steve simply plays the piano, providing accompaniment for an hour that is otherwise quiet, attending to the Spirit moving through us.



Rev. Craig  
519-498-7882  
[craiglove@diohuron.org](mailto:craiglove@diohuron.org)



### VALENTINE’S DAY WORD “BREAKDOWN”

How many words can you make out of the letters: V A L E N T I N E S D A Y ???  
We found 92, but there are no doubt more!


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### A CHALLENGE FROM JESUS ON “LOVE” FOR VALENTINE’S DAY

*This is an excerpt from “The Message”: a contemporary language bible interpretation by Eugene H. Peterson  
Matthew 5: 43-48*

<sup>43-47</sup> “You’re familiar with the old written law, ‘Love your friend,’ and its unwritten companion, ‘Hate your enemy.’ I’m challenging that. I’m telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-Created selves. This is what God does. He gives his best --- the sun to warm and the rain to nourish --- to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. <sup>48</sup> If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that. In a word, what I’m saying is, *Grow Up*. You’re kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”



## A PRAYER FOR LENT

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.



by Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude*

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*Celebrity Productions Presents...*

### "Famous Couples" Tribute Show! Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>



Another one of Jackie Grainge's wonderful, musical evenings!

**Doors Open 6:30PM / Show starts 7:30PM**

Celebrate Spring! Come out for a good time and see many of your favourite "Singing Couples". Quick changes, lots of Fun!

Tickets are \$15

Call Marion at 519-653-2587 for tickets

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## A YEAREND FINANCIAL UPDATE

Financially, we are relieved to see that as of the end of 2022, we have just broken even, with a slight surplus of \$1,139. **It is important to note**, however, that the only reason we are close to breaking even is because we have not had to pay the stipend and benefits for a permanent priest for half of the year. Please consider this prayerfully when determining your ability to contribute to St. Tom's in 2023, now that we are blessed enough to have a permanent priest again.



A Chat with ... SARITA FERNANDES  
by Susan Grenville



Sarita Martins was born in Nairobi, Kenya in 1947 to parents from the Portuguese territory state of Goa, later annexed by India in 1961. Jobs were scarce for Goans after India took over, and her parents decided to immigrate to Kenya. There, he worked in the British Foreign Office and they raised 4 children — 2 girls and 2 boys. At school, every girl had to take shorthand and typing, but that was not the job Sarita wanted for herself. Someone told her about a job opening in a flower shop in Nairobi. The owner who trained Sarita to work with flowers recognized her flair for the task, and Sarita found her passion for work. Before her retirement, Sarita owned her own florist shop in Brantford.

Sarita met Lucas through a friend of her brother when she was 17. There was political trouble in Kenya, and if you lost your job, you pretty much had to move. A government-sponsored draw allowed Kenyans to immigrate to England. As Kenya is a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, Sarita and Lucas were British subjects but not citizens. When she was 20, Sarita married Lucas at city hall, and they immigrated to London, England the following day. Her brother and her best friend also moved. Sarita says the British didn't want immigrants, and it was difficult to find suitable accommodation in London. They lived in a bed-sitting room for 4 years, including after Clive was born! Lucas worked as a tool grinder and Sarita at an insurance company. Meanwhile, Lucas' family was all in Canada. His Dad convinced them to travel to Canada on a vacation when Clive was one year old. His sister sponsored them to move to Toronto, and they never returned to London. After 3 years, they became Canadian citizens. Today, Sarita and Lucas have 4 children and 11 grandchildren ranging in age from 22 to 4. Eldest son Clive is an insurance broker who adopted 2 children. Michelle was a teacher who homeschools her 3 children; her husband was a former boxer. Richard, who works in Fortinos office has 4 children, and Jeremy is a 'computer guy' and the father of 2 girls. You will remember granddaughters Alexis, 22 and Destiny, 21 from the time they attended church as little girls. Alexis now works in Digital Media and Destiny works as a nanny. Riley, now in high school, is headed to Croatia to represent Canada in dancing!

Sarita says she was born and raised as a Catholic, but wasn't 'getting much out of it' as an adult. She tried the Baptist church, but it was too big. When her son moved close to St. Tom's in 2001, she attended a service, and stayed because of the warm welcome she embraced. Today, she is an active member and secretary of the ACW, and has previously served on parish council. Just last week, she worked with Judy Warford and Jean Sherren to bring the Indigenous/Non-indigenous women to St. Tom's for the monthly Grandmothers' Tea. She likes reading, spending time with family, and volunteering at the Hamilton Family Theatre.

A few years ago, Sarita toured India with a group that included Cambridge Mayor Doug Craig. She was touched by the poverty of that country, and struck when the Mayor stated the level of poverty was worse in India than in China. She realized that could have been her life, if her parents had moved the family back to India. In another trip to Memphis, she was one of thousands of people carrying candles at a Graceland vigil for Elvis when he died.

Wife, mom, immigrant, businesswoman, traveller, friend, grandmother, volunteer, reader. Sarita says the main lesson she has learned in her busy life is to be kind to others. Amen to that!



**PWRDF**  
The Primate's World Relief  
and Development Fund

*Thanks to Kathy Brown who has agreed to partner with Susan Grenville PWRDF promotion & fundraising.*

**PWRDF AT WORK IN CANADA**

PWRDF Response to Hurricane Fiona

On September 24, 2022, Hurricane Fiona made landfall in the Maritimes and Atlantic Canada. The Insurance Bureau of Canada estimates that the damages from Hurricane Fiona have now reached \$800 million.

“This was an unprecedented storm event,” wrote Chris Pharo, PWRDF’s Diocesan Representative in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the day after the storm. “It was very violent and scary. Fiona arrived about 10 p.m. on Friday night and left about mid-day on Saturday. The destruction is very severe. Buildings have been moved off foundations, roofs ripped off buildings, cottages picked up and thrown into the sea and there was much damage to crops.”

More than \$37,000 was donated from individuals and parishes rallying to the cause. Now, PWRDF has transferred those donations, along with a \$13,000 grant, to the Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI for a total of \$50,000.

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**SOME WORDS FROM THE VALENTINE’S DAY WORD BREAKDOWN**

(there are undoubtedly more than we have listed here)

ail	ale	alien	alive	an	ant	ante	anti	anvil
at	ate	eat	eaten	eave	eel	elate	elite	enate
enliven	entail	even	event	evil	in	inane	inlet	innate
invent	it	la	lane	late	latin	lean	leave	leaven
lee	lenient	lent	Lenten	let	lie	lien	line	lineate
linen	lint	lit	live	liven	nail	naïve	nan	native
nave	navel	neat	net	nil	nine	nit	ta	tail
tale	tan	tea	teal	tee	teen	ten	tie	tile
tin	tine	vain	vale	valet	vane	veal	veil	vein
venetian	vent	vet	via	vial	vie	vile	vine	vital

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From Kalidasa, the great Sanskrit writer of the fifth century:

*“Yesterday is but a dream. Tomorrow is only a vision. But today well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope.”*

