

# St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

## “KEEPING IN TOUCH – March 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.

Thurs 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. \*\*



Fridays Mar 10, 24, 31  
(10:30 am)

**Friday Morning Prayer during Lent:** *(a note from Rev. Craig)*  
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.



Held at: St. Tom's: March 24  
St. Luke's: March 10 & 31  
*(no service Mar 3 or 17)*

Tues March 21 (7pm)

**Rev. Craig's Ordination:** We are so excited to announce that Rev. Craig will be called to the priesthood at St. Paul's Cathedral in London on March 21st. We are hoping to share a bus with St. Luke's so that anyone who would like to attend this wonderful ordination service doesn't have to worry about the drive or the weather. Please contact Kathy Brown or Rick Furnival a.s.a.p. if you are interested in taking the bus.

Friday Apr 28 (6:30 pm)

**“Famous Couples” Tribute Show:** *See details on page 4.*



## “ALL ST. THOMAS BOUGHT A FARM”

Ee i ee i o

*With some chick, chicks here and 10 rabbits  
there,*

*Piglets here and 3 goats there,*

*A rooster here and a donkey there,*

*And a dairy shed here and fruit trees there,*

*Farmer training here and garden seeds there,*

*All St. Thomas bought a farm, Ee i ee i o.*



Along with short- and long-term disaster relief at home and abroad, the Anglican Church in Canada works through PWRDF to relieve hunger and break the cycle of poverty in the world's most vulnerable communities. This year, our Parish Council has chosen to increase our parish support of those programs. Think of the proverb “*Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.*”

To focus our fundraising, we will work to “buy a farm” —investing in sustainable farming for a family or community designated by PWRDF. Our first goal is to raise \$660, which would cover the cost of 3 goats, a donkey, 2 piglets, 10 rabbits, 5 fruit trees, seeds and tools, a dairy shed, and a course in chicken farming.

You will be able to donate in several ways. If you wish to donate through your blue envelopes, you can designate what animal or farm necessity you want to ‘buy’. Automatic givers can pick up a special envelope at the back of the church. We will leave a box or bucket in the parish hall where you can empty your pockets of loose change. I am considering selling my books [cheap] at the church, with the proceeds going to “the farm”.

All donations will go toward the project, and when our first goal is met, those monies will be sent to the diocese for distribution.

***Please note: If you prefer to designate your personal PWRDF donations to a different PWRDF project, just note that on your envelope.***



## MESSAGE FROM REV. CRAIG

It is now more than two months since I first arrived in the twinned parishes of St. Luke's & St. Tom's, & I believe I am settling in quite well. Our Anglican service depends on the participation of the ministers along with the people, & I am very grateful to all who have participated in services -- including remotely, by streaming online. I am counting down the days to my ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday, March 21. Please keep me in your prayers.



One of the greatest joys of ministry to me is the relationships I build with my fellow siblings in Christ. And so it has been truly life-giving for me to get to know more of you each week through in person meetings at the church as well as home visits. It is not only a pleasure to get to know each other: it also enables us to work together for the building up of Christ's Kingdom. And so, I encourage you all to join me for a chat with one or two others, either at the church or in your home. A sign-up sheet is posted in the church. In addition to these group chats, I will continue to be available by appointment (to meet at the church or for a home visit). To arrange an individual meeting, just reach out to me in person or by phone (519-498-7882).

A note on home visits: I am a father of three children & have NO EXPECTATION that your house is tidy. Put me at ease by leaving it a little messy, & save your energy for our talk! Also, I mostly drink water during the day, & sometimes tea. To prevent my waist size expanding, I try to avoid snacking. And so I ask your help: lead me not into temptation by offering me goodies!

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

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## CHARITY INTELLIGENCE CANADA

Charity Intelligence researches Canadian charities for donors to be informed and give intelligently. Our website posts free reports on more than 800 Canadian charities, as well as in-depth primers on philanthropic sectors like Canada's environment, cancer, and homelessness. Today over 500,000 Canadians use our website as a go-to source for information on Canadian charities reading over 1.6 million charity reports. Through rigorous and independent research, Charity Intelligence aims to assist Canada's dynamic charitable sector in being more transparent, accountable and focused on results.



*Be Informed. Give Intelligently. Have Impact.*

**DID YOU KNOW: Charity Intelligence Canada has given the Anglican Charity "PWRDF" (Primate's World Relief & Development Fund) a 5-star rating?!**

# St. Patrick's Day Word Scramble



- 1) t p a i r c k \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) k o f e l o r l \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) n c d n g a i \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) e l r i i c k m \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) l a r i e d n \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) e m l r e a d \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) r s c h k a o m s \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) e n t e v h e n e s t \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) a r i o b w n \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) r e c o l s v \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) u r e h p n c e a l \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) l o b a t n i r e e c \_\_\_\_\_

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*Celebrity Productions Presents...*

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



The ACW are hosting 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

## “THE QUILT OF HOLES”

As I faced my maker at the last judgement, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls. Before each of us laid our lives, like the squares of a quilt in many piles. An angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.



But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labelled with parts of my life that had been difficult; the challenges and temptations that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.

I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich colour and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened. My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air.

Finally, the time came when each life was to be displayed; held up to the light. The scrutiny of truth. The others rose, each in turn holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been. My angel looked upon me and nodded for me to rise.

My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness and wealth and false accusations that took from me my world as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.

And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was and I had to accept it for what it was. I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light. An awe-filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes. Then I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image; the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me with warmth and love in His eyes. He said, ***“Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships and My struggles. Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let Me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you.”***

May all our quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing Christ to shine through! God determines who walks into your life. It's up to you to decide who you let walk away, who you let stay and who you refuse to let go. When there is nothing left but God, that is when you find out that God is all you need.

*Father God, bless all my friends in whatever it is that you know they may need this day! And may their lives be full of your peace, prosperity and power and they seek to have a closer relationship with you.*

*Amen.*

## “MOTHERING SUNDAY” - March 19<sup>th</sup>



The custom of bringing offerings to the “Mother Church” became associated with the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent. Men and women who had left the district of their birth would return to visit the church where they had been baptized, bringing with them an offering especially for their mother on that day. They brought with them gifts of cakes and flowers. This custom came to be known as “going-a-mothering”. A religious touch was added by putting 12 almonds on top of the cake to represent the 12 Apostles. A layer of marzipan or almond paste was placed in the middle of the cake, possibly to stick two separate cakes together. Some churches in Canada have now started to observe Mothering Sunday with flowers for mothers, then the coffee hour follows with the serving of Simnel Cake.

Here at St. Thomas Church, the tradition goes back many years. The original church which opened as St. Thomas Mission in November, 1951, included families whose homeland was in the British Isles.

Over the years, the special Mothering Sunday service has been highlighted with the children’s presentation of a fresh carnation corsage to each mother, aunt and grandmother in the congregation. Also included in the service has been an “ACW Corporate Communion”. A favourite hymn selection has been “When Mothers of Salem”. In the past, following Sunday service, ACW member Joan McFadden provided the coffee crowd with her well-presented Simnel Cake.

In more recent years, ACW members and friends enjoy breakfast/lunch at a local restaurant following the service. With the advent of Covid-19, this beautiful event had been cancelled. With God’s blessings, we now look joyfully forward on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>, to once again observe our Mothering Sunday tradition.

Respectfully submitted by,

Helen Miller  
Press/publicity secretary  
St. Thomas Church ACW

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### ANSWERS TO ST. PATRICK’S DAY WORD SCRAMBLE

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|------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1) patrick | 2) folklore | 3) dancing     | 4) limerick     |
| 5) ireland | 6) emerald  | 7) shamrocks   | 8) seventeenth  |
| 9) rainbow | 10) clovers | 11) leprechaun | 12) celebration |

