

St. Thomas The Apostle Anglican Church

110 Francis Street, Cambridge ON, N1S 2A1

“KEEPING IN TOUCH – April 2023”

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

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

A FEW DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Thursdays (1:00 pm) **Midweek Holy Communion Service:** Pastor Craig invites you to join him every Thursday afternoon for a smaller, quieter gathering for worship followed by a time of reflection and learning.

Sun Apr 2 (9:00 am) **Palm Sunday:** A celebration of Jesus being welcomed by the crowds as He entered into Jerusalem.



Thurs Apr 6 (7:00 pm) **Maunday Thursday Service:** Please join us for a “joint” service at St. Luke’s Anglican Church (1485 Mary Ave, Preston).

Thurs Apr 6 (11am-2pm) **Baking for The Bridges:** If you are able to bake some Easter goodies for our neighbours at The Bridges, please drop them off at the church between 11am and 2pm.

Friday Apr 7 (11:00 am) **Good Friday Service:** St. Luke’s folks will be joining us at St. Thomas for our Good Friday Morning Prayer service.



Sat Apr 8
7pm: desserts
8pm: service
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Service: All five Anglican Churches in Cambridge will come together at St. James’ Anglican Church (520 Ellis Rd, Hespeler) for a time of fellowship at 7pm. Then, as the sun sets and darkness falls, at 8pm, we will light the new fire and begin the first celebration of the resurrection, The Great Vigil of Easter.

Sun Apr 9 (9:00 am) **Easter Sunday Service:** Please join us for the most wonderful celebration of the year. Christ is Risen... Alleluia!



Friday Apr 28 (6:30 pm) **“Famous Couples” Tribute Show:** See details on page 4.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CRAIG



A few days after the ordination, my son asked me if I felt "any differently" since becoming a priest. It is normally the kind of question I shrink from answering, having been asked it at different milestones in my life, & never having much to say. But I thought about the question for a moment & answered him -- & share my answer with you here.

As a kid growing up, I never would have guessed I would someday become a priest, & so I really didn't know what to expect when the Bishop laid his hands on my head to ordain me. Would I feel the Holy Spirit moving through me any differently than I do on normal days?

Two weeks before the big day, I picked up COVID-19 & though I was no longer symptomatic, a deep physical exhaustion lingered. Each day right up to the day before the ordination, I felt the need for a nap by mid-mornings, & so I wondered how I would be able to get through the evening ordination service. And then that time came -- & the Spirit (perhaps with a hint of adrenaline) ramped up. I knelt in front of the Bishop, who began with this prayer: "Send down your Holy Spirit upon your servant Craig, whom we consecrate in your name to the office & work of a priest in the Church." Then I stood up & walked over to put on my priest's stole, the gift of a friend from St. John's, Elora (Kathy Brown's mother), where I came to faith -- a visual cue of my new role & a reminder of where I first heard God's calling.

It was not what happened to me outwardly but what happened inwardly, that my son's question helped me to notice. It is now perfectly clear: on the evening of Tuesday, March 21, my eyes were opened to a dimension of my life that always lay right under my nose.

Previous to the ordination, I was fully confident of God's love, but it took receiving that love from so many people -- in the days leading up to the ordination, & on the evening itself -- for me to feel that love. All my life, I have been blessed to receive love from many dear people. But it wasn't until my ordination day that I was able to actually receive this love, feeling that it is true. And, as with all gifts that bear God's signature, my life now is so much greater than I had ever asked or imagined it would be.

And so I thank all those who have been praying for me, as well as those who were able to attend the ordination: you have all participated in lifting me up. And I pray that I am ever-ready & able to return the favour in what I hope is many years of ministry & life together!

Rev. Craig 519-498-7882 craiglove@diohuron.org

COFFEE HOUR



Thank you to everyone who has graciously hosted our Coffee Hour over the past few months. You know the old saying "many hands make light work", so in order to spread the work out a little bit more, we could really use a few more volunteers to help with this favourite weekly event. It's not difficult and if you are not familiar with our kitchen or would just feel more comfortable doing it with a bit of help, just ask and we will team you up with another parishioner who has done it before. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet posted outside the kitchen. 😊



“ANGLICAN MONASTICISM AND YOU”

Saturday, April 15 / 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

in-person at Renison University College (240 Westmount Rd. N., Waterloo)
No cost, refreshments provided ← you can't beat that! :o)

It is a surprise to some to hear that monasticism (nuns and monks, gathered and dispersed communities, vows) is very much a ‘thing’ in the Anglican tradition, including in Canada. **Featuring representatives from the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine, the Order of the Holy Cross, and other clergy and laity connected to religious communities**, we will learn about the history of monasticism in Anglicanism, what daily life looks like, its wisdom and gifts for those of us ‘in the world’, and how we might come alongside these communities to deepen our spiritual lives and our Church. Whether this is a new concept to you, or you’re already an associate or oblate of an order, you will find something helpful, and new connections, in this workshop. [LEARN MORE AND REGISTER HERE](#)



An update on... “ALL ST. THOMAS BOUGHT A FARM”

As announced last month, we are aiming 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 an educational course in chicken farming. Check out the wonderful poster in the church narthex.

You can 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. There is a jar in the parish hall where you can empty your pockets of loose change. Please note that you do not have to donate the cost of an entire animal. You may donate any amount you can afford, from a Toonie to \$5.00 to \$25 and up. No amount is too small when we are giving to charity. As donations are received, you will note that the animal figures on the lobby poster will be coloured in when we reach 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% of each of the 8 items we have chosen for purchase.

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.

A Prayer

Recklessness – A Holy Rage of Complacency

What is, therefore, our task today?
Shall I answer: "Faith, hope, love"?
That sounds beautiful. But I would say – courage.
No, even that is not challenging enough to be the whole truth.
Our task today is recklessness.
For what we Christians lack is not psychology or literature.
We lack a holy rage – the recklessness which comes
from the knowledge of God and humanity.
The ability to rage when justice lies prostrate on the streets,
and when the lie rages across the face of the earth...
a holy anger about the things that are wrong in the world.
To rage against the ravaging of God's earth, and the destruction of God's world.
To rage when little children must die of hunger,
when the tables of the rich are sagging with food.
To rage at the senseless killing of so many, and against the madness of militaries.
To rage at the lie that calls the threat of death and the strategy of destruction, peace.
To rage against complacency.
To restlessly seek to change human history
until it conforms to the norms of the Kingdom of God.
And remember the signs of the Christian Church have been the Lion, the Lamb,
the Dove and the Fish... but never the Chameleon.



Kaj Munk (1898-1944), Danish pastor and playwright killed in 1944 for his opinions and preaching against the German invasion of Denmark.

Celebrity Productions Presents...

"Famous Couples" Tribute Show! Friday, April 28th



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

Easter Word Search



Angel

Holy

Messiah

Savior

Cross

Hope

Resurrection

Third Day

Crown of Thorns

Jesus

Risen

Easter

King

Sacrifice

Empty Tomb

Love

Salvation

Good Friday

Mary

Sunday



REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE



Last June, your Parish Council committed to join the other 14 deanery churches to support a refugee family who have recently arrived in Waterloo Region. After we donated \$500 from church funds, we hoped to raise at least another \$1500 before the end of the summer.

Thanks to individual members of parish, we have now raised **\$2,050** towards the sponsorship. St. Tom's continues to be **"the little church that CAN"**! I am always grateful and amazed that the hearts of my St. Tom's friends always lean toward love and generosity.

Sincerely – Susan Grenville, Representative to Refugee Committee

ALL I NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED FROM THE EASTER BUNNY

- Don't put all your eggs in one basket
- Everyone needs a friend who is all ears
- Some body parts should be floppy
- All work and no play can make you a basket case
- Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits
- Everyone is entitled to a bad "hare" day
- Keep your paws off other people's jelly beans!



ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers can be placed to the Glory of God *"in memory"* or *"in thanksgiving"* of loved ones or *"in celebration"* of a special anniversary. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for people to choose a date to place flowers on the altar. You are welcome to either buy your own flowers and bring them to the church, or if you give your donation to our very talented Sharon Furnival, she is very happy to buy suitable flowers for you and arrange them at the church on the Sunday you have chosen. Please call Sharon at (519) 620-1272 to arrange.

