

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

For the week of Sunday 17 December 2023

PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME

*The Advent Wreath has been given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Marlene McCaskill.*

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the repose of the soul of Susan Johnson.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

FATHER HANNAM requests that all cases of sorrow or suffering be reported to him.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR following the 11 o'clock Parish Mass!
We meet in the Parish Hall, down the front stairs and to the right.

THE ALTAR GUILD is currently collecting flower donations for the Christmas Altars. Please use the white Altar Guild envelopes provided to direct your donation and indicate in whose memory you wish flowers to be placed.

ON THURSDAY, 21 DECEMBER, we will be cleaning and decorating the church. Feel free to join us for the 12:15 p.m. Mass, followed by a pizza lunch for volunteers, and then preparing the church for Christmas until 5 p.m.

UPCOMING LITURGIES:

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24

10:30 p.m. Gallery Carols before Mass

11:00 p.m. Procession & Solemn First Mass of Christmas (*Midnight Mass*)

Christmas Day: Monday, December 25

8:30 a.m. Low Mass (at Dawn)

11:00 a.m. Sung Mass (in the Day)

OUR SEASON OF INVITATION CONTINUES... Every congregant is encouraged to prayerfully consider inviting one person to join them at church for Christmas. **Invitations are available at the back of the church.** *The single most common reason people give for why they don't go to church? No one ever invited me!*

ON WEEKDAYS DURING THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE, Low Mass will be offered at 11:00 a.m.

MYSTAGOGY (CONFIRMATION CLASSES) - *Mystagogy is now on hiatus until the New Year.* Our parish mystagogy (learning about the Christian Mystery/ Mysteries) meets following the Saturday Mass (noon). This is a continuation of the Catechesis (baptism preparation) class that was held during Lent, and is part of the usual preparation for Baptism. It does not, however, presuppose that one has taken the earlier course.

THE FOOD BANK: Our doors are open Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. *Please note that the Food Bank will be closed for the holiday season from Friday, December 22, 2023 through Sunday, January 21, 2024.*

THE BREAKFAST PROGRAMME continues to be open each Thursday with the doors opening at 5:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m., and hot food being served beginning at 6:00 a.m. *Please note that the Breakfast Ministry will be closed for the holiday season from Friday, December 29, 2023 through Wednesday, January 24, 2024.*

YOUTH AT S. BART'S: Have fun, learn about the Faith, learn to serve one another! Visit: stbartstoronto.ca/youth, or contact Louis Harris at lhd.louis.harris@gmail.com.

YOUNG ADULTS AT S. BART'S: Learn more about ongoing/upcoming events at stbartstoronto.ca/parish-life/young-adults.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS TO S. BART'S:

- Regular Givers are encouraged to take **tithing envelopes** for the coming year. This simplifies our parish counting and helps us to monitor our growth.
- Please consider using **pre-authorized debit** to make your contributions. This helps us in budgeting as well as keeping our cash flow consistent. Email stbartstoronto@outlook.com to request a fillable PDF.
- You may also send a donation via **E-transfer**. Here's how:
 1. *Login to your financial institution online or via mobile, and navigate to Interac e-Transfer.*
 2. *Select the account that you would like funds transferred from.*
 3. *Enter the amount that you would like to send.*
 4. *Add recipient, St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church.*
 5. *Add email address, stbartstoronto@outlook.com.*

S. BART'S END OF YEAR DRIVE 2023

Help Close the Budget Gap

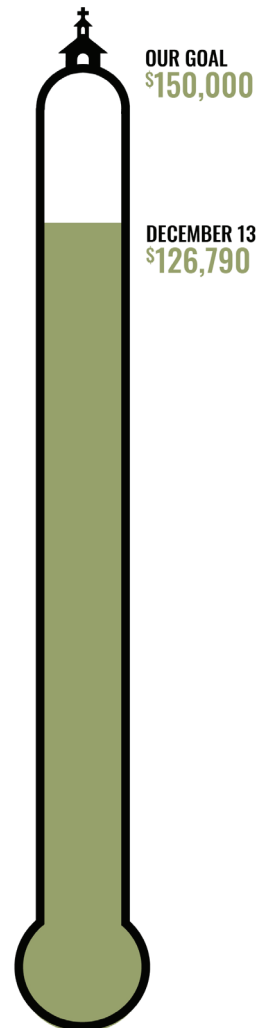
OUR ANNUAL VESTRY IN 2023 approved a budget in which we anticipated \$150,000 in congregational givings. As of 13 December we've reached \$126,790. That means we need to raise an additional \$23,210 by the end of the month if we are to make our year-end goal.

The good news is this:

- 1) Most parishes find themselves in this situation at year's end, so this is not a problem in which we are alone.
- 2) It is still possible to close this gap before we close the books on 2023. For most of the past decade we have had similar shortfalls at this point in the year and almost every year we have come in slightly over budget by year's end.

Please consider the following in the coming weeks:

- 1) If you have fallen behind in your intended givings, please try to catch up between now and the end of December.
- 2) Please prayerfully discern if you can make one extra offering this Christmas season to help to close this gap. The latter will almost certainly be an act of sacrifice for most of us. But please remember that sacrifice – the Sacrifice of Calvary, represented on the Altar at each Mass – is at the heart of our religion. It is primarily through sacrifice that our lives are



conformed to that of our Crucified Eucharistic Lord, whereby we come to share more and more fully in His Divine Life.

The Christmas Feast teaches us that our Salvation begins with a generous gift — the Gift of God who was willing to become Man so that we might become god. Our Lady gave over her whole life to that purpose at the Annunciation. We give of our substance to the Church so that their gifts might continue in this place for our neighbours and for ourselves.

‘And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord’s offering’ (BCP, p. 72, quoting Exodus 35:21).

INTERCESSIONS

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

- **TODAY: Sunday, 17 December:** *The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*
- **Monday, 18 December:** *The Diocese of Bentiu – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan*
- **Tuesday, 19 December:** *The Diocese of Bermuda – (Extra Provincial)*
- **Wednesday, 20 December:** *The Diocese of Bethlehem – The Episcopal Church*
- **Thursday, 21 December:** *The Diocese of Bhopal – The Church of North India (United)*
- **Friday, 22 December:** *The Diocese of Bida – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)*
- **Saturday, 23 December:** *The Diocese of Biharamulo – The Anglican Church of Tanzania*

INDIGENOUS CHURCH: For +Chris, National Indigenous Archbishop; and +Adam, Bishop of Missinippi: for the youth of Northern Saskatchewan.

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

- **TODAY: Sunday, 17 December: 17.** *The Anglican Church Women (ACW)*
– *Enid Corbett, Diocesan President*
- **Monday, 18 December:** *S. John, Ida*
- **Tuesday, 19 December:** *S. Luke, Peterborough*
- **Wednesday, 20 December:** *S. Matthew and S. Aidan, Buckhorn*
- **Thursday, 21 December:** *S. Michael, Westwood*
- **Friday, 22 December:** *S. Peter on-the-Rock, Stony Lake*
- **Saturday, 23 December:** *S. Stephen, Chandos*

CONFIRMANDS: Jean Giroux, Kenny Risk, Robert Thompson

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED: WED: Alison, George Barkhouse, Ronald Bentley, Florence Britain; | **FRI:** The Carlén Family, Kimberley Curtis, Demetra, Jenni; | **SAT:** Catherine LaFond, Marlyn, Patrick, Todd

DAILY INTERCESSIONS: Andrea, Walter Banks, Sr Barbara SLSM, Ben, Bruce, Sr Christine SLG, Christopher, David Conatser, Grace, Debbie Hartley, Robert Hegele, Lorna Heron, Scott Hunter, Greg Irvine, Katherine, Paul Kent, Audrey Kern, Larry, Laura, Marilyn, Margaret McQuillan, Peter; Rebecca; Samantha, Rachel & Nickson; Sarah, Heekyung Song, Stephen, Stuart, Katherine Walmsley, Mark Weymouth

POETRY CORNER

O SAPIENTIA

by Malcolm Guite (1957-)

I cannot think unless I have been thought,
Nor can I speak unless I have been spoken.
I cannot teach except as I am taught,
Or break the bread except as I am broken.
O Mind behind the mind through which I seek,
O Light within the light by which I see,
O Word beneath the words with which I speak,
O founding, unfound Wisdom, finding me,
O sounding Song whose depth is sounding me,
O Memory of time, reminding me,
My Ground of Being, always grounding me,
My Maker's Bounding Line, defining me,
Come, hidden Wisdom, come with all you bring,
Come to me now, disguised as everything.

THROUGH THE WEEK

Please check the website and subscribe to our enews list to stay informed of scheduling changes.

Sunday, 17 December	<i>THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT (Gaudete)</i>
	9:00 a.m. Low Mass 10:00 a.m. Mattins 11:00 a.m. Sung Mass
Monday, 18 December	<i>Advent Feria</i>
	10:00 a.m. Food Bank (till 11:30 a.m.)
Tuesday, 19 December	<i>Advent Feria</i>
Wednesday, 20 December	<i>Ember Wednesday of Advent (com. Vigil of S. Thomas at Mattins & Mass)</i>
	7:30 a.m. Low Mass 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Thursday, 21 December	<i>S. THOMAS THE APOSTLE (com. Feria)</i>
	6:00 a.m. Breakfast Ministry (Doors open at 5:30 a.m., till 8:00 a.m.) 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 10:00 a.m. Food Bank (till 11:30 a.m.) - last open day till January 22 12:15 p.m. Low Mass 1:00 p.m. Cleaning & Decorating for Christmas
Friday, 22 December	<i>Ember Friday of Advent</i>
	7:30 a.m. Low Mass 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
Saturday, 23 December	<i>Ember Saturday of Advent</i>
	11:00 a.m. Said Mass
Sunday, 24 December	<i>The Vigil of Christmas (Advent IV); Christmas Eve</i>
	9:00 a.m. Low Mass 10:00 a.m. Mattins 11:00 a.m. Sung Mass 10:30 p.m. Gallery Carols before Mass 11:00 p.m. Procession & Solemn First Mass of Christmas (Midnight Mass)

