

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ANGLICAN



CHURCH

FEBRUARY 18, 2021 WEEKLY UPDATE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL VESTRY

The annual vestry meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 28, 2021** at 10am via ZOOM. Per our diocesan COVID Communiqué 36 and in keeping with public health directives, no in-person vestry meetings are permitted until further notice. This means our annual vestry meeting (and any special vestry meetings) will be held via video-conferencing. Zoom allows for participation by phone for those who do not have access to the internet.

Because this is a new way of meeting as a vestry, and this past year has been exceptional, this year's annual vestry meeting will involve only that business that our diocesan Canons, By-laws and Regulations require:

- Election and appointment of parish officers
- Reception of annual reports of parish groups
- Presentation and reception of financial statements ending fiscal year 2020
- Presentation and reception of 2021 budget

Members of vestry and those permitted to hold office in the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Smiths Falls must be able to make this declaration:

ELIGIBILITY FOR VESTRY MEMBERSHIP - CANON C.5.02

I solemnly declare that: I am a member of this congregation of the Anglican Church of Canada; I am of the full age of sixteen years; I am a regular worshiper with this congregation; I do not intend to vote as a member of any other Vestry in the election of Church Wardens or of Members of Synod during the ensuing year, and I am a supporter of this congregation by regular contributions to its maintenance.

Pre-registration is required. Members of the parish for whom e-mail addresses are known should have received a registration e-mail from Dan Willis. (Note this did not come from the parish e-mail address) with a link to the Zoom registration page. Members who did not receive an e-mail are asked to contact People's Warden Karen Bryan at (613) 284-8149 or bryank284@yahoo.ca to register.

A short, 30-minute Zoom tutorial will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at 7pm for those new to the platform to become familiar with the features of attending and voting on Zoom. This will be available to those with both internet access and those who wish to call in.

To receive a hardcopy of the Vestry Report please contact the parish office. Electronic copies will be e-mailed to all registered members in advance.

PANDEMIC UPDATE

In the February 17 COVID Communiqué 40, it was announced that parishes in the Diocese of Ottawa will **remain in the RED stage** of our *In This Together* pandemic plan throughout the month of February, regardless of any easing of restrictions by the province of Ontario. It is hoped that we will shift to AMBER stage by Holy Week and a schedule for reopening for in-person worship anticipated in the February 24 Communiqué. The safety of our congregations and our wider communities is the priority of our Bishop and the senior staff and advisors who are diligently monitoring the situation. We are called to patience, prayer and perseverance. We know what the latter can bring given the Mars rover Perseverance landing this past week!

LITURGIES AT ST. JOHN'S

All liturgies in RED stage are offered online.

Sundays: 12noon Holy Eucharist via our YouTube channel, website and Facebook, and 8am & 1pm on MyTV Cogeco Cable (one week delay). We are working to implement livestreaming the Sunday liturgy in the coming weeks.

Monday – Thursday: 7am Morning Prayer livestreamed on Facebook during Lent.

Daily: 9pm Compline livestreamed on Facebook.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT IN LENT

Pint and a Passage – Mondays at 7pm. Pour yourself a pint or a cup of tea and join in the discussion for the Gospel of the upcoming Sunday. To register contact catherine-ascah@ottawa.anglican.ca

Questions of the Cross Book Study – Thursdays from 7 - 8:30pm February 18 – March 25. Samuel Wells' book *Hanging by a Thread: Questions of the Cross* scrutinizes the assumption that the crucifixion was about fixing human problems, and instead suggests it was the culmination of God's disarming purpose to be with us, no matter what. The book is available to order from Chapters and Kindle editions are available through Amazon. To register, contact catherine-ascah@ottawa.anglican.ca

Canon Catherine prays the Night Offices in Lent (midnight and 3am). If you have a prayer request, please contact her directly by phone or send it to catherine-ascah@ottawa.anglican.ca

There are many, many opportunities for Lenten study and prayer. The Anglican Church of Canada has a comprehensive list of resources at <https://www.anglican.ca/resources/lent2021/> which includes PWRDF's 2021 Lenten Guide Creation Care: Climate Action compiled by Bishop Jane Alexander of the Diocese of Edmonton and our diocesan PWRDF Representative The Rev'd Patrick Stephens from St. Barnabas, Deep River.

FELLOWSHIP

Afternoon Tea Tuesdays – Tuesdays at 3pm. Strictly social. Pull out your best china tea service, make a delicate little sandwich or set a plate of scones and jam before your computer and join in a civilized afternoon tea and friendly visits with friends near and far. To obtain the Zoom coordinates, please e-mail the parish office stjohns_smithsfalls@bellnet.ca. Hats, fascinators and ascot ties are optional!

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

On Friday, February 27 at 7pm, celebrate Black History Month with The Church Without Walls service. This virtual service is hosted by our diocese and St. Stephen's Church, Ottawa and Bishop Parker will be the preacher. Participation via Zoom (includes post-service fellowship) requires pre-registration. Livestreaming is available at St. Stephen's YouTube channel. For more information and to register: <https://www.facebook.com/OttawaAnglican/photos/a.1043388562357750/4188608111169097/?type=3&theater>

OFFERINGS

Thank you for your generous financial support. Your donations make the ministry of St. John's possible. Offering envelopes can be mailed to the parish office or dropped off in the mailbox. Perhaps consider signing up for PAR (pre-authorized remittance) if that would work for you. Information was about PAR is available from the Envelope Secretary: SJSFenvelopesecretary@gmail.com

MISSION & MINISTRY UPDATE

Carebridge Community Support made a presentation to Parish Council at its virtual meeting on Wednesday, January 20 with an update on their proposed project, and we will look to have congregational information sessions (virtually) in the coming weeks, so that members of the congregation can hear the information first hand and ask questions regarding the proposal. Carebridge is awaiting to hear if they were successful with their RHI Grant application before their next update. Once they hear on the status of the application, they will prepare a presentation for the congregation. For the most recent update issued to the parish on December 20, 2020, please refer to our website <https://www.stjohn-smithsfalls.com/news/important-congregational-update>

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Live happens on the St. John's Sunday School Facebook page at 11:30am. Everyone and anyone can tune in and enjoy this time of teaching, prayer and fellowship. For more information, contact Emily at emduberville@hotmail.com Please note that you can participate, even if you do not have a Facebook account.

COMMUNITY DINNER: On delivery Sunday, February 21

We are taking Community Dinners on the road this Sunday, February 21, with twisted noodle lasagna and bread pudding.