

St. George's Standard

January 25, 2026



February 1, 2026



A Message from Rajini

Preparing for Lent

As I was taking down the decorations from the Christmas tree, a thought crossed my mind: What comes next? As we pack away the joy and celebration of the Christmas season, I felt a gentle nudge to prepare myself for the next sacred and busy season—the season of Lent.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, six weeks before Easter, and is observed for forty days, excluding Sundays, leading us to Easter. I recall a conversation we had around this time last year when a colleague asked, "What are you planning to give up for Lent?" As we went around the table, one person said alcohol, another said meat, and another mentioned sweets. As I listened, I found myself asking: What is the true meaning of Lent, and what is God inviting us to do during this important season? Lent is a season set apart for prayer, reflection, repentance, and almsgiving. It is a time when we journey toward a deeper understanding of the suffering, death, and sacrifice of Jesus, as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

In the early Christian era, new believers were baptized during the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday. In preparation, the candidates and their families were asked to fast for forty days, mirroring Jesus' forty days of fasting in the wilderness. Over time, this practice developed into various forms of fasting and spiritual discipline observed before Easter.

As we approach the season of Lent, let us ask ourselves: How will this Lent draw us closer to God? What can we do to be renewed and transformed into the people God calls us to be? What spiritual disciplines can we embrace to foster repentance, deepen our faith, and walk more closely with our Creator? What acts of mission can we undertake to show Christ's love to our neighbours? What sacrifices can we make in penitence as we seek to understand more deeply the sacrifice of Christ?

As we enter this sacred season, let us prayerfully reflect on how Lent can draw us closer to God. Let us invite the Holy Spirit to speak into our hearts, guiding us toward repentance, renewal, and transformation. There are many resources available to support us during this season—apps, books, daily devotions, special Lenten services, Bible studies, and sermons offered online, in our parish, and throughout the diocese. I encourage each of you to seek out the resources that best fit your spiritual journey and to engage with them intentionally, so that you may experience Lent more fully. Lent is a time to examine our hearts with humility and to reflect on all that God has done for us. It is also a time to come together as a community, seeking ways to serve and support our neighbours. May we surrender ourselves fully to God and open our lives to the work he longs to do in and through us during this holy season.

Important Information

Weekly Worship Services

Sundays	8.15 am	Holy Eucharist BCP
	10.00 am	Choral Eucharist
Tuesdays:	8:00 am	Morning prayer on Zoom
	6:00 pm	Bible Study
Wednesdays:	8:00 am	Morning prayer on Zoom
	6:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursdays	8:00 am	Morning prayer on Zoom
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist

Memorial Flowers Placed on Altar

'Order Forms' are located at the back of the church or at the church office if you wish to place flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one. Requests and funds must be received **at least 2 weeks prior to placement**. Forms must be returned to the church office or placed on the offertory plate. Thanks so much!

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer

JAN 25

World: Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Diocese: Peterborough Deanery

Oshawa Deanery: Ascension Port Perry, The Reverend Ruthanne Ward

FEB 1

World: The Church of England

Diocese: Bishop's Committee on Interfaith Ministry

Oshawa Deanery: St martin's Courtice, Padre Davis

Church Leadership

Bishop of Toronto - The Rt Rev. Andrew Asbil
Suffragan Bishop- The Rt Rev. Riscylla Shaw
Suffragan Bishop - The Rt Rev. Kevin Robertson

Incumbent - The Rev. Dr. Alvardo Adderley

Curate: Rev. Rajini Lyman

Honorary Assistant - Rev. Janet Stephens

Director of Music - Carmine Lappano

Sexton - William Erwin

Rector's Warden - Barb Wotton

People's Warden - Shelley Kossatz

Deputy People's Warden - Betty Hogeterp

Bookkeeper - Zsofia Halmai

Envelope Secretary - Barb Callery

Treasurer - Shannon Bott

READINGS

JAN 25

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-12

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

FEB 1

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

Church Wifi

The GUEST network is **Church Hall** and the

password is **9057237875**.

Givings through E-TRANSFER

PLEASE USE THE EMAIL ADDRESS
'TREASURER@STGEORGESOSHAWA.ORG'
SECURITY QUESTION— CHURCH SECU-
RITY ANSWER—GIVINGS

**Please include your full name and address
in your etransfer if you wish to receive a
tax receipt.**

New Office Hours

TUESDAY-THURSDAY 10AM-2PM



What's Happening!



Prayer of the week

Dear Lord, I am calling upon you today for your divine guidance and help. I am in crisis and need a supporting hand to keep me on the right and just path. My heart is troubled but I will strive to keep it set on you, as your infinite wisdom will show me the right way to a just and right resolution. Thank you for hearing my prayer and for staying by my side. Amen.

Spiritual Renewal Activities at St. George's

Bible Study	A Week in Prayer	Prayer Labyrinth (TBD)
Evening Prayer	Laying on of Hands	Healing Service
Weekly Spiritual Renewal Quotes in the bulletins	Anointing (1 st Sunday of every month)	Prayer Breakfast



Tax Receipts

Please help us save postage and pick up your tax receipts at the back of the church! Thank you!

Parking

Great News! All of our parking spots on the East side of the parking lot are now rented (Mon - Fri 9am-5pm). If you are parking at the church during the week please use the spaces on the North side of the lot. Please display a bulletin on your dash to avoid getting a ticket.



Blue Box Recycling Program

In Ontario, as of January 1, 2026, places of worship (churches), along with other businesses and non-profits, are considered "non-eligible sources" for municipal blue bin collection.

What does this mean for St. George's?

- Corporation and the Property Team are monitoring the situation
- Folks renting the church will be asked to take their recycling with them when they leave.

How can you help?

- We encourage you to take your bulletins and other recyclables to your home recycling bins. This will help reduce recyclables at the church.
- Talk to your local MPP to advocate for change

Information - Vestry



WHEN:

St. George's annual Vestry meeting is scheduled for Sunday, **February 22, 2026** after the 10:00 am service.

REPORTS:

We are asking that all Vestry reports be emailed to the office by **Jan 26, 2026** (church@stgeorgesoshawa.org). Please submit your report in a word document format. If you are a leader of a Parish group or team, you are responsible for submitting a report outlining the activities of the group over the past year and upcoming plans for your group in 2026. Please call the office (905-723-7875) if you have any questions.

WHAT IS VESTRY?:

Vestry is the annual general meeting of the church. During vestry we will review and approve the financial statements for 2025/26, elect officers of the church and discuss other important matters of the church's business. Refreshments are provided.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?:

The most important thing the leadership of St. George's wants you to know is that **WE WANT YOU AT OUR VESTRY MEETING!** Your voice, your ideas and insights are valuable! This opportunity to gather **TOGETHER**, to identify **TOGETHER** our direction for the coming year, for as many people as possible at St. George's to feel a sense of ownership, responsibility and participation in the life of our congregation is of **VITAL** and **LIFE-GIVING** importance.

information - Lenten and Easter Services



You're invited to join our parish family as we make our way from Ash Wednesday through Holy Week to the celebration of Christ's glorious Resurrection on Easter. Surrounded by community and nourished by prayer, we will journey together in these holy season of Lent and Easter. Below is our schedule of services.

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday February 18, 2026

- 12:00 pm Said Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
- 7:00 pm Choral Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday - Sunday March 29, 2026

- 8:15 am BCP Holy Eucharist and Blessing of Palms
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist and Blessing of Palms

Stations of the Cross: Wednesday April 1, 2026

- 7:00 PM - walk the stations of the cross and meditate on the events of Jesus' final hours

Maundy Thursday: Thursday April 2, 2026

- 7:00 pm Choral Eucharist

Good Friday: Friday April 3, 2026

- 12:00 Noon Holy Eucharist

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil: Saturday April 4, 2026

- 7:00 pm Choral Eucharist

The Sunday of the Resurrection - Easter Day: Sunday April 5, 2026

- 8:15 am BCP Holy Eucharist
- 10:00 am Choral Eucharist and Healing Service

THE CANDELABRAS



The photo on the left shows one of the two beautiful candelabras that for many years stood on either side of the altar in St. George's Memorial Church. The two candelabras now reside in the Archives.

The candelabras were purchased in Cairo, Egypt by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Cowan and were given to the church in the 1920's as part of the furnishing of the sanctuary. They are over six feet tall and are covered in a gold-coloured brass filigree. The candles on the top are electric and it is unclear as to whether they were originally wax candles.

In 1982, the candelabras were removed to make room for Christmas trees that were in the sanctuary and were not immediately returned to their place at the altar. There were complaints from some of the parishioners and after much discussion it was decided to return them to the sanctuary.

However in 1995 there were complaints that the candelabras were not appropriate to be in a Christian church since they contained fragments of scripts that referred to Allah. The wardens had an expert examine the candelabras and he reported that there were several renditions of the expression "Allahu akbar" (God is greater), an expression that is also contained on the flag of Iraq. In his opinion the candelabras were probably made for a pious Muslim to be used in a home rather than a place of worship since Muslims have no ornamentation in mosques. He stated that it was incongruous and sacrilegious to both faiths to have these as a focal point of the celebration of the Christian sacrament.

The candelabras were removed from the sanctuary and placed in the archives. There were attempts made to give the candelabras to the local mosque but since they do not allow ornamentation in their place of worship, they could not accept them. There were also attempts made to sell them but there were no buyers. The Oshawa Community Museum is interested in acquiring them but until they have more storage space, they remain in the archives.

ZOOTOPIA 2



Movie Night



Free Popcorn and
Hot Chocolate

Jan 25, 5:30 PM

St. George's Memorial Church
Lower Parish Hall

@stgeorgesoshawa



Join us for some
(friendly)
COMPETITION

Jesus & JEOPARDY!

The Spirit Seekers are back again!

Grab your snacks
Grab your coffee
Grab your beloved priest

Questions spanning the Bible to beloved figures in
our church and community!

No ticket needed! All are welcome! But, any proceeds will go
to fund our youth group and future outreach programs.

1 FEB, 11:30AM
(coffee hour after the 10AM service)
LOWER PARISH HALL



PHASE II IMPROVEMENT PROJECT INFORMATION SESSION

NEWS FROM BISHOP RISCYLLA SHAW and the DIOCESE

**February 8, 2026
Following the 10 AM service**

Refreshments and presentation in the lower hall

SHROVE TUESDAY

PANCAKE SUPPER

St. George's Memorial Church Oshawa

Parish Hall

51 Centre St. S. Oshawa Ontario

Tues. February 17, 4:00-7:00pm

Pancakes and Sausages

Veggies and Dip

Dessert

Refreshments



Join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship!

Tickets

- available Jan 18th, 25th, and Feb 1, 8, 15 after church in the Peasgood Gallery OR
- at the church office Monday -Thursday 10-3, Friday 10-2
- Adults \$15
- Children under 12, \$5
- Family, 2 adults and children, \$30

All proceeds towards St. George's Church.

Events - Stewardship Sunday



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

"I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink. I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me." Matthew 25:35-40

April 12, 2026
10 AM: Peter Misiaszek - Guest Preacher

Refreshments and presentation following the service

Coming Soon

FOR AGES 4-9

Storytime Sunday

A Fun & Faith-Filled Experience

Full of Colour for Children

SUNDAYS | 10:15 AM

St. George's Memorial Anglican Church, Oshawa

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Storytime from the Bible
- Questions, imagination, and conversation
- Creative colouring activity
- Prayer and song
- Drop-in friendly

CONTACT US

905-723-7875
church@stgeorgesoshawa.org

All Kids Welcome!

COMING SOON

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events

- Jan 25 2026 - Spirit seekers Movie night 5:30 PM
- Jan 26 2026 Vestry Reports due
- Feb 1, 2026 Jesus and Jeopardy following the 10:00 AM service
- Feb 8, 2026 Parish Town Hall following the 10:00 AM service
- Feb 17, 2026 Pancake Supper
- Feb 18, 2026 Ash Wednesday
- March 29, 2026 Palm Sunday
- April 2, 2026 Maundy Thursday
- April 3, 2026 Good Friday
- April 4, 2026 Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil
- April 12, 2026 Stewardship Sunday