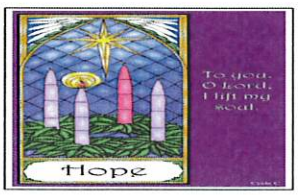
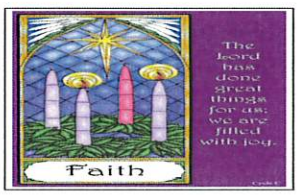
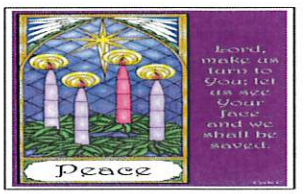
CONNECTIONS – ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - 2026









Beloved Parish Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As we enter the season of Advent, we are invited to pause, reflect and prepare our hearts to welcome Christ anew. Advent is a season of hope, expectation and spiritual renewal, reminding us of God's unfailing love and promises.

The prophet Isaiah declares, *"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light."*(Isa 9:2)

In a world filled with uncertainty and challenges, Christ remains our everlasting Light, bringing hope to the hopeless, peace to troubled hearts and love to all. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us remember that the greatest preparation is not decorating our homes but making room for Jesus in our hearts. May we share His love through kindness, compassion, forgiveness and care for those around us.

With grateful hearts, we thank God for blessing our parish with 180 years of faith and witness. I sincerely thank each of you for your prayers, generosity and dedication in making our 180th Anniversary celebrations truly memorable. May God continue to bless our parish and guide us in the years ahead.

As one parish family, may we continue to grow in faith, worship and fellowship, reflecting Christ's light in our community. May the joy of Christmas fill your homes, the peace of Christ guard your hearts, and God's abundant blessings accompany you and your families throughout the New Year.

Wishing you all a blessed Advent, a joyful Christmas and a grace-filled New Year 2027!

With every blessing and prayer,

Ravi

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." Isaiah 9:6

their speakers, but a man's voice reading the Christmas story. It was the very first radio broadcast...a man speaking the Word of God to an astounded audience.

Upon finishing his reading, Fessenden picked up his violin and played the haunting strains of "O Holy Night", not only marking the moment as the first broadcast of a man's voice, but the first song ever to be played over airwaves.

What a wild, unexpected journey this song has taken to reach our hearts today...much like the story of Christ Himself. And it tells us that God will use anyone—a wine commissioner and socialist, an unbelieving Jew, abolitionists and fighting, bleeding soldiers—to broadcast the love story He's written for humanity. "

An interesting side note to this article: Reginald Fessenden was a Canadian

UPCOMING APPEALS FROM THE DEACON'S CUPBOARD

Please be alert for details in the bulletins about our two year-end appeals to help the 200 families (700+ individuals) who come to our food bank.

- Woolly Basket – starting December 5, we ask for winter accessories (hats, mitts, gloves, scarves, socks...) for adults and children, to be distributed to the families just before Christmas
- Christmas Food Drive – also starting December 5, we ask for donations of non-perishable food to help us meet the needs a little more generously over the holiday season.

If you think you will have some spare time in the new year, please think about volunteering with us on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays – we offer varied work in a congenial setting.

Jacquie Boutheon

Sunday School – Growing in God's Love

Praise God! Our Sunday School continues to grow, with **31 registered children and 5 toddlers**. Over the past few months, we have joyfully welcomed several new children from our community into the Christ Church family.

It is a blessing to see our little ones singing, raising their tiny hands, and praising the Lord each Sunday. We sincerely thank the congregation for your continued prayers and support in providing a warm and welcoming environment where our children love to learn and grow in faith.

To God be the glory - *Juneta Small-Eastmond*



The **Communications Group** has noticed that we are attracting many newcomers to our church. We thank God for this and want to make everyone feel truly part of what we do here. While we are all familiar with the beautiful Sunday services, behind the scenes and every day, there are groups of fellow parishioners who perform a variety of services that greatly enhance the life at Christ Church.

So from now on, each time **Connections** is published, we will feature a group or two so you will get to know what each group does. They are all different but have one thing in common: "a need for many volunteer hands".

We pray this could be you!

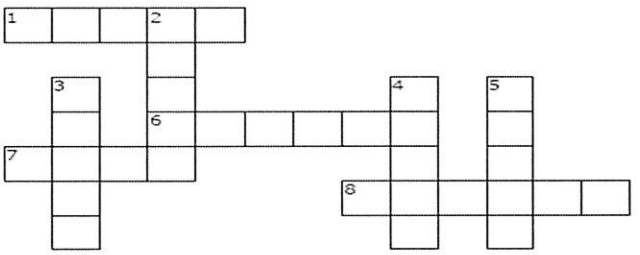
Miriam Mifsud

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

Angels Watching Over Me



When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." Matthew 2:13 (NIV)



ACROSS

1. To see images and hear voices in your mind while sleeping
6. To run away from someone or something; break loose; get free
7. To cause someone to die
8. A female parent

DOWN

2. A heavenly servant of God
3. A person from the time of birth until he or she is fully grown
4. The king of Judea who tried to kill baby Jesus
5. The part of every twenty-four hour period when it is dark

HEROD	NIGHT	CHILD	KILL
DREAM	ESCAPE	ANGEL	MOTHER

BOOKS NEEDING REPAIRS

If you should see any of the **green, blue or red** church's service books or **Holy Bibles**, that you think need repairs (e.g. a broken spine, present repair tape coming off, torn pages or any other damages) please ask one of the sidespersons to put it on the very top shelf where the books are stored. I will try to repair them. If you could put a piece of paper inside the book marked with what you feel needs fixing (e.g. broken spine, pages torn or loose- example pg.# 185,191 etc.) this will help me find everything that needs fixing.

Thank you for your help.

Ken Pestill

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SIDESPERSON?

Sidespersons are an integral part of worship at Christ Church.

Every Sunday, dedicated members welcome parishioners and visitors with kind words of greeting.

Bulletins, Prayer Books and Name Tags are given to worshipers as they enter the Sanctuary for worship.

Numbers for the hymns are posted on the Hymn Boards before the service.

Sidespersons carry the Offertory box and any other items to be blessed by the minister to the altar rail.

During the Eucharist we guide the congregation as they proceed to the altar.

When required, Sidespersons help handicapped persons use the elevator lift and stairlift.

Sidespersons are required at both the 8:30 am and the 10:00 am services.

Training is provided by the Sidesperson Committee members

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Sidesperson, please contact:

Lystra Ottley-Walters, Chairperson – 416-629-8229 or Andrea Francis



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

November 22 – Feast of Title, Reign of Christ

November 29 – Advent I

November 29 - Wellness Series: Diabetes Education after the 10:00 am Service

December 6 – Advent II

December 12 -Christmas Bake Sale and Tea Room 10.00 am – 1.30 pm

December 13 – Advent III Children's Pageant at 10.00 am

December 20 – Advent IV – Lessons & Carols at 10.00 am

December 21 – Longest Night/Blue Christmas, service at 7.00 pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve – Service at 7.00 pm

December 25 – Christmas Day – Service at 10.00 am

December 31 – New Year's Eve – Last Evensong of Old Year at 7.00

January 1 – New Year's Day – Service at 10.00 am

January 10 – Epiphany Sunday

January 24 - Sidespersons' Annual Meeting following the !0:00 am Service

February 9 - Pancake / Samosa Supper

