

The Bells of St. Helen's

EARLY SPRING 2026



KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY...

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

Facebook: [St. Helen's Anglican Church, Surrey](#) "like" us on Facebook!

The Rev. Dr. Robin Ruder Celiz is available by Email: sainthelensrector@gmail.com, or through the Church office: 604-581-4800. He typically will take Friday as his day off. A reminder that if you have anything that needs to be published in the Church bulletin, **the deadline for submissions by email: churchoffice@shawbiz.ca** please make sure to have it into the office before Thursday of that week.

Welcome to 2026 A very special time as St. Helen's Anglican Church begins a year-long celebration - 115 years since the consecration of our beautiful Church building and the work of the great Parish of St. Helen. We will spend this year not only remembering with gratitude all who have gone before us, the work, trials, joys and laughter they shared, as we celebrate the work, the talents, the joys and laughter that will move us forward into a fulfilling and blessed future. You are invited to come along, be part of this year which will determine the future of the Parish - it's an exciting time.... This edition of the "Bells" is to let you in on some of the events and special services that have been planned - but your input and most certainly your participation is expected and certainly most welcome - **THERE WILL BE NO SUCCESS WITHOUT YOU!!**

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Lenten Prayer



O Lord and Master of my life!
Take from me the spirit of laziness,
faint-heartedness, desire for power, and idle talk.

But give your servant
the spirit of chastity,
humility, patience, and love.

Yes, Lord and King!
Grant me to see my own errors
and not to unjustly or hastily judge my brother,
for you are blessed, now and forever. Amen.

Source: Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

ASH WEDNESDAY, Lent starts with Ash Wednesday, the day when you might see people with a cross of ashes on their foreheads. These ashes are a reminder of our need for repentance and the reality of our human frailty. The ash marks symbolize sorrow and mourning over sin. **Fasting during Lent** is a personal choice, which typically involves abstaining from certain foods or luxuries as a form of self-discipline and solidarity with the sufferings of Christ during His 40 days spent in the desert praying and fasting.

Palm Sunday MARCH 29, Worship service at 10:00 a.m. This is the last Sunday of Lent and the Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter and the final days of Jesus' life. Palm Sunday marks Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, when people welcomed Him with palm branches, recognizing Him as their King.

Maundy Thursday APRIL 2, Worship service at 7:00 p.m. remembers the Last Supper, when Jesus shared a final meal with His disciples and demonstrated humility by washing their feet.

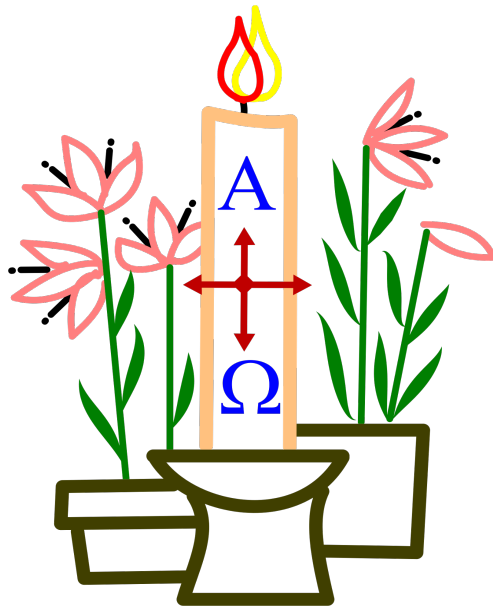
Good Friday APRIL 3, Worship service at 10:00 a.m. is a solemn day that commemorates Jesus' crucifixion and His ultimate sacrifice for our sins. Despite its sorrowful events, it's called "Good" because of the redemption Jesus secured for us.

Holy Saturday APRIL 4 Worship service at 7:00 p.m. is a day of quiet reflection, as we remember Jesus' time in the tomb and anticipate the joy of what's to come. We will light the fire outdoors, to symbolize the light of Christ, his resurrection and our salvation. In those moments of darkness in our lives let us look to the light of the Resurrection, and we will certainly realize that God truly can bring us from darkness and suffering to joy and light. When the wait is long and we feel that we are losing hope let's keep our eyes fixed on the Lord, for he will bring us His Holy Fire. A supper will be served prior to this service.

Finally, **Easter Sunday** bursts forth with celebration: Jesus is alive! His resurrection offers us hope, new life, and the promise of eternity with Him. Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. And here is something fun, joyful and takes a step back to remember the ones who gave so much to St. Helen's. On this EASTER DAY, we are asked to dress up - how dressy were the Easter Sundays of your youth? Ladies, make or wear an Easter bonnet - a nice, simple hat - dig out the white gloves (maybe) no one has to take part in this, but what a great picture we could take and post to Facebook and the Diocesan page - It is fun to be part of St. Helen's!!

Our formal celebrations of our 115th year will kick off at the upcoming Vestry Meeting, February 22, following the morning Worship service. Please do try to attend.

It happened right here....



St. Helens in the 1970s - when our family arrived at St. Helens in 1974 it was quite different from today. The main service was at 11:00 am. Miss Peggy Dingle played the little organ in the loft above the vestry, and she looked down on the altar which faced the wall. All the sidesmen were just that - men - as were the wardens. Communion was celebrated twice a month, and the last Sunday of the month was Family Sunday when all the many children were in for the whole service. A lot of the older people did not attend on that Sunday. What has not changed since then is the warm family feeling that is St. Helens today.

- Jacquie Stinson

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026 - St. Helen's will again take part in this service to be held on Friday, MARCH 6 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 10460 - 139th Street from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. ALL OUR WELCOME TO ATTEND - the service this year has been written by the Women of Nigeria. Please contact Judy Nicholson if you require more information. Those attending from St. Helen's are asking for company - please join us!!

