



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

SUNDAY 3rd MAY

Fourth Sunday after Easter

8:00am Holy Eucharist

Traditional (BCP). Said service

10:30am Holy Eucharist

Contemporary (BAS) with Music, Choir, & Sunday School
Refreshments & fellowship follow in the Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY 29th APRIL (Chapel)

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

Traditional (BCP). Said service.

Christ
The Way, the Truth,
and the Life.

JOHN 14:6



SUN 3 rd MAY	BAC Coffee Time	9:00 am
TUE 5 th MAY	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
THU 7 th MAY	Choir Practice	4:00 pm
FRI 8 th MAY	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am



When Things Fall Apart

From the Woodlands, by Bishop Jake Owensby

When I was ten years old, my father, my mother, and I moved into our newly constructed house. Previously, my mother and I had lived in a series of shabby rentals. Sometimes my father lived with us. Mostly not. So, this 900-square-foot house seemed like a new start for me. We would be a family with a place I could always call home.

A few weeks later, I was sitting alone in my bedroom. My father's angry voice echoed down the short hallway. I ran to the den and saw my father pointing a pistol at my mother's head. Without thinking I stepped between my parents, putting myself between the gun and my mother.

With an unaccountably calm, steady voice, I said, "Don't shoot my mother. If you kill her, you'll go to prison. You'll leave me an orphan." With a sneer, my father glared at me and said, "You'd be better off an orphan."

I stood my ground.

Exactly what happened to break the tension escapes me now. I remember only that my father ended up in my parents' bedroom. My mother and I holed up in my room with the door locked. That night, my dream of home shattered.

When the school year came to an end, my mother and I slipped away from that tiny South Georgia town and escaped my abusive father. As I discussed in a previous post, we secretly boarded a Greyhound bus bound for Miami. We each had one suitcase. My mother had squirreled away only enough money to last for a few weeks. She had no job. No firm prospects. In time, we became homeless.

All of this taught me a stark truth. We live in a world where things fall apart. And that lesson left me a crucial question. So, now what? Or to be more precise, how do I thrive, not just survive, in this unstable place? What is the path to the full-hearted life I yearn for? A life filled with enduring meaning and animated by a worthy purpose?

For a while, I tumbled into cynicism: nothing lasts so nothing matters.

That worked for about fifteen minutes. But sense I yearned for meaning and purpose, admitting the pointlessness of existence turned out to be an obvious dead end.

Some Christians urged me to believe that everything has a reason. It's all part of God's plan. Just believe and good things will happen in the end. Honestly, that just never worked for me. Maybe it's because I'm the child of a Holocaust survivor, but there are some things that I cannot square with a divine plan. So that version of faith was a non-starter for me.

Gradually, I came to perceive the full-hearted life as something that I would have to achieve. The construct of my own effort, wit, and grit. Now this did result in a number of athletic, academic, and career accomplishments.

But the problem with accomplishments is that their glow inevitably fades. So, the pursuit of the next accomplishment is always part of this pattern of life. The pressure to achieve is relentless. It exhausts us.

Besides, forces well beyond my own willpower shape our world and our individual lives. Long stable democracies get shaky. Wars erupt. Economies crack. Disease, addiction, and senseless accidents can tear up the script we thought we were writing all along. And of course, the Grim Reaper comes for each of us.

No matter how diligently and responsibly we strive to erect the full-hearted life, things fall apart. We still yearn for a full-hearted life. And so the question remains. Now what?

Jesus offers a paradoxical way of being in the world: letting go. Letting go of the life we are trying to construct. The life we think we can hold together with enough effort, discipline, and faith. The life that depends, in the end, on us getting it right.

That is the life we are invited to release. Because we are not the ones holding it all together. Jesus put it this way: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me." (John 14:1) In other words, do not exhaust yourself trying to

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SERVE WITH US

HELP WANTED!

Trinity invites community members to join the team of volunteers at our 10:30 service.

We are currently seeking servers and Eucharistic Ministers. **No experience necessary!**

Simple and interesting training provided to ensure your confidence in these roles.



CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE: For more information or to express an interest, please email trinityreception@eastlink.ca or call **519-426-0501**.

secure a life that you cannot achieve, no matter how hard you try or how faithful you are. Entrust yourself to God. Entrust yourself to Jesus. Receive the life that is being given.

But receiving this life is not passive. It is costly. Because the life Jesus gives does not simply supplement the one we are trying to build. It replaces it. And that replacement is not merely interior. It takes shape in how we move through the world.

It shows up in what we do when things fall apart. Do we grasp for control? Do we turn inward? Do we protect ourselves at all costs? Or do we entrust ourselves to God—and remain open, available, and present to the lives around us? Here's how Jesus put it: "Love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:12-13).

To receive our life from God is to be freed from the need to secure it for ourselves. And once we are no longer organizing our life around protecting it, we are able to give it. Not as a new burden to carry. But as the shape this life naturally takes.

- To tell the truth when it costs us.
- To remain present when it would be easier to withdraw.
- To stand with the vulnerable rather than aligning with power.

To absorb a measure of the world's pain instead of passing it along. This is what it looks like to take up our cross. Not as an abstract ideal. Not as a private feeling. But as a way of being in the world.

We live in uncertain, harrowing, and rapidly changing times. Things do fall apart. Some surrender to cynicism. Others grasp for control. And both, in their own way, lead us further from the life we are seeking.

Jesus offers another way. Let go of the life we are trying to hold together. Entrust ourselves to God. And from that place, live a life we can give away in love, even when it costs us.

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE SHIRLEY BISHOP'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Shirley at 100

CELEBRATING AN INCREDIBLE MILESTONE

May 24th, 2026 | Parkview Meadows
2:30 to 4:00 | Townsend, Ontario



BAC Coffee Time

Starting at 9:00am on Sunday, **MAY 3rd** in the Parish Hall

ALL WELCOME

Guest Speaker

Rev. Enrique Martinez

Saint Andrew's Memorial Church, London, Ontario

Fr. Enrique will be our guest preacher at 8:00am & 10:30 services.

Coffee, Tea, Juice plus tasty items will be available

Parkview Meadows

72 Town Centre Drive

Townsend, Ontario

RSVP: Sarah Bishop

519-426-0890 or

sjbishop@eastlink.ca



Branch 79, SIMCOE

WINGS & MORE!!!

CHICKEN WINGS
1 LB. \$11.00 3 LBS. \$30.00

FRIED PEROGIES served with onions,
peppers, cheese and sour cream
6 for \$8.50 12 for \$17.00

ONION RINGS \$5.50
FRIES \$5.00
POUTINE \$7.00

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!!

FRIDAY, MAY 1
5-8PM

Letting go, being held

By the mystery of grace,
the imperishable power of love,
death rolls over in its grave,
sighs,
and lets go.

No one could hold onto Jesus—
the soldiers at the tomb,
Mary in the garden,
the disciples at Emmaus.
Every time he slips through our fingers
and into our hearts.

Resurrection is such a mystery;
it's hard to grasp
letting go,
being held.

By Steve Garnaas-Holmes
unfoldinglight.net

BE A STAR & BRING A JAR

During the month of **March** there will be a box at the back of the church for donations of Jars. Perhaps during lent, if you have large collection you might want to "give up" a Jar or two? Or maybe your Lenten practice is to just to give? What exactly are we are looking for?



Jar Specifications: ♦ Jam jar size or smaller
♦ Clean and with it's original lid ♦ Jars I would like- is to be decorative- by that I mean- it might be - oddly shaped, have beveled sides, or it may have glass embellishments.

Thanks. **Marlene Robinson.**

Weather Report (After Spring Rains)

Joy,
borne on winds beyond our control,
falling like rain
throughout the night
before we were aware.
Chance of flooded hearts.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes
unfoldinglight.net

Mother's Day Brunch

St. John's Anglican, Woodhouse
879 Norfolk St. S, Simcoe

Sunday, May 10th, 2026

Seatings: 9am, 10am, 11am, 12am

Please call 519-426-4461 for Tickets

Walk-ins Welcome!

Adults / \$20

6-12 / \$10

5 & under / free

Proceeds support our Cemetery Board and upkeep.

CONTACT US

☎ (519)-426-0501

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N3Y4H5

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🌐 www.trinitysimcoe.ca

📘 [www.Facebook.com/Trinitysimcoe](https://www.facebook.com/Trinitysimcoe)

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday
9:00am-12:00 noon



THE DIOCESE OF HURON

The Rt. Rev. Dr. R. Todd Townshend
Bishop of Huron

1-800-919-1115

Huron Church House

190 Queens Avenue, London,

ON N6A 6H7 www.diohuron.org



The Bishop of Huron's Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Conference

Guest Speaker:

The Right Rev'd Todd Townshend

FINDING THE FACE OF GOD IN PRAYER

Please join us

Saturday, May 2, 2026

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Church of St. Jude's, London

1537 Adelaide St N, London ON

Cost: 20:00

Registrar: Susan Johnson—brlmail2@aol.com

CAR BOOT SALE

Multi-vendor outdoor sale of antiques, collectables, vintage, and good junque!

FREE ENTRY

SAT MAY 9 & JUNE 13, 2026 - 8AM TO NOON



AT THE WATERFORD MUSEUM - 159 NICHOL STREET, WATERFORD
WHAT TO BE A VENDOR? VISIT NORFOLKHERITAGE.CA

Waterford and District Horticultural Society Annual Plant Sale

Foodland Waterford, Old Highway 24,
Fri May 15, 2026 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM (EDT)

This much anticipated spring event features a wide variety of locally grown plants, seedlings, perennials, herbs, and garden treasures — all prepared and donated by dedicated volunteers. Proceeds from the sale support the Society's community beautification projects, public plantings, and educational programs that help keep Waterford blooming. Visitors can also enter a Basket Draw — Tickets will be on Sale for a draw for a beautiful garden basket, learn more about the Society's activities, and browse items from the annual merchandise fundraiser, which runs online from May 4 to May 24. Our plant sale is a wonderful way to connect with fellow gardeners and support the green spaces that make our town special, we're excited to welcome everyone back for another year of community spirit and spring colour. Sales can be done by cash or etransfer, For more information, visit the Society's Facebook page.



Did you know the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's is the biggest event in Canada supporting Alzheimer's disease?

Last year, across Canada, we raised more than \$7.2 million - the highest total ever - marking an incredible year in the history of the Walk for Alzheimer's. Funds raised support programs and services in the community they were raised - **but we can't do it without you!**

Or why not sponsor our very own Judy Wilson!? Judy will be taking part in the Walk for Alzheimer's at the Lion's Park in Jarvis. You can find Judy at church on Sundays at 8:00am and Wednesdays at 10:30am. Judy will be at the 10:30am service on Sunday 10, 17 and 24th May too. Alternatively, we can collect donations at the church office.

Or call Judy

 519-426-1638



Help for Today. Hope for Tomorrow...®



To keep our hearts focused, please take a quick moment to ensure your devices are tucked away and set to silent before the service begins.

Thank you for helping us all stay present.