

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER

Season of Creation/ St. Francis of Assisi

8:00am Holy Eucharist

Traditional (BCP). Said service

10:30am Holy Eucharist

Contemporary (BAS) with Music

Refreshments & fellowship follow in the Parish Hall

7th OCTOBER (Chapel)

10:30 am Holy Eucharist



UPCOMING
EVENTS

TUE 6 th OCTOBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
WED 7 th OCTOBER	Contemplative Prayer	9:15am
WED 7 th OCTOBER	Lynn Valley Voices	4:00 pm
THU 8 th OCTOBER	Huron Farm Workers Ministry	2:00-8:00 pm
THU 8 th OCTOBER	Choir Practice	4:00—5:30 pm
FRI 9 th OCTOBER	Tai Chi Foundations	9:00am
FRI 9 th OCTOBER	Huron Farm Workers Ministry	2:00-8:00 pm

Something to Consider

For about 100 years, members of our community have gathered every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to worship and connect together. We are deeply grateful for this long-standing tradition and the many generations it has served.

As our community’s needs evolve, a few members have recently raised questions about whether adjusting our service time—to 8:30 AM or 9:00 AM—might better support our congregation.

Before making any changes, we want to listen carefully to everyone. Your voice and presence matter greatly to us, and we want to ensure any decision reflects the needs and heart of our whole community.

Please rest assured that we are not considering eliminating the early service; this is simply an exploration to see whether a slightly later start time (especially in the dark winter months) might better suit those who attend. Additionally, if we do decide to adjust the time, the change would take place on a trial basis, followed by fresh congregational input after three months of the new schedule. The 10:30 AM and Wednesday services will continue as usual.

A survey regarding this question will be available at the 8 AM service this week. If you are not at 8 AM but would like to complete the survey, please stop by the office to do so, or reach out to receive an electronic copy which you can complete and return to the church office.

Thank you for your time, your thoughtful feedback, and your continued dedication to our shared life together.

Lynn

A Life-Shaping Aspiration

Our cat Iggy prefers the outdoors. We rescued him (with a little help from our youngest) eleven years ago. In that time he’s gone through several of his nine lives. Among other things, he’s faced off local wildlife and gotten himself locked in a neighbor’s house for a week while they were on vacation. Since the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi is here, you might expect me to take Iggy for a pet blessing. And I admit, he does seem like he could use one. But he has made it perfectly clear that he’s profoundly non-liturgical.

Iggy’s distaste for pet blessings aside, I love marking the feast of that 13th Century monk. He’s one of my favorites. But it’s not the whole pet blessing thing. Like the Franciscan priest and friar Richard Rohr, I regret the narrow image that The Blessing of the Animals saddles Francis with: the meek and gentle nature lover. Rohr calls that Birth-Bath Francis.

You see, I admire the saint because he embodies the defining aspiration for disciples of Jesus. John Mark Comer summarizes that aspiration this way: do what Jesus would do if he were you.

Francis was born into a wealthy merchant family in Assisi. The city was enjoying an economic boom, and the poor from the surrounding countryside poured into town hoping for a better life. The result was rising poverty and widespread misery.

Recognizing the need, Francis forsook his life of comfort and privilege and founded a monastic order dedicated to serving the poor and the suffering. Franciscan friars took vows of poverty. Instead of living in settled monasteries, they wandered from town to town and begged in order to live in solidarity with

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Dear Friends,

We are very happy to report that the **Con Brio Christmas Children’s Choir** continues to grow for our December event. We now have **32 children** registered—ranging in age from 5 to 13, including 8 boys. Because many of these families are new to us, it is a wonderful opportunity for our church community to welcome them.

To help everything run smoothly, Gena is looking for volunteers to assist with attendance and supervision. We would appreciate having **two volunteers each Thursday evening** from **5:45 PM to 7:15 PM** in the basement music room.

Rehearsal Dates:

October: 8, 15, 22, 29
November: 5, 12, 19, 26
December: 3 and 10

Special Event:

Sunday, December 13: From 1:45 PM until the end of the **Choirs & Carols** event.

If you can lend a hand for one or more of these dates, **please sign up on the form located in the church hall**. Thank you so much for your time and for supporting our young musicians

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Dear friends of Trinity,

We have a unique opportunity to welcome 32 families into our church over the next two months. Can you help?

On Thursday evenings starting on October 8th, 32 children (and maybe more before then) will be entering our doors to sing in a choir for our annual Choirs & Carols event in December. The family members of these children will be invited to remain in the church hall on these evenings while their child rehearses in the basement.

If we have people from the church available to welcome and talk with them each Thursday evening, how wonderful would it be to encourage them to join us on a Sunday!!

So, I am asking for additional help, if possible. This is my community outreach for Trinity!

I still need adults to assist with the children in the basement between 6-7 pm, although, I am not overly worried about that as a veteran educator! What if we could get people to be at the side door to welcome people into the church hall, chat with them, and invite them to Trinity? Maybe we can even put on a large pot of coffee the first evening! I will buy paper cups!!

Are you available to come and welcome people around 5:45-6:15 or stay longer to chat with families?

Let’s see if we can grow our church one child, one family at a time!

In gratitude,

Gena



Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday is fast approaching on October 11th.

We are reminded that this season serves as a meaningful reminder of the abundance provided to us in creation. In grateful response to these blessings, we express our thanks by extending generosity to those in our local community who are currently facing difficulties and require assistance.

As is our tradition at Thanksgiving, we are partnering to support the **Simcoe Caring Cupboard Food Bank**. Non-perishable items are requested and they have suggested specific items listed below to help replenish their shelves:

Breakfast & Snacks: Oatmeal packets, granola bars, and cereal bars; **Pantry Staples:** Rice and pasta packets, pasta sauce; **Canned Goods:** Canned vegetables (especially niblets corn); **Proteins:** Tuna, canned chicken, or canned ham; **Desserts:** Pudding mixes

Important Note:

Please ensure all donations are strictly nut-free and avoid other common allergens.

Donation Details: Please bring your items to the church office during office hours, or bring them to the church service. All donations will be gathered and presented for a special blessing during the service on **Sunday, October 11th**.

For All the Saints

Prayers and Readings for Saints’ Days
According to the Calendar of the
Book of Alternative Services of the
Anglican Church of Canada

St. Francis of Assisi 4 October Friar, 1226 — Memorial



Today we celebrate Francis of Assisi, the thirteenth-century Italian whose greatest honour was to be known as *il Poverello*, “the little poor one of Christ.”

He grew up in a very wealthy family and seemed to have not a care in the world until he was twenty years old, when a chance encounter with a leper left him appalled by his own uselessness. Soon afterwards he heard

Jesus speaking to him from a painting of the crucifixion over the altar of a local church. He threw away his wardrobe and renounced his father’s wealth in order to care for the poor and the crippled. In 1208 he heard the commission which the risen Lord gave to his apostles, “Go, make all nations my disciples,” and knew that it was also addressed to him. Francis began to train his followers for the task of making Jesus truly known and loved among the ordinary people of Italy. Out of this movement developed the Order of the Lesser Brethren, commonly called the Franciscans.

Francis cared deeply for his new Order, but he also grew restless as it became an established institution of the Church. He distanced himself from its day-to-day life and eventually went his own way as he strove to imitate Christ’s total obedience to God. Two years before his death he was granted a sign which manifested this desire. One September day in 1224, he had a vision of the Crucified borne on the wings of a seraph. As the vision withdrew, the wounds of Jesus appeared in Francis’s own flesh — the scars like nail-wounds on his hands and feet, and in his right side a scar like a spear-wound. These marks, called the *stigmata*, remained on Francis’s body until his death two years later.

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those they served. Their very lives preached the Gospel as a Jesus-shaped way of being in the world.

Years later, the Franciscan order eventually erected more permanent residences. Stability made it possible for the Franciscan legacy to be articulated in the writing of two great theologians: St. Bonaventure and John Duns Scotus.

Let's turn first to St. Bonaventure (approx. 1217-1274). Writing in the thirteenth century, Bonaventure reminded us that every creature came into being as a result of an expenditure of divine energy. Everything—rocks and salamanders and red giant stars—bear the Maker's mark. He actually said that created things have vestiges or footprints of the Maker. Think for a moment about glow-in-the-dark toys. They contain a substance called phosphor that absorbs light from another source and then gradually emits that light over time. By analogy, Bonaventure's point is that every created thing gives off a sort of afterglow of the divine energy, a glow that points back to the Creator. However, this analogy breaks down in an important way. Glow-in-the-dark toys stop glowing eventually. Phosphorescent balls or plastic stars that you stick on your ceiling grow dim after a while. When these things sit in a drawer or a cabinet or a dark room for ages without coming into contact with a light, they still exist but just won't glow. However, time does not diminish the Creator's glow within created things. That's because in each instant, God is actively sustaining everything that is. If God were not expending energy to keep something in existence, it would recede into nothingness. God's love is, as it were, shining through the creation.

Next, let's turn to John Duns Scotus (approx. 1265-1308). He sought to answer the question: Why did God become a human being? Many Catholic and Protestant thinkers alike have seen Jesus as God's Plan B. God sent Jesus to die for our sins. Had Adam and Eve never eaten the forbidden fruit, there would have been no Jesus. Grace enters the universe as a repair kit.

By contrast, Duns Scotus insists that Jesus was not part of some Plan B. When God decided to bring the world into being, Jesus was God's very first thought. Grace governs the creation from its inception. God created each rosebush, aardvark, and proton one at a time. Each dog, each star, and each human being is radically unique. No one and nothing is interchangeable. Every creature in this vast universe is completely irreplaceable.

God made each being to love. That includes each and every one of us fragile, coarse, tender, wounded, glorious human beings. To love means to draw near. To get so close that you become one. In Jesus, the divine and the human are so intimately woven together as to be inseparable. That has been God's aim from all of eternity. And it is in Jesus that we see who we truly are as human beings: The one who God loves. No one on this planet is a mistake. No one is disposable. God created each of us to be one with us.

The message of the Incarnation is a comfort for each of us personally. God love us. Period. It is also commission.

God loves everybody else and everything else in the creation that same way. Period. That is what we see in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. And the aspiration that shapes a disciple's life is to do what Jesus would do if he were me. Love what God loves how God loves it.

Notice that this not just the old familiar WWJD bracelet idea. Each of us is different. I am not Francis of Assisi. Neither am I St. Paul, St. Margaret, St. Clare, or St. Thomas Aquinas. I'm just Jake Owensby. With my personal history, my gifts, and my limitations.

Rather, I'm called to believe that Jesus will act in and through me as I actually am. He will pour his love for the world through me in the way that I was made for. You and I can love with the Jesus-love in ways that differ according to our specific circumstances.

Francis show us that there are two basic steps in doing what Jesus would do if he were me. First, let the world's need genuinely matter to you. Second, let Jesus' love move you toward that need. And do remember, it's Jesus' love that ultimately addresses the world's need.

As I believe the Talmud says, you're not obligated to complete the work, but you're not at liberty to abandon it. Jesus will complete. In the meantime, you can seek to do what Jesus would do if he were you.

Jake Owensby

The Woodlands:

A place to explore the way of Jesus.



St. Paul's Church is pleased to invite *YOU* to join us at our Community Breakfast

Saturday, October 3rd • 8:30 a.m.

**St. Paul's Community Hall
302 St. George Street**

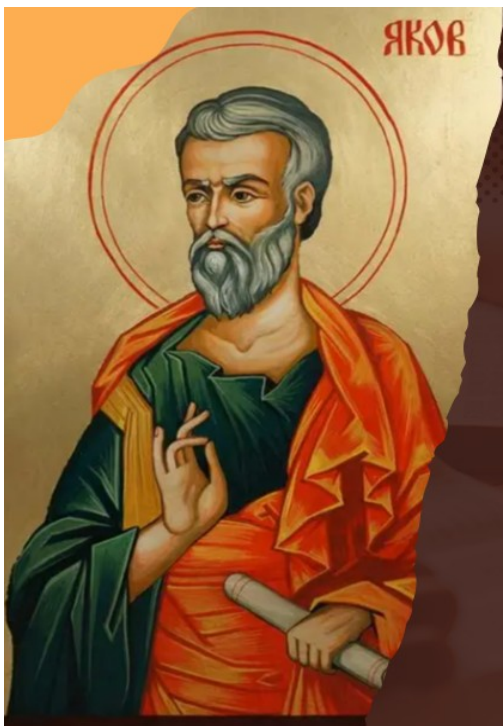
Guest speaker:

Willemina Zwart, Founder of SOCO Beach Project

***Everyone welcome!* Young or old(er)**

Bring a family member, a neighbour, or a friend.

Compliments of St. Paul's



MIXER ROOM

Join Our BIBLE STUDY

The Letter of James
Leader: Kevin Norbury

Starting Wednesday,
October 14–November 18

A Six-week study
11:30–12:30

✦ *Bring your Bible, a notebook, and invite a friend.*

Trinity Anglican, 80 Colborne St.S



HELP *Amiera* GET TO THE WORLD DOWN SYNDROME SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

BIG GOAL NEEDED \$15,000

Hello everyone! We have an extraordinary celebration—and an opportunity to support one of our own.

Amiera, the talented granddaughter of George Anger, has qualified to represent Team Canada at the World Down Syndrome Swimming Championships in Portugal!

While Amiera has conquered the pool, her family is now working hard to cover the expenses for the trip. George shares the inspiring details of her success, their fund-raising journey so far, and how we can all help in his note below...

Amiera, my grand daughter, finished well at the Canadian Special Olympics, winning 2 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals.

Her performance qualified her to compete at the World Down Syndrome swimming championships in Portugal coming at the end of October.

Problem though. No government funding. Amiera and her mom, who is one of the team coaches, has to pay their own way \$15000. They will be part of Team Canada.

So we've been fund raising. Last weekend in Turkey Point, we gathered 3500 beer cans and \$175 in bottles. They also had a bottle / can collection in Stratford.

Some dear friends helped by making a cash donation. Thanks Liz and Andi and some generous neighbors. But they still have a long way to go. Hence my note. If you can donate in any way, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

George Anger





The Peace Prayer of St. Francis

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.



Help Keep Our Trinity Social Events Going!

We all love the fellowship and connection that comes with our church social events. To make sure these gatherings can continue, the **Trinity Social Committee** needs your help!

We are looking for new members to join our team. Our commitment is light—we hold only **one planning meeting per year** and gather helpers from the congregation to share the work for each event. If you would like to help us keep these special moments a part of our church life, please contact **Debbie Vankerrebroeck** at **519-428-6474**.

CONTACT US

☎ (519)-426-0501

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🌐 www.trinitysimcoe.ca

www.facebook.com/Trinitysimcoe

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday

9:00am-12:00 noon

Visitors always welcome.

THE DIOCESE OF HURON

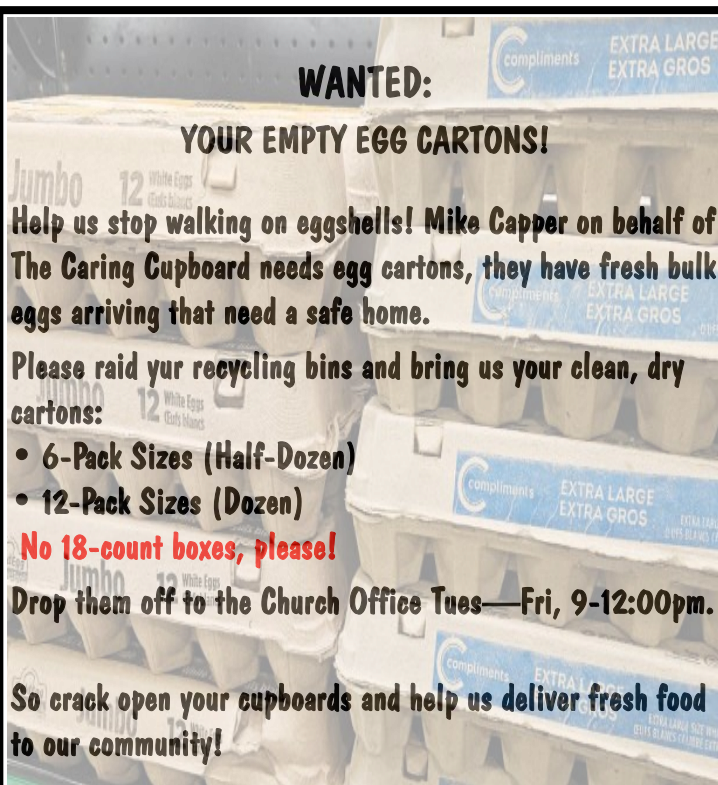
The Rt. Rev. Dr. R. Todd Townshend
Bishop of Huron

1-800-919-1115

Huron Church House

190 Queens Avenue, London,

ON N6A 6H7 www.diohuron.org



Boiler Update:

The Wardens have received quotes from three contractors for the boiler replacement and are now finalizing the quotes for review. Once this is completed we will make a decision and the arrangements to start the work.

Currently our Boiler Fund is now at \$27,845.00—if you wish to donate to the Boiler Fund please mark your cheques on the memo line “Boiler fund”.

Thank you for your support