



December 2025



THE LOOP

Church Phone – 519 – 485 – 0385

E-Mail - stjamesingersoll@gmail.com

ADVENT IS HERE!

The call of Advent
is a call to live wide awake
so that we can be alert
to God working in us
and in our world
to bring about the Kingdom.

Awareness is another
way of talking
about being awake.

Work today to be aware of the
needs of people around you

Philip Berrigan and Elizabeth McAlister



**PAX
CHRISTI**

International Catholic Movement for Peace

St Joseph's, Watford Way,
London NW4 4TY
www.paxchristi.org.uk



1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE** or **CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE** or **THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **"CHRIST CANDLE"** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

It is a joyful time for all of us this December as we celebrate the season of Advent in our new permanent location at 130 Thames St. S. It has been a long journey in time, not in distance but in time, to arrive at this spot and firmly place our Anglican roots in Ingersoll in one central location again. Lots to read and think about in this final 2025 edition of "The Loop". Thankyou to all of our contributors. – Your Editor – *Veronica Jackson*

Inside This Issue

Pg 1 Advent is Here

Pg 2 Rector's Message

Pg 3 Vision Report

Pg 4 – 8 Consecration Sunday

Pg 9 Needle Craft

Pg 10 Prayer List / Rest in Peace

Pg 11- 12 Capital Campaign

Pg 12 Youth Opportunities



From The Desk of The Reverend Marty Keatings

Preparation for Christ's Coming

Perhaps you've heard the story of the little boy who desperately wanted a bike for Christmas. His parents could not afford a bike, so he decided to write a letter to God asking for a bike. He started out by writing: "Dear God, I've been a really good boy this year." Unfortunately, he remembered that God was all knowing and all seeing and he decided that he shouldn't lie to God. So, he crumpled up that letter and started over. This time he wrote: "Dear God, I know I haven't done everything I should have, but I really tried to be good." He stopped and crumpled up that letter, too. It was obvious that he was struggling with what to write to God.

As he sat there thinking he looked up and saw his mother's favorite piece of sculpture on the mantel. It was a beautiful rendition of the Crèche, baby Jesus in the manger with Mary and Joseph kneeling beside him. The boy perked up and ran out of the room. He came back with a towel and a shoe box. He walked over, carefully picked up the baby Jesus, gently wrapped it in the towel, carefully put it in the shoe box and then hid it in the closet. He immediately went back to the table and wrote: "Dear God, if you ever want to see your Son again . . ."

Every year the world, with its multiplicity of gadgets and this year's list of must have toys, tries to make demands and hold Christmas for ransom, but it never works. The birth of the Christ child is just too powerful, even for Bay Street. The sight and the sounds and the remembrance of this child born so long ago changes all the rules. His very presence makes the glitter of our Christmas presents pale in comparison.

Ours is a God who has created all things and pronounced them "Good". Ours is the God who says to each of us "Come to me all you who are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Ours is the God of St. Paul, who has giving to each one of us His peace, a peace that passes any kind of human understanding. Ours is the God who has taken on flesh in the Person of Jesus, and has lived with us, and died for us. And in the resurrection, ours is the God who is present to us, and in love with us. God with us and for us. This is a God in love with us, and calling us to fall deeper and deeper in love with him.

And that's the God we meet this Christmas morning.

God with us and God for us. Once we clearly recognize that Truth, then we can properly prepare for the coming of Christmas by reflecting on the grace and the power of what has been done for us by God. We need to prepare for the coming of Christmas by opening our hearts to the wonder of God become human for us in the person of the child of Bethlehem. And we need to do that through prayer.

Before the celebration, take time alone with God and consider what it is we celebrate, and give thanks for the Real meaning of Christmas. Don't wind up in a position of simply acknowledging an event, become part of the event. And you can only do that through prayerful preparation to meet God in Jesus Christ. And then this Christmas we can rejoice with great hope and great confidence in proclaiming "for to us is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord!"

Marty+

Christmas Eve Services – Dec. 24th

Family Service – 4:30 pm Holy Eucharist

Evening Service – 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist

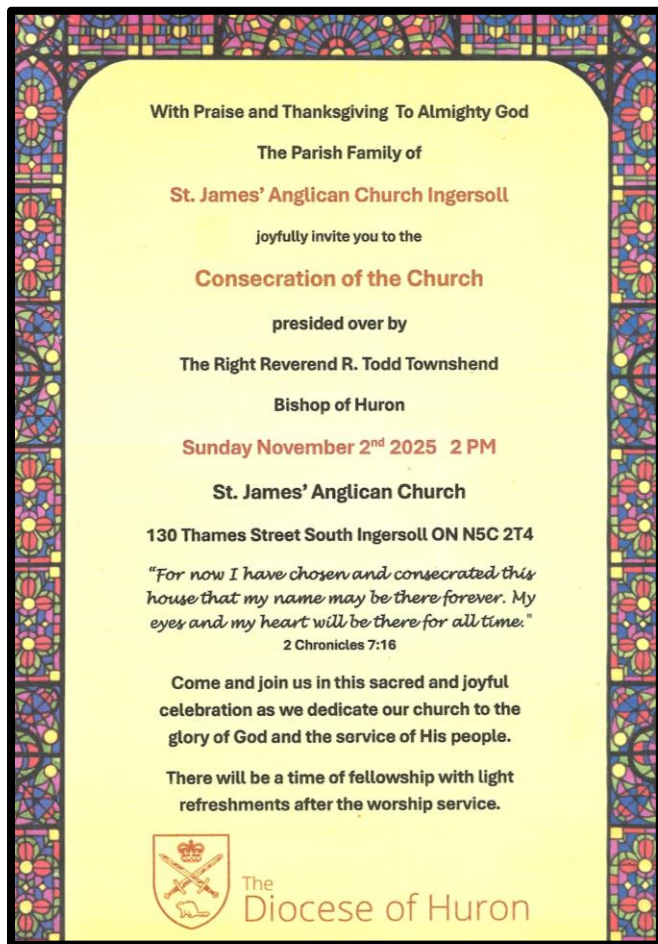
Christmas Day Service – Dec. 25th

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist



Vision Committee Report

WELCOME HOME!



Consecration Day with the Bishop and Archdeacons on November 2, 2025, was a beautiful and memorable occasion. A full house witnessed Bishop Todd bless our new building marking the official launch of a new era of worship services and activities for St. James'. The worship service was followed by a social time when we all had an opportunity to chat and share in the excitement.

That day was made possible by every one of us in this parish remaining committed to crossing the finish line together.

All building committee members as well as The Vision Implementation Committee (VIC), both past and present members, worked tirelessly over the past six years on this project and each of them appreciates your support in helping us fulfill our mandate to resettle the parish. I offer my sincere thanks to each of them for their thoughtfulness, time commitment, collaboration and faithfulness.

Having achieved our mandate, the Vision Implementation Committee has been officially dissolved.

While we enjoy our new surroundings and get our "land legs" as they say, there is still much to do. In November, we reapplied to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and provided all the various support documents they require to consider our request for tax exemption. Stay tuned!

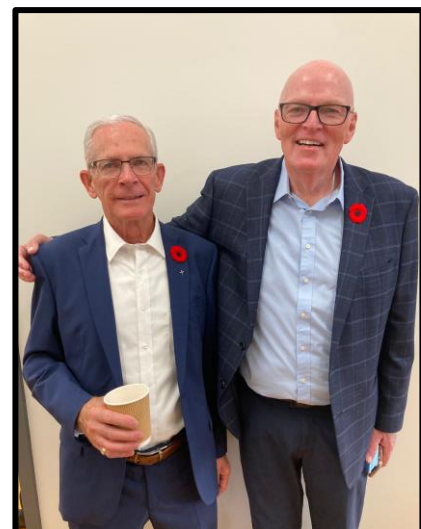
Recently, our front windows were frosted, now providing a comfortable degree of privacy and soon the front façade will be adorned with our name. The Spring / Summer interval will see the front masonry repaired / renewed and our roof repaired.

Currently, our coffee room is in need of counters and cupboards. A quote for that work has been received and will be considered by the design committee over the next few weeks. Once approved by all levels, we'll need to source the necessary funds.

On a personal note, I am absolutely overwhelmed with the support this project received from each member of our congregation. Thank you so very much!

Submitted by Chair, *Michael Watson*

On behalf of Pierre Beaumier, Margaret Burford
Jim Hunt, Veronica Jackson, Rev'd Marty Keatings, Bob Welt



Warden Mike and Deputy Warden Jim

Consecration Sunday November 2, 2025

Ingersoll church blesses its new home



A spirit of celebration filled the room as the Consecration service began.

Article and photos by Ron Yurzak – Woodstock Ingersoll Echo

This past Sunday, November 2, St. James Anglican Church celebrated the consecration of its new home at 130 Thames Street South on Sunday, Nov. 2. The Bishop of the Diocese of Huron, The Right Reverend R. Todd Townshend, Th.D., led the service, blessing the building and officially opening the doors to a new chapter for the congregation. The church was filled with joyful faces—parishioners, longtime supporters, and curious neighbours—all gathered to witness the special moment.

After six years of transition since leaving their former gothic-style church, the congregation embraced this milestone with gratitude and excitement. The hour-long service was a beautiful blend of tradition, hope, and community spirit. Guests were invited to explore the new space, share memories, and look ahead to the future of worship and outreach at St. James. To learn more about the church's story and upcoming events, visit <http://www.st-jamesingersoll.com>. (RON YURZAK PHOTOS)



A milestone moment as Bishop Townshend consecrated the new St. James Anglican Church with heartfelt prayers and blessings.

Our congregation celebrated this very special Eucharist service led by Bishop Todd and several other members of the clergy from Huron and the Diocese of Toronto. Our own lay readers, Lorraine Livingston and Bob Welt, took part in the service, as did Reverend Marty, Reverend Sue, music director Kristy, and Wardens Mike and Veronica. It was a special occasion as well for the Watson family as Shane, who grew up in this parish, and is now a Deacon at St. John the Evangelist Church in Port Hope, assisted Bishop Todd. We had a very large crowd of parish members and visitors who attended the Service of Eucharist and Consecration. It was an "historic" afternoon!





R
E
C
E
P
T
I
O
N

G
U
E
S
T
S



A Very Happy Occasion



The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron
The Anglican Church of Canada

SENTENCE OF CONSECRATION

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD,

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WHEREAS a Church has been erected in the Town of Ingersoll, within our Diocese and jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the said building is complete and furnished with all things requisite for the due performance of public worship; and, is now ready for CONSECRATION;

AND WHEREAS, a Petition has been presented to us by the Incumbent and others, praying that we would be pleased to CONSECRATE the said building.

NOW THEREFORE, WE Todd, by divine permission and in Apostolic Succession, Bishop of Huron, do by virtue of the authority Ordinary and Episcopal to us committed, CONSECRATE the said building, and do set it apart from all profane and common uses, and do dedicate the same to Almighty God for the ministration of His Holy Word and Sacraments, and for public worship, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Anglican Church of Canada, by the name of: **SAINT JAMES CHURCH**, in the Town of INGERSOLL.

WE DO PRONOUNCE, DECREE AND DECLARE THAT the said Church shall remain so CONSECRATED, set apart and dedicated forever.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

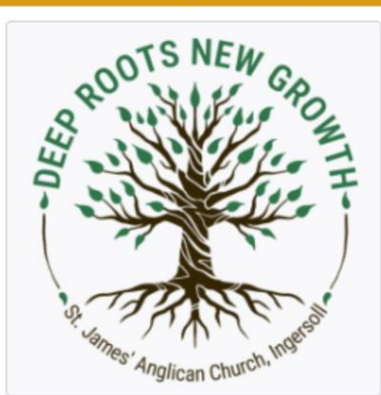


F. Todd: Huron

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Seal of the Bishop of Huron is hereunto affixed on this 2nd day of November, in the year of our Lord 2025 and in the 6th year of our **Consecration**.

Layreaders Archdeacons
 Diocese Supporters Council
 Campaign Priests Parish
 committees Treasurer
 Wardens Congregation
 Volunteers Groups Bishops PK
 Community Interims
 Ingersoll Huron
 Relèven
 Architects
 tradespeople
 POW
 Engineers
 Mentors

Thank You for Your
 Dedication and
 Assistance



believe

EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE FOR HIM WHO BELIEVES
MARK 9:23

Stewards of The Gift



Devote Time,



Share Talent,



Give Treasure,



A way of life!



Needle and Craft Group

In October members of the Needle and Craft Group were busy preparing and moving to St. James' new church home. A huge thank you goes to Janet Hevenor, Kathy McBeath, Sharon Gillett, and Susan Winlaw for working on moving day to ensure Needle and Craft Group supplies were moved safely.

Sharon Gillett delivered all Remembrance Day wreaths to buyers and the poppy panels to the Town Hall in time for Remembrance Week. The Group received many positive compliments how lovely the poppy panels looked hanging in sunshine in the Town Hall windows. Money raised from the sales of wreaths went to the Ingersoll Legion Poppy Fund.

Other donations this Fall have been to the Ingersoll & District Interchurch Christmas hamper drive in the form of gifts for young teenagers. Jeannie Lee did the shopping. What a job she did!! Our community liaisons in our Group are Sharon Gillett and Jeannie Lee. They shopped and delivered identified food items to the Food Bank in November. Maybe you saw some of our members featured on the Food Bank Facebook page. On November 22 Jeannie Lee and Sharon Gillett were at the Senior Centre's Christmas sale selling various items made by Group members.

Now the Group is busy planning fund raising projects for 2026 to help with community needs. We welcome people to join in our happy fellowship while we stitch and craft to help our community needs. We are now meeting on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 4:30 pm. Submitted by *Margaret Burford*



The Salvation Army Thrift Store - Ingersoll

A Huge Thanks to these beautiful ladies from The Needle and Craft Group - St. James' Anglican Church for their generous donations towards the Salvation Army Ingersoll Food Bank 🙏🙏

For Those Who Can't Make It To Church in Person



Our live stream of our worship service from the Masonic Hall at 10:30 am is available on our Facebook Page - The link is below - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064560229242>

Alternatively you can reach it from our "Online Services" page on our church website. <http://www.stjamesingersoll.com/on-line-services>

Huron Church News

Right click on the photo below to get access to the December edition.



Advent Booklet 2025

O Come, O Come



Emmanuel

Reverend Sue has once again prepared a booklet of 25 readings and thoughtful commentaries for you to read during this season of Advent. These are available at the church so stop by and pick one up.



St. James' prays for our families, friends, and loved ones who are ill or recovering from illness or are in need of prayerful support. Grant them healing and strength. May they find Peace. Lord, we pray for-

Little Jack, Clara, Jo, Mark, Catherine, Elizabeth, Anne, Janey, Judy, Eleanor, Susan, Deny, Linda, Nikolas, Douglas, Matthew, Caitlin, Elise, Karen, Patrick, Baby Ezra, Emerson, Tom, Alison, Rob, Kathy, Amanda, Rose, Shirley, Andrea, Edith, Ted, Peter, JJ, Lou, Wayne, Barbara, Trish, Richard.



Elizabeth Johnson

<https://www.dreisingerfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Elizabeth-Johnson?obId=45417705>

Donna Elizabeth Hunter

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/46578820/donna-elizabeth-hunter>



Additional Announcements

BAC Breakfast - Tues Dec 16th - 9:30am at Louie's Restaurant

From the Altar Guild – If you would like to donate towards the Christmas Flowers in the sanctuary in memory or honour of someone, please contact Andrea Cryderman at church or call 519-485-2452

Sunday School – December 7th, 14th, and 21st – Advent lessons, videos and crafts – 10:30 am



Capital Campaign Update

Time, Talent & Treasures Online Auction - What an Incredible Success!

Thanks to the generous donations and enthusiastic bidding from our St. James community, our **Time, Talent & Treasures Online Auction** raised an amazing **\$7,500** for our *Deep Roots New Growth* Capital Campaign! Every item, every bid, and every act of support helped make this fundraiser truly special. We are deeply grateful for the time, creativity, and treasures so graciously shared by our parish family and friends. Your generosity strengthens the mission and ministry of St. James — **thank you** for making this event such a joyful and inspiring success!



Now Welcoming the Advent Season: The Angel Tree Campaign

As we embrace the spirit of Advent, we have now moved into our **Angel Tree Campaign**, offered every Sunday leading up to Christmas Eve. You are invited to make a donation **in memory, in honour, or in celebration** of someone special in your life. Simply write your personal message on one of the cut-out angels and pin it to the display board, which will remain up throughout the Advent season. Once your message is placed, a beautiful **handmade crocheted angel** will be hung on our brightly lit Christmas tree — a heartfelt symbol of love, remembrance, and celebration. Thank you for continuing to support **St. James' Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign**. Your kindness and generosity truly helps our parish flourish.



Consider making a donation in memory or in honour of a loved one or in celebration of someone special or your family. Write your personal message on the cut-out angel and pin it on the board which will be on display throughout the Advent season.



Angel Tree
NOV 30 to DEC 24

Once you've completed your personal message, a beautiful handmade crocheted angel will be hung on our brightly lit Christmas tree. Thank you for supporting St. James' Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign.



Christmas Blessings from the DRNG Capital Campaign Committee

As we celebrate this holy season, the **Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign Committee** extends to our entire parish family heartfelt wishes for a **very Merry Christmas** and a **blessed New Year**. May the light of Christ fill your homes with **hope** your hearts with **love**, and your days with **peace**. This season reminds us of God's promise renewed in every generation — a promise that continues to guide and strengthen our St. James community. Thank you for your ongoing generosity, your faithfulness, and the love you share so freely. May the coming year be one of **joy, growth, and blessings abundant** for you and all whom you hold dear.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign Committee!



Submitted by - Deb Landon, Chair

Deep Roots New Growth Capital Campaign Committee

St. James' Anglican Church, Ingersoll

Lighting of the Lights Evening November 20th – Outreach

Santa and Mrs. Claus visited 130 Thames St. S to check out the YOUTH Opportunities Unlimited display. Thanks to all who came out and visited and purchased items to support this group. Since 1982, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) has helped lead youth in London and Middlesex County toward success. We believe that investing in youth and strong communities go hand in hand, and we know that many youth need guidance and support to reach their potential. Approximately 3,600 youth between the ages of 16-24 access the system of supports available at YOU each year. Whether they are in need of basic needs and housing, access to physical, mental or dental health care, or education and employment supports, our services are designed to help youth lead positive lives.

TASTING EVENT & SALE

St. James' Anglican Church, Ingersoll presents
Youth Opportunities Unlimited
Thurs. Nov. 20th — 5 to 9 pm

During Midnight Madness & Lighting of the Lights
At Our New Church Home at 130 Thames St. South

YOUTH Opportunities Unlimited will be offering tastings and selling jars of jam and other goodies at the Thames Street entrance of our new Church space. They will also be selling gift boxes and items from their wood shop such as cutting and charcuterie boards. Great opportunity to support a great cause and to get some Christmas gift shopping done.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

Since 1982, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) has helped lead youth in London and Middlesex County toward success. They believe that investing in youth and strong communities go hand in hand, and they know that many youth need guidance and support to reach their potential. Approximately 3,600 youth between the ages of 16-30 access the system of supports available at YOU each year. Whether they are in need of basic needs and housing, access to physical, mental or dental health care, or education and employment supports, their services are designed to help youth lead positive lives.

Questions? Contact: Deb Landon
dlandon@rogers.com | 519-860-0999

Thank you to Rev'd Sue for arranging this visit and allowing us to host and support this very active organization.

To read more about the group – go to - <https://www.you.ca/about>