



EASTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

HAPPY EASTER!

Dear Friends,

After forty days of Lent and after the isolation of the pandemic, we can now celebrate the miraculous resurrection of Christ.

The miraculous resurrection provides hope for the future and offers us the promise of new life in the risen Christ.



So, we welcome everyone to come to worship with us on Easter Sunday, April 17 at 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. Our invitation is extended to all people from all walks of life. No one is outside of God's invitation or salvation. Jesus did not die for a few, he died for all.

During his earthly ministry Jesus attended to, and identified with, many from the lower classes including prostitutes, widows, lepers and other social and economic outcasts.

Jesus also interacted with the religious elite, such as scribes, Sadducees and Pharisees. He ministered to powerful and wealthy individuals like the unnamed centurion whose servant was ill.

**Newsletter
Contents**

**Incumbent's
Message
Page 1-2**

**Meet our
Confirmation
Class of 2022
pages 3-8**

**Vacation
Summer
Camp pages
8-9**

**St. Stephen's
Photos pages
10-11**

**Holy week
and Easter
services
Schedule
Page 12**

H E I S O R I S E N

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

Salvation is not only for the rich, but also for the poor; not only for the young, but also for the old. In other words, salvation is all-inclusive. The salvation story draws everyone into God's story.

We can see ourselves through the people who lived, loved and followed Jesus. The mother, the centurion and the shepherds all make us realize that God loves us and cares for us all—every single one of us. Jesus cares for all of us, now as before he died and after he rose from the dead.

And as surely as Mary Magdalene, Joana, Cleophas and the disciples found faith and hope, we too will find new life in the days ahead. Please remember you are not alone. Not one of us. The risen Christ walks with each of us. He weeps with us, laughs with us and gives us the strength to carry on through our darkest hours.

This Easter Season may you be released from your burdens of worry and may your hearts be filled with the hope of new life. Let us find hope in the resurrection and each other.

My friends, celebrate this day with the love of family and friends, and break open the Easter eggs!

Christ is risen!

Happy Easter to everyone!

The Reverend Canon George Kwari



Lord, we pray for your Church, that in this Easter season we may have the faith to know our Lord as risen indeed. O Lord Jesus Christ, through your rising again hope has been renewed, joy has been restored and life has been re-created for this whole world. Give us grace in this season of celebration to rise to you in our hearts, that with prayer and song we may re-echo that hymn of joy which your Easter began, O Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

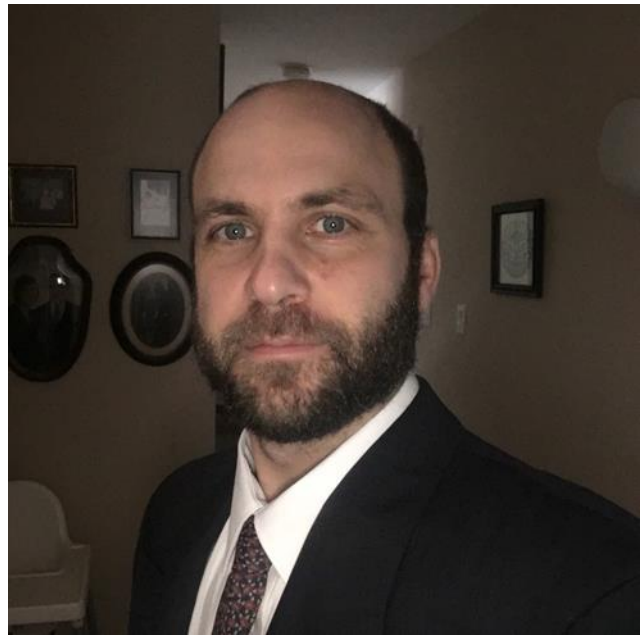
Meet our Confirmation Candidates.

As you are aware, Bishop Shane will be visiting us for a Confirmation service and Anniversary Service on May 15. The following will be confirmed.

Thomas Phelps

Thomas arrived at St. Stephen's in September of 2015. He joined St. Stephen's because the services resembled those of the Coptic Church but stayed because of the St. Stephen's family.

"I love the people of St. Stephen's!" Thomas is not really a sports person, but he enjoyed badminton in his youth.



He prefers Tai Chi as an activity and likes American football, hockey and soccer (in that order) as spectator sports...

In Confirmation classes he learned more about the Bible by having a better overview of what is contained within the different books, and he also learned more about the 7 sacraments (something he had never learned formally).

Continued from page 3

He will have formally covered the basic fundamentals of being a Christian by the time he finishes Confirmation class (hopefully!). Before this, he had just picked up random things here and there, but there was no sense of structure or completeness to his understanding and faith.

As part of his Confirmation name he chose St. Gregory the Great, who instigated the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome to convert the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity. Among other things St. Gregory established the nine Kyries (and may the "Lord Have Mercy"). He was also recognized for his work revising and completing the book of Job into what we read and learn from today.

Ever since he joined St. Stephen's, Thomas has been kept busy. He served on Parish Council as a Member at Large and Synod Representative and a member of the choir. He even worked as St. Stephen's caretaker for a time. He was selected by St. Stephen's parishioners to take part in his first Cursillo, however, he made his first mark in the Church helping with dishes and coffee hour.

Thank you again, St. Stephen's..

Warm Regards,

Thomas

ELIJAH WARD



Elijah joined St. Stephen's in 2021. He appreciates the warm welcome he has received at our church and the good conversations he has with St. Stephen's people.

Elijah's favourite sport is basketball; he plays point-guard on 2 teams. He learnt, through reading chapters of the Bible, what extent God went to just protect and take care of us.

As a confirmation name he chose prophet Elijah because he was named after him.

Kind regards,
Elijah Ward

St. Stephen's community is a community filled with love and acceptance. This is a place where you will always feel God's love and presence. She loves that St. Stephen's has people from all walks of life with different backgrounds with so many valuable life experiences and all levels of faith and understanding.

LEONA



Leona's favourite sports are tennis and swimming. In Confirmation class she learnt the importance of reading the Bible daily. The bible gives one the sense of connecting spiritually to the Lord our God and provides clarity in all aspects of life. Our faith holds the key to a life everlasting.

Leona chose Mary Magdalene as her saint because her story as a woman who battled many demons resonated with her deeply. Women go through many trials and tribulations. Mary Magdalene overcame her challenges through her belief and faith.

Leona notes that Mary Magdalene is the only woman mentioned by name 12 times in the gospels. Leona's birthday is July 7 and we celebrate the feast of Mary Magdalene on July 22, having the same celebration month also drew Leona to her spiritually.

Leona loves working with children. Children have a beauty about them that is very innocent. She has an inner child's spirit that comes out when she is around them. She would like to volunteer with the children's ministry.

With love,
Leona Muhwezi

Dave Wilson



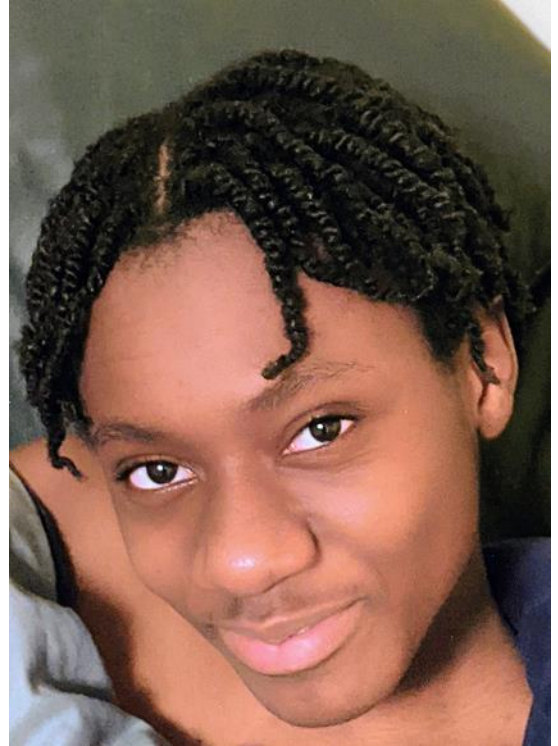
It was just over two years ago that Dave started attending St. Stephen's. He initially visited because family members were attending but he was very taken by the friendliness and welcoming spirit he discovered at the church. Dave's primary pastimes are walking/hiking and photography.

Dave had thought he had a reasonably good knowledge of the bible but confirmation classes have taught him that he has so much more to learn. Dave chose Joseph, the father of Jesus, as his saint. Dave admired his hidden, humble life. As Henri Nouwen stated, one aspires to such a life "hidden from the world, but visible to God". Dave is currently enrolled in a Pastoral Care course and hopes to become involved in St. Stephen's Pastoral Care ministry.

DIXON ISAACS

Dixon was baptised at St. Stephen's in 2009. St. Stephen's has always been home to Dixon and he appreciates the community and the people who are fun to interact with. Getting closer to God is another reason why he likes St. Stephen's. In Confirmation class he enjoyed meeting and reuniting with people, learning more about Jesus and God!

Dixon is in Grade 7 and basketball is his favorite sport of all time.



Dixon chose the name Isaiah for Confirmation class because it is his middle name and Isaiah predicted Jesus's birthday. Dixon hopes to receive a gift to make predictions! Hopefully the second coming of Christ



Continued from page 7

Keziah and Keren joined St. Stephen's in 2021.

Keziah likes to sing and Keren likes to pray. Keziah's favourite sports are badminton and volleyball. Keren's best sport is volleyball. They both have enjoyed learning about the sacraments and Ten Commandments. They look forward to growing in their faith and to being able to volunteer in the church and community.

Blessed are they who find the meaning of family and Christmas in Christmas lights and trees. To them nothing shall separate them from the joy of Christmas.

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE CAMP JULY 11-15

We are Victor and Jillian Zampino, a married couple in Montreal with a passion for children's ministry. In pre-COVID times, we ran a sleepaway summer camp for elementary school-aged children in association with Camp Connections, a Christian organization that "moves youth for Christ".



This year, we are happy to partner with St. Stephen's to host a week-long day camp in July. Our campers will be challenged to "Follow the Leader" through our Bible-based program, which includes songs, devotionals, creative activities and games, covering 5 stories in the Gospel of Matthew. The program was created by Crosstalk Ministries, another Christian organization that "helps people of all ages become strong disciples of Jesus Christ".

Date: Monday, July 11th to Friday, July 15th

Ages: 6 to 12 years

Early Bird Registration (April 11 to May 11):
1st child - \$100, 2nd child - \$90, +3rd child - \$80
To register as of April 11th, visit: <https://camp-connections.org/>

*For more information about the program, visit:
<https://daycamps.crosstalkministries.ca/>*

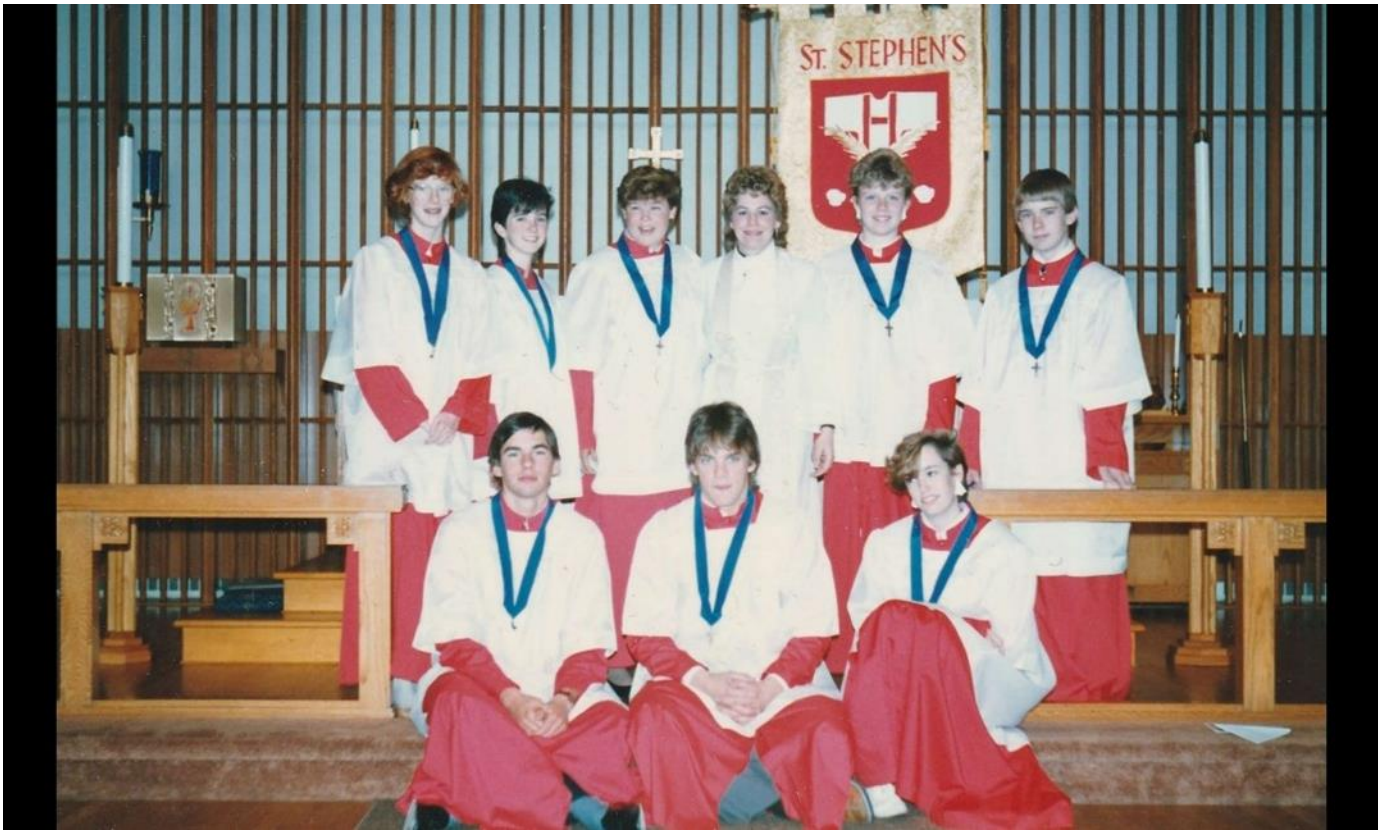
Please feel free to invite families within the community to participate. We are also looking for volunteers aged 14 and up to help in serving the children. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact us through Father George at-
georgekwari@gmail.com

We are so excited to meet you all this summer!

In Christ,

Victor and Jillian Zampino





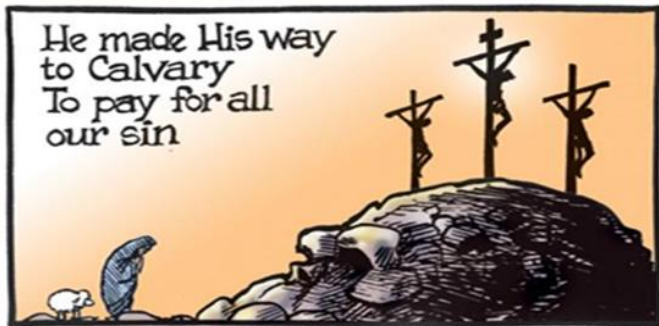
As we continue to gather photos for our 60th Anniversary, we found the photo above and wondered if anyone can identify the people in the photos. Whoever is the first to submit a correct list of the people will win either a New Revised Standard Version Bible, a Common Praise book or a Book of Alternative Services.

Deadline is April 30,2022. A Winner will be announced on May 7.

All answers must be submitted to rector@ststephensottawa.org

First row.....

Second Row.....



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Monday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 p.m.
Healing Service with Anointing and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.
Taizé Service

Maundy Thursday, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing

Friday April 15, 10:00 a.m.
Good Friday Service

Sunday April 17 at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES
Saturday, April 23, 11:00 a.m.
Stephanie McWatt's Ordination

Sunday May 15, 2022
St. Stephen's 60th Anniversary and Confirmation Service
(Preacher and Celebrant Bishop Shane Parker)

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Incumbent: The Reverend Canon George Kwari
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