

Announcements

December 29—January 4, 2026

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As you prepare for worship... Christmas 1A

Isaiah 63:7-9: This passage was written after the Babylonian conquest of 597 AD in which Jerusalem was sacked, the Temple destroyed and many of the people taken into exile. Despite the evidence to the contrary, the prophet speaks of the love God has had for His people in the past and still has to that day, how He suffered when His people suffered, and that as He redeemed and saved them once He will do so again. We hear this today because we see God's actions in Jesus, by his cross and resurrection, how He has redeemed and saved us too.

Hebrews 2:10-11; 13b-18: The author makes several points about how Jesus brought about the salvation of the world, namely, through his "suffering" (his passion and death on the cross). By doing so, he has brought us to "glory" and we, called Jesus' brothers and sisters, now are sanctified and can call God our Father too. The Christ had to become a human being, in Jesus of Nazareth, in order to save all of humankind. Our reading ends by reminding us that because Christ was tested, he is able to help us when we are tested. Call on him!

Matthew 2:13-23: We hear of three instances where angels come to Joseph in dreams. (If I were Joseph, I'd be afraid to fall asleep!) First an angel warns Joseph to take Mary and the baby to Egypt (the Holy Family were refugees!) as Herod is about to slaughter all the boys aged 2 and younger, so afraid is Herod of the one *born* King of the Jews (Herod was granted the position, he was not born into it). After Herod died, an angel tells Joseph it's safe to return to Israel. But wait! There's more. Herod's ruthless son is ruling over Judea so an angel warns Joseph about the danger. Joseph decides to go to the relative safety (because it was far from Jerusalem, and ruled by a more benevolent king) of Nazareth in Galilee, where the Messianic prophecy that he would be called a Nazorean, would be fulfilled and Jesus and his family could live in (relative) safety.

Next weeks readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Our Blue Christmas service offered a sacred space to acknowledge the pain, grief, and quiet sadness that many carry during the Christmas season. It reminded us that not all hearts are light at this time of year, and that sorrow, loss, and longing are held tenderly within our faith community. Heartfelt thanks to Ginny for leading this service with such peace, sensitivity, and care. Her thoughtful presence created a calm and compassionate atmosphere where all were welcomed just as they are.

Activities this Week

Dec 29	Monday
7:00 pm—Group Meeting, Basement	
Dec 30	Tuesday
7:00 pm—Bluewater Chordsmen, Parish Hall	
Dec 31	Wednesday
5:00—Friday Group Pot Luck, Parish Hall	
Jan 1	Thursday
10:00 am—Christmas Day Service	
Jan 2	Friday
8:00 pm—Group meeting Parish Hall	
Jan 4	Sunday
8:00 am—Holy Eucharist BCP	
10:30 am—Holy Eucharist BAS	

If you are a new member of the congregation please contact the office (519-344-5167) or one of the wardens (see below) with your contact information. Email, mailing address and phone number. Thank you and Welcome.

DONATIONS

Please ensure your donation to the church is received in the church office by DECEMBER 31, 2025 in order to be included in your tax receipt for 2025.

Please continue to make all donation cheques payable to All Saints' Anglican Church. You will be advised when the church's bank account has been changed to the new name and until that time we cannot accept cheques payable to our new name. Thank you.

2025 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Warden:	Heather Norwood Gord Loeven
Deputy Warden:	Carole James-Airey Kathy Hungerford
Treasurer:	Natalie Beer
Lay Delegates to Synod:	Susan Memedovich Maurice Carson
Alternate Lay Delegates:	Jim Hodgins Barb Pajuk
Members at Large:	Leigh Carson Beverly Woods Kory Memedovich Glen Crawford Don Hunter
Clergy:	Rev'd Karen Nelles, Priest-in-Charge

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday - Friday: 9am-1pm.

In consideration for persons with reactions to perfumes, you are requested to come to church 'au natural'.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE **

(Every Tuesday, 11 am Walking Group meeting at the Animal Farm parking lot with a 12:15 pm Lunch. This week is TBA.

(Every Wednesday, 10 am & 7 pm - Bible Study at the Rectory.

Jan 9 7 pm—Creative Word, TBA

Jan 12 1:30 pm—Bible Crossword, Rectory

Jan 23 5 pm—The Slice, 6:30 pm Hymn Sing

Feb 13 7 pm—Creative Word, TBA

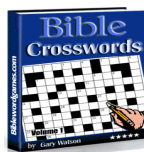


Food Bank Sunday

The first Sunday of each month will be food bank Sunday. All items collected will be donated to the St Andrew's Food Bank in Corunna.

Much needed item are canned fruit, snack crackers, cookies, manwich/stew, instant coffee/regular tea, 1 liter juice boxes, toilet paper, fruit / pudding cups, canned meats, deodorant, shampoo & conditioner. **They do not take clothing or empty containers.**

The next Creative Word will be **January 9th, 7 pm** at the Rectory.



Bible Crossword events will be held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 1:30-ish, at the rectory. Next month will be on **January 12.**

Serving Schedule:

PA Monitor: Andi Beer

Greeters: Angela Palumbo & Jane Morgan

A Heartfelt Thank You for Two Beautiful Community Efforts in Preparing a Feast and Delivering Hampers

On behalf of your Mission and Outreach Committee, a heartfelt thanks to everyone who so generously gave their time, energy, and talents to make the turkey dinners for the students at London Road School such a success, and to those who carefully and compassionately assembled Christmas hampers for families in need within the school community.

Through your kindness, students and families felt supported, cared for, and remembered in a very tangible way. We are also deeply grateful to the local companies whose generosity made the turkey dinner outreach possible. Special thanks to Nortera Food Inc. of Strathroy for the donation of carrots, to Hayter's Turkeys of Dashwood for providing turkey breasts at a wholesale price and to Sarnia Produce for potato donations. Their community spirit made a meaningful difference.

A sincere thank you to all who cooked and prepared the Christmas feast for the children and staff at London Rd. School, and helped in the kitchen: Heather and Todd Norwood, Gord Loeven, Kory Memedovich, Don Hunter, Bob Spence, Heather Pryor, Beverly Woods, Barb Pajuk, and Carol Spence. Your willingness to serve ensured everything came together smoothly and with care.

I am also happy to report that the Christmas Hampers were assembled and packed by Carol and Bob Spence, Sue and Cory Memedovich, Bev Woods, Heather Pryor and Angie McKenny on Friday morning and delivered by Carol, Bob, Susan and Cory to the school principal on December 19th at noon. While we initially planned for eight hampers, after conversation with the school principal we were pleased to be able to include a ninth hamper for a London Rd. School family. St. Michaels and All Angels Mission Committee have adopted these outreach activities that were formerly undertaken by the folks at Canon Davis Memorial Church with love.

Special recognition goes to Carol Spence, Heather Norwood and Susan Memedovich for their extraordinary dedication, organization, and leadership. Their countless hours behind the scenes were instrumental in bringing this outreach to life, and we are deeply appreciative of all they did to make this effort so meaningful on behalf of us all.

We would like to recognize the corporate donors, who contributed generously to our hampers – Randy and Angie McKenny of Goodfellow Construction and Carlo Maola of DMW Electrical Instrumentation and of course our ACW. Please know members of the committee have sent a thank you to everyone on your behalf.

Each hamper included:

- turkeys (8 paid for by the ACW)
- pies, stuffing, gravy, and cranberry sauces
- 18 litres of juice and 18 canned vegetables
- napkins, boxed chocolates, clementines, bagged potatoes, and roasting pans

In addition, Sue handwrote cards for each family, enclosing a \$50 No Frills gift card and a printed guide on how to prepare a turkey. Each hamper was wrapped with festive paper to add a little extra joy.

Final fund-raising total (thank you Leigh) was \$1,560 (what a great effort from the parishioners at St. Michaels) Of that money \$813.35 was spent to prepare the hampers. The remaining funds will be directed toward an Emergency Fund that can be utilized by the Mission and Outreach Committee for future needs of our parish.

Thank you all for your support, generosity, and compassion. The Holy Spirit is truly alive here at St. Michael and All Angels.