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March 31  
2010

SJWT



**Dear Friends,**

***Holy Week is a day-by-day journey with Jesus: Be present to Jesus in your personal time, and come together with us...***



## Worship with us during Holy Week

**Maundy Thursday:** We re-enact Jesus' final meal with a middle eastern themed light supper, washing each other's feet, reading from the Passover and first Eucharist traditions, accompanied by the music of Taizé. We strip away the beauty of the church as we read of the betrayal and arrest. The church remains open for an hour of music and prayer. **Come at 6:30 PM for a glass of wine to start the journey.**

**Good Friday:** The windows at St. John's represent a consistent and engaging telling of the life of Jesus - We are telling the story Messy Church-style, beginning with Communion in the Upper Room, concluding at the tomb. Be sure to take away the Messy Notes handout, which helps parents to talk about conflict, death and the end of Jesus' life. We don't shrink from hard topics, but we want to make it as easy for you as we can! **Come at 10:30 AM for a healthy snack to start the journey.**

**Good Friday:** The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday includes the reading of the Passion (by our youth), procession of life-sized crosses into the church, communion from the pita and table wine of Maundy Thursday, departure in silence... **Come at 2:00 PM and compose yourself with the music of Good Friday on the organ.**

**Holy Saturday:** The Easter Vigil is to the Resurrection what Midnight Mass is to the Birth of Jesus. We begin by kindling a fire to light all our candles in the darkness. Readings recall the predictions and precedents deep in our tradition. Then the lights come on, the organ blasts, and we all ring bells announcing that Jesus is alive (bring your handbells, cowbells, sleighbells). We continue with the first baptism of Easter, sprinkling the congregation with the waters of baptism, and joy-filled celebration of the Eucharist. Bring a bottle of wine for the resurrection party. **Our Ecumenical 9-Church Easter Vigil is hosted by the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (151 Glenlake, just east of Keele), 8:30 PM.**

**Easter Day:** The St. John's Community and the Friends we bring with us! Come for the Great Story, accompanied by music on the organ. Prepare by looking at these readings in advance: Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-8. Stay after for the Easter Bonnet Contest (all ages) and the Easter Egg Hunt (children). **Come at 8:30 for the Early Eucharist - reflective and peaceful - or come at 10:30 for All The Life!**



**Thursday Morning Worship** - Every Thursday 10:30 AM followed by visiting over tea and home-baked refreshments. Fourth Thursday of the month is Holy Eucharist with Ministry of Anointing for Healing.

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## Announcements & Events

### Drop in for Tea

Feel like a walk? What's on your mind? Do you have a thought or question that would be worth a conversation? Drop in for a chat. A cup of tea, cookies, fresh fruit... **The church is open every Wednesday afternoon from 1-4 PM.**

### Youth Lunch

On Sunday after Church, we will head over to the Purple Onion on Dundas Street and get a table together. Includes **Ask Gary!** *Prepare your hard questions about faith - the ones your parents are not sure how to answer!* Estimated cost for brunch: \$10. **Sunday, April 11, 12:30 PM.**

### Yard Sale

Start dropping off your yard-sale-worthy items for storage on the balcony. Arrange a time when the church can be open for you by calling Sue Ferguson, 416-769-5267. Come be part of the team to get it ready on weekday evenings leading up to the big sale on **Saturday, April 17, starting at 8:00 AM.**

### Messy Church

Worship for 2-6 year-olds and their Families and Friends. Theme: *Teaching Children to Pray.* **Saturday, April 17, 3-5 PM.**

### Great Upcoming Music!

*Maundy Thursday: Jaroslaw Czerwinec, accordion; Good Friday and Easter Sunday: Douglas Millar, organ; April 11: Glory Glory Hallelujah, praise band; April 18: Jaroslaw Czerwinec, accordion, accompanied by Jamie Christakos, violin, and Zoltan Akantisz, electric guitar.*

### Breakfast for the Homeless

We offer Breakfast at St. Stephen's Church (just north of Kensington Market) on the Third and Fourth Sundays of Each Month (plus Christmas Day and sometimes the Fifth Sunday). Be part of the First Shift (begins at 6 AM) or the Second Shift (begins at 7 AM). Contact Tom Gehrels to be part of it: 416-656-9111, [mariengehrels@yahoo.com](mailto:mariengehrels@yahoo.com). This Month: **Sundays, May 23 & 30.**

### Book Study

"The Great Emergence" by Phyliss Tickle. *How the world is changing, and consequently, how Christianity is changing.* **Tuesday, May 4, 6 PM Supper, 7 PM Discussion. Potluck sign up sheet at Action Desk.**

### Thanks to our Photographers

Each week, we enjoy pictures and get to know names in the bulletin, powerpoint and this e-newsletter. *This week: Thanks to Frans Altena and Brenda Stewart.*

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Ryan (left): **"This is a child-friendly church."**  
That means we can play the drums. We know we belong here.



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P.S. I hope you find it helpful to get an update like this from St. John's Church, West Toronto. If you would like something listed in the announcements, or if you know someone who would appreciate receiving this, please contact me. If you would prefer not to receive news from St. John's in this way, please also let me know.

Best wishes, Gary+

**Check our website.** [www.sjwt.ca](http://www.sjwt.ca)

**And remember this!**

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## Building up from God

The mission of St. John's Church is to build a community of caring believers committed to Christ, to work for justice and service to all in need. We gather to praise God, and to give and receive support to meet the challenge of our daily ministries. We call on all who will to come and join us.

We are not a building. We are an accessible, accepting, diverse community. We are young and old, able-bodied, and disabled, employed and unemployed. We are married, single, divorced, straight and gay. We are from all over the world, yet we could live next door. You will find open minds and open hearts at St. John's.

