



ST. JOHN'S NORWAY

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE BEACHES

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the clergy and lay leadership team of St. John's Norway, we wish to thank everyone for playing their part at this time by practicing physical distancing, while also continuing to safely and appropriately check in with vulnerable neighbours, friends, and family. We are also writing to you to provide several updates. Although the church building remains closed, the life and work of the parish continues.

Welcome to Fr. Jeffry Kennedy

On behalf of the parish, the wardens have welcomed the Reverend Father Jeffry Kennedy as interim priest-in-charge. Fr. Jeffry has made substantial contributions to the Anglican Church of Canada and the Diocese of Toronto over the past several years. He has specific experience leading parishes through periods of transition, and we are looking forward to his leadership during this time of change at St. John's Norway. Fr. Jeffry began his duties officially on April 1st. His full biography and introductory remarks to the parish are posted to the [Clergy](#) page of the website.

Sunday Morning Worship

We have established a pattern of Sunday worship going forward (and lasting until further notice) that follows the Service for Morning Prayer in the green *Book of Alternative Services*, beginning on pg. 47. This is offered in both a dial-in format on the phone and in a pre-recorded version posted to the [Online Worship](#) page of the website. On Sunday mornings, parishioners are encouraged to dial into the conference line between 10:15 and 10:30 to greet each other before the service. To join the conference line, dial 416-933-3854. When prompted, enter the conference ID, 9903106# (be sure to include the #). The order of service can be found on the [Online Worship](#) page of the website. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608).

Communications

Our website is being updated regularly and is the most reliable way to receive information. Please check it often. We are also using Facebook, Instagram, and email, and are currently organizing a 'buddy system' so that those who do not have internet or email are matched with those who do. If you or someone who you know has not been receiving emails, please let Fr. Benjamin know (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608).

Holy Week Services

For Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we are encouraging people to join the services being livestreamed from St. James Cathedral on the Diocese of Toronto's Facebook Page. Maundy Thursday's liturgy will begin at 7:00 PM and Good Friday's at 12:00 noon. Please visit the Cathedral's [website](#) for further details. On Easter Morning, St. John's will host a dial-in service at 10:30. The dial-in information is listed above under "Sunday Morning Worship."



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Ministries for Children and Youth

For children, our Sunday School coordinator Elisabeth Westberg has organized weekly lessons using Zoom, beginning at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. For our youth, Elisabeth and Fr. Benjamin are hosting a weekly check-in over Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 7:30 PM. For information about how to connect over Zoom, please email Elisabeth directly at youth@stjohnsnorway.com.

Opportunities to Gather During the Week

Beginning after Easter, we will be offering two opportunities weekly to gather on Zoom for learning and fellowship. On Thursdays at 5:00 PM, Fr. Jeffrey and Fr. Benjamin will be holding a bible study. On Fridays at 5:00 PM, we will be holding “Happy almost-an-Hour!” Grab some snacks, tune into Zoom, and catch up with other parishioners! Both events are being organized using Zoom and can be accessed online or on the phone. To join online, follow the link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2035813958>. To dial in on the phone, first dial: 647-558-0588. When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 203 581 3958#. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin.

Online Donations

Some of you have asked how to donate at this time. If you do not have preauthorized payments in place, or would like to make an online donation, we have moved our online donation link to the front page of the website. Online donations to St John's Norway are done through [CanadaHelps](#).

As the clergy and lay leaders of the parish, we hold our community and its members in our prayers, now and always. Yet in our current context of transition and physical distancing, we are called more than ever to pray for each other, for our parish, and for the wider church and world. We are called to live more fully into the promise of the Easter resurrection that we will encounter in a few short days. This is a promise of hope, healing, and new life, all of which go hand-in-hand with change.

We wish you all a safe and sacred Holy Week and look forward to gathering with you for Easter this coming Sunday.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy +
Interim Priest-in-Charge

Fr. Benjamin Gillard +
Assistant Curate

Curt Smith
Rector's Warden

Katya Park
People's Warden