

ANNIVERSARY OR OUR DEPARTED FOR THIS SUNDAY

<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME OF THE DEPARTED</u>	<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>
15	Fred Basil	37
17	Yacoub Kakish	4
17	Doris Jabra	52
17	Ghattas Aziz	47
17	Nabil El-Hashwa	18
18	Issa Qaqish	23
19	Abdallah Petro	40
19	Elaine Nammari	12
20	Isabelle Younes	1
20	Frederick Aziz	54

- **Please**, pray for the health of the following parishioners: Ellen, Robert, Alex, Sam, Elias, Nassar, George, Nina, Sonia, George, Beshara, Irene, Nadia, Mona, Christine, Toni, George and Helena.
- **Memorial:** if you are planning on doing a memorial for a loved one and you are expecting more than 15-20 people, please consider doing it on a Saturday due to the limited **permitted numbers for Sunday**. Thank you.

• **40 Days memorial service for Hanna Hinnawi** offered by his wife Kheiro, her children and their families. May his memory be eternal.

**The coffee hour** is offered today in loving memory of **Hanna Hinnawi** by his family.

• **One Year memorial service for Iyad Nadim Bitar** offered by his wife **Shereen Mallouhi** and his family. May his memory be eternal.

• **One Year memorial service for John Jahshan** offered by his sons Nicholas, Thomas and their families. May his memory be eternal.

ETERNAL LIGHT

- **November 20:** For the good health of Reem Shami from Adel Shami and family.
- **November 21:** For the good health of Konstantin and family  
In loving memory of Azizeh Qaqish from her daughter Wafa Alchekh.  
In loving memory of Albert Gorab from Mona Gorab and family
- **November 28:** In loving memory of Omar Zarifeh from Edgar & Souad Zarifeh
- **November 28:** For the good health of Issa & Feryal Bisharat and their family
- **November 29:** For the good health of Jean-Paul Shami from Adel Shami and family.
- **December 5:** In loving memory of Yvonne & Ernest Younes from their family.  
In loving memory of Isabelle Younes from Rami & Joanie Younes

- **Lenten Luncheons:** Our Knights of St. George will be hosting a Falafel Luncheon every Sunday following Divine Liturgy. Please mark your calendar. **We would like to thank George Boutros and Fouad Kodsi and their families for sponsoring the Luncheon for this Sunday.**

- **St George Church Summary of Fixed Expenses and Revenue for the month of October:**

**Fixed Expenses: \$30,179.95**

**Donations Collected: \$31,147.79**

**Net Balance: \$967.84**

- **St. George Ladies' organization cordially invites all ladies to join their general meeting on November 21 at 1:00pm in the Choir loft upstairs. All ladies are encouraged to attend and participate in planning future events.**

- **Maintaining Silence During the service: The congregation is expected to actively participate in worship. However, God's house is a place for reverence and worship, not loud and idle conversations (between each other or on cell phones). Please, turn off cell phones and any other devices when you are attending the Liturgy. If you have a situation that requires you to speak to other parishioners, please do that quietly outside the church or downstairs in the basement. Thank you.**

- **Registration is Mandatory to attend Sunday's Liturgies. An email will be sent out on a weekly basis with the EVENTBRITE invite so all parishioners must register with their number of family members. Maximum allowed capacity is 50% of permitted numbers. If you do not receive an email, you can go to the parish's website [www.stgeorgeto.org](http://www.stgeorgeto.org) to register on EVENTBRITE. Please call Colette for any questions.**

- **Schedule of services for the month of November:**

**Friday, November 19: 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy**

**Saturday, November 20: Great Vespers 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, November 21: Orthros 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy 10:30 am**

**(The Entrance of the THEOTOKOS Into the Temple)**

**Tuesday, November 23: Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm (Catherine the Great Martyr)**

**Saturday, November 27: Great Vespers 5:00 pm**

**Sunday, November 28: Orthros 9:00 pm and Divine Liturgy 10:30 am**

- **SOYO = Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations We are a dynamic group of Orthodox Christians that provides teens the opportunity to grow spiritually with fellow SOYO members within the community.**

**We focus on Spiritual, Fundraising, and Bonding Activities for ages 13-18**

**Are you between the ages of 13-18?**

**Do you want to get involved?**

**Do you want to see behind the scene photos?**

**Do you have any questions?**

**Join our WhatsApp group for direct communication for all our events.**

Contact your Youth Advisors!

Angela Ghazal: (416) 720-0308 Or Fady Freiga: (647) 892-6136

You can also find us on...

Facebook @ St. George Toronto Teen SOYO

Instagram @ toronto.soyo

Email @ [toronto.soyo@gmail.com](mailto:toronto.soyo@gmail.com)

- Sunday school has now begun. Classes begin immediately following communion every Sunday. We are in person in the church basement.

If you would like to register for Sunday school please do so by clicking on the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CLSiTwH8sSQAzxbMCKaakUzjCG2sdCI9TxS0kbtMeuk/edit>

- *Safety Protocols:*  
Abide by the provincial safety regulations, (sanitize your hands upon entering, wait for volunteers to seat you, always wear your mask in church and respect social distancing)

Masks can only be taken off when taking communions, you must put your mask on when you are returning to your seats

We rely on your kind cooperation. If you are not able to come, please cancel your registration.

Looking forward to praying with you.

- Kindly Submit your Contribution through the Following Methods: Connect to the Church Website [www.stgeorgeto.org](http://www.stgeorgeto.org) Click on *Donate*
- “e-transfer” [info@stgeorgeantiochianchurch.org](mailto:info@stgeorgeantiochianchurch.org) Account Name: St. George Church
- PayPal, or send your Cheque by Mail to: St. George Antiochian Church, 9116 Bayview Ave, Richmond Hill ON, L4B 3M9  
Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.  
(Psalm 112:5)
- **Bookstore:** New icons have just arrived in our bookstore. The Bookstore is located in the church’s basement. Icons are great gifts for newborn, new home, your car or your children, and Christmas gifts. Please see Colette El-Hajj or Odette Boutros to see these new icons.
- **Canned Food Drive:** please bring non-perishable canned food to donate to the needy and place them in the box outside in the Narthex.

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021**

**TONE 5 / EOTHINON 11**

**FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS**

*NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.*

**Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.**

الشَّماس: مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمَثْرُوبُولِيَّتِ بُولُسَ وَالْمِطْرَانَ  
يُوحَنَّا وَفَكَ أَسْرِهِمَا وَعَوْدَتِهِمَا سَالِمِينَ، إِلَى الرَّبِّ  
نَطْلُبُ.

**THE FIRST ANTIPHON**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised: in the city of our God and in His holy mountain. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

God is known in her palaces for a refuge. As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... **(Refrain)**

عَظِيمٌ هُوَ الرَّبُّ وَمُسَبَّحٌ جِدًّا فِي مَدِينَةِ إِهْنَا عَلَى  
جَبَلِ قُدْسِهِ. فِيكَ قِيلَتِ الْمَفَاخِرُ يَا مَدِينَةَ اللَّهِ.  
اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي، يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.  
اللَّهُ مَعْرُوفٌ فِي قُصُورِهَا بِأَنَّهُ نَصِيرُهَا. مِثْلَمَا سَمِعْنَا  
كَذَلِكَ رَأَيْنَا فِي مَدِينَةِ رَبِّ الْقَوَاتِ فِي مَدِينَةِ إِهْنَا.  
بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي...  
أَلْمَجْدُ ... الْآنَ ... بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي...

**THE SECOND ANTIPHON**

The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle. Holiness and majesty are in His sanctuary.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

This is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter in thereat. **(Refrain)**

Holy is Thy temple, and wonderful in righteousness. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

الْعَلِيِّ قَدَّسَ مَسْكِنَهُ، الْحَمْدُ وَالْبَهَاءُ قُدَّامَهُ، الْقَدَّاسَةُ  
وَالْجَلَالُ فِي مَقْدِسِهِ.  
اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ  
الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُثْرِتَلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا.  
هَذَا هُوَ بَابُ الرَّبِّ، وَمِنْهُ يَدْخُلُ الصِّدِّيقُونَ.  
(اللازمة)  
مِنْ قَدَّاسَةِ هَيْكَلِكَ، أَنْتَ عَجِيبٌ فِي عَدَائِكَ.  
(اللازمة)  
الْمَجْدُ... الْآنَ ..... يَا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الْإِبْنَ الْوَحِيدِ....

**THE THIRD ANTIPHON**

Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor. The King's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. Virgins shall be brought to the King after her: her companions shall be brought unto Thee.

لُوجْهِكَ يَتَضَرَّعُ أَغْنِيَاءُ الشَّعْبِ. ابْنَةُ الْمَلِكِ فِي  
الِدَاخِلِ، مُتَرَدِّبَةٌ وَمُزَيَّنَةٌ بِأَشْرِطَةِ ذَهَبِيَّةٍ. يَأْتِي فِي  
إِثْرِهَا عَدَارَى إِلَى الْمَلِكِ، عَدَارَى مُقَرَّبَاتٍ مِنْهَا يُوتَى  
بِهِنَّ إِلَيْكَ.

- During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon above, chant the Apolytikion of the Entrance. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is “O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead...” After the Entrance, chant these hymns in the following order:

### RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

لنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدُ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، الْمُسَاوِي  
لِلآبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ مِنْ  
الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سُرَّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُوَ عَلَى  
الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى بِقِيَامَتِهِ  
الْمَجِيدَةِ.

### APOLYTIKION OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation.

اليَوْمَ الْبَتُولُ الَّتِي هِيَ مُقَدِّمَةٌ مَسْرَّةَ اللَّهِ، وَابْتِدَاءُ  
الْكِرَاةِ بِخَلَاصِ الْبَشَرِ، قَدْ ظَهَرَتْ فِي هَيْكَلِ اللَّهِ  
عَلَانِيَةً، وَسَبَقَتْ مُبَشِّرَةً لِجَمِيعِ الْمَسِيحِ. فَلْنَهْتَفِ  
نَحْوَهَا بِصَوْتٍ عَظِيمٍ قَائِلِينَ: اِفْرَحِي يَا كَمَالَ تَدْبِيرِ  
الْخَالِقِ.

- Do NOT sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

### KONTAKION OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

(\*Thou Who wast raised up\*)

The sacred treasury of God’s holy glory, \* the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, \* the Savior’s most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, \* into the House of the Lord \* on this day is brought forward \* and bringeth with herself the grace \* of the Most Divine Spirit; \* her do God’s Angels hymn with songs of praise, \* for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

اليَوْمَ الْهَيْكَلُ الَّذِي لِلْمُخَلَّصِ، الْكَلْبِيُّ النِّقَاءِ، الْعَذْرَاءُ  
الْخِذْرُ نُو الثَّمَنِ الْجَزِيلِ، وَهِيَ الْكَنْزُ الطَّاهِرُ لِمَجْدِ  
الْإِلَهِ، إِذْ تَدْخُلُ بَيْتَ الرَّبِّ، تُدْخِلُ نِعْمَةَ الرُّوحِ  
الْإِلَهِيِّ مَعَهَا. فَلْتَسَبِّحْهَا مَلَائِكَةُ اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّهَا الْمِظْلَةُ  
السَّمَاوِيَّةِ.

### THE EPISTLE

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit  
hath rejoiced in God my Savior.*

*For He hath regarded the humility of His  
servant.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to  
the Hebrews. (9:1-7)**

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent

تُعْظِمُ نَفْسِي الرَّبِّ، وَتَبْتَهِجُ رُوحِي بِاللَّهِ مُخَلَّصِي،  
لِأَنَّهُ نَظَرَ إِلَى تَوَاضَعِ أُمَّتِهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى  
الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ.

الْقَارِئُ: يَا إِخْوَتِي، إِنَّ الْعَهْدَ الْأَوَّلَ كَانَتْ لَهُ أَيْضاً  
فَرَائِضُ الْعِبَادَةِ وَالْقُدْسُ الْعَالَمِيُّ. لِأَنَّهُ نُصِبَ الْمَسْكِنُ

was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

الأوّل الذي يُقال له القُدُس، وكانت فيه المنارة والمائدة وخُبز التَّقْدِمة. وكان وراء الحجاب الثاني، المسكن الذي يُقال له قدس الأقداس. وفيه مُستَوَقْدُ البخور من الذهب وتابوت العهد المُعشَى بالذهب من كلّ جهة، فيه قِسْطُ المَنِّ من الذهب، وعَصَا هارون التي أفرخت ولوحا العهد. ومن فوقه كاروبا المجد المظللان الغطاء. وليس هنا مقام الكلام في ذلك تفصيلاً. وحيث كان ذلك مهياً هكذا، فالكهنة يدخلون إلى المسكن الأوّل كلّ حين فيتّمون الخدمة. وأمّا الثاني، فإنما يدخله رئيس الكهنة وحده مرة في السنّة، ليس بلا دم يُقرّبُه عن نفسه وعن جهالات الشعب.

### THE GOSPEL

#### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

#### فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر.

في ذلك الزمان دخل يسوع قرية، فقبلته امرأة اسمها مرثا في بيتها، وكانت لهذه أخت تسمى مريم. فجلست هذه عند قدمي يسوع تسمع كلامه. وكانت مرثا مُرتبكة في خدمة كثيرة، فوقفت وقالت: يا رب، أما يعنك أن أختي قد تركتني أخدم وحدي؟ فقل لها أن تُساعدني. فأجاب يسوع وقال لها: مرثا، مرثا، إنك مُهتمة ومُضطربة في أمور كثيرة، وإنما الحاجة إلى واحد. فأختارت مريم النصيب الصالح الذي لا يُنزع منها. وفيما هو يتكلّم بهذا، رفعت امرأة من الجمع صوتها وقالت له: طوبى للبطن الذي حملك والتدبين اللذين رضعتهما. فقال لها: بل طوبى للذين يسمعون كلمة الله ويحفظونها.

## MEGALYNARION OF THE ENTRANCE IN TONE FOUR

*The Angels beholding the entrance of the all-pure one were overtaken by surprise; how hath the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?*

Since thou art a living temple of God, O Theotokos, no impure hand shall touch thee. But the lips of believers, let them ceaselessly laud thee, crying unto thee joyfully with the voice of the angels: Verily, O undefiled Virgin, thou art more exalted than all creatures.

إِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ لَمَّا شَاهَدُوا دُخُولَ الْكَلْبِيَّةِ النَّقَاوَةِ  
أَنْدَهَشُوا، كَيْفَ الْبَتُولُ دَخَلَتْ إِلَى قُدْسِ الْأَقْدَاسِ.  
يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَه، بِمَا أَنْكَ تَابَوْتُ حَيَّ لِلَّهِ، فَلَا تَلْمُسُكَ  
يَدٌ مُدْنَسَةٌ. أَمَّا شِفَاهُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فَلَتَمَدَّحِكَ بِغَيْرِ فُتُورٍ،  
هَاتِفَةً نَحْوِكَ بِصَوْتِ الْمَلَائِكِ بَابْتِهَاجِ قَائِلَةً: أَيَّتُهَا  
الْبَتُولُ النَّقِيَّةُ، إِنَّكَ بِالْحَقِيقَةِ أَسْمَى رِفْعَةً مِنْ جَمِيعِ  
الْمَخْلُوقَاتِ.

## KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST

I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

كُأَسَ الْخَلَاصِ أَقْبَلُ، وَبِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ أَدْعُو. هَلْلُويَا.

- *Post-Communion Hymn: "We have seen the true light."*

## THE DISMISSAL

**Priest:** May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother—whose Entrance into the Holy of Holies we now celebrate—by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of *Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

الْكَاهَنُ: أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْهُنَا الْحَقِيقِي، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ  
بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، بِشَفَاعَاتِ أُمِّكَ الْقَدِيْسَةِ الْكَلْبِيَّةِ الطَّهَارَةِ  
وَالْبَرِيَّةِ مِنْ كُلِّ عَيْبٍ، الَّتِي نَعِيذُ الْآنَ لِدُخُولِهَا إِلَى  
قُدْسِ الْأَقْدَاسِ؛ وَبِقُدْرَةِ الصَّلِيبِ الْكَرِيمِ الْمُخْيِي؛  
وَبِطَلَبَاتِ الْقُوَاتِ السَّمَاوِيَّةِ الْمُكْرَمَةِ الْعَادِمَةِ الْأَجْسَادِ؛  
وَالنَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيمِ السَّابِقِ الْمَجِيدِ يُوْحَنَّا الْمَعْمَدَانِ؛  
وَالْقَدِيْسِيْنَ الْمَشْرَفِيْنَ الرُّسُلِ الْجَدِيْرِيْنَ بِكُلِّ مَدِيْحٍ؛  
وَأَبِيْنَا الْجَلِيْلِ فِي الْقَدِيْسِيْنَ يُوْحَنَّا الذَّهَبِيِّ الْفَمِّ، رَئِيْسِ  
أَسَاقِفَةِ الْقُسْطَنْطِيْنِيَّةِ، كَاتِبِ هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ الشَّرِيْفَةِ؛  
وَالْقَدِيْسِيْنَ الْمَجِيدِيْنَ الشُّهَدَاءِ الْمُتَأَلِّقِيْنَ بِالظَّفْرِ؛  
وَأَبَائِنَا الْأَبْرَارِ الْمُتَوَشِّحِيْنَ بِاللَّهِ؛ وَالْقَدِيْسِ (ة) (فُلَانِ،  
فُلَانَةَ) شَفِيْعِ (شَفِيْعَةَ) هَذِهِ الْكَنِيسَةِ الْمُقَدَّسَةِ؛  
وَالْقَدِيْسِيْنَ الصَّدِيْقِيْنَ يُوَاكِيْمِ وَحَنَّةَ جَدِّي الْمَسِيْحِ  
الْإِلَه، وَجَمِيعِ قَدِيْسِيْكَ، ارْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا بِمَا أَنْكَ  
صَالِحٌ وَمُحِبُّ الْبَشَرِ.

**Priest:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

الْكَاهَنُ: بِصَلَوَاتِ آبَائِنَا الْقَدِيْسِيْنَ، أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوْعُ  
الْمَسِيْحُ الْهُنَا ارْحَمْنَا وَخَلِّصْنَا.

**Choir: Amen.**

**الجوق: آمين.**

*These texts have been prepared by the Dept. of Liturgics of the Antiochian Archdiocese*

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# Christmas begins with Christ



With the Advent Season fast approaching, St. George Church is once again participating in several humanitarian projects whereby our community can provide assistance to Men, Women and Children in need. Our Lord has blessed us with so much – it is truly a blessing for us to be able to give back in some small way.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** is a program run by Samaritan's Purse Canada. Operation Christmas Child allows individuals an opportunity to give boys and girls in need around the world a tangible expression of God's love through a gift-filled shoebox. Shoeboxes are available downstairs. Simply decide whether you would like to pack for a boy or girl and then choose an age category – 2-4 yrs, 5-9 yrs or 10-14 years. Instructions and labels for download can be found by visiting <https://www.samaritanspurse.ca/pack-a-shoebox>. DO NOT include any liquids or glass items, nor any toys that could be considered a weapon. DO include some toiletries such as bar of soap, a toothbrush, a comb and/or brush, as well as a variety of small toys including puzzles, colouring/painting, school supplies etc. Also, please include \$10 to cover shipping charges. Remember to say a prayer for the child and his/her family who will be receiving your gift. National Collection Week is November 15-21, so please return your box to the church by November 14 if you wish for us to drop it off for you. You may also drop off your own box(es) at a drop off location near your home - <https://www.samaritanspurse.ca/drop-off-locations/>

**PRISON MINISTRY ANGEL TREE PROGRAM** – Every year, hundreds of thousands of children spend Christmas without their mom or dad due to parental incarceration. Angel Tree invites you to reach out to these children with the love of Jesus Christ; to transform what may be a painful season for them to a joyful and memorable one.

Angel Tree Christmas is a program of Prison Fellowship Canada (PFC) that connects church communities and individuals with the families of prisoners through the delivery of a Christmas gift on behalf of the incarcerated parent. Children have the excitement of receiving a gift, but more importantly it tells them that mom or dad is thinking about them at Christmas time. For prisoners, your support helps them experience the love of God during a time marked by guilt and loneliness. By strengthening their family ties, it also reduces their probability of re-offending when released.

We have agreed to sponsor 30 children whose parent is imprisoned. The cost of each gift is approximately \$35. If \$35 is not within your budget, we would appreciate any amount which can be put towards the purchase and/or shipping of the gifts. Angels will be available, God-willing, the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in November.

**LOOT BAGS FOR ST. JOHN THE COMPASSIONATE MISSION** - Once again, we are privileged to be able to offer special Christmas loot bags to the needy people who frequent St. John the Compassionate Mission. We will be filling 150 bags for men, 75 for women and 80 for children. Included will be the usual items such as socks, hats and gloves, as well as many personal care items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc. We will be packing the bags late November, so if you would like to help please let us know.

For all of these programs, we need your financial support! Donations may be made directly to the church, but please be sure to identify your donation for one/all of our humanitarian projects. If you have questions or would like to get more involved, please contact Michelle Alexopoulos at: 416-831-3813; [m.alexopoulos@utoronto.ca](mailto:m.alexopoulos@utoronto.ca); or Joanie Younes at 416-402-7424; [joanieunis@hotmail.com](mailto:joanieunis@hotmail.com). Thank you and God Bless You!



# Help Give Bags of Blessings!!

- ❖ Our Church is making “**Blessing Bags**” for adults and children in need. The bags will be distributed during this Christmas season through St. John the Compassionate Mission.
- ❖ Each bag will contain: Toiletries, Socks, Hats & Gloves, and an extra Christmas treat/gift. Samples of the bags are shown below.



**This small gesture will make someone's Christmas a little brighter and remind them of God's love!!**

Jesus teaches us that ***It is more blessed to give than to receive.*** Please help us make as many bags as possible and give generously.

Donations can be made to the Church. Please write on the cheque, or note on the online donation, that the funds are for **Blessing Bags**.

**For more information, or to get involved in packing/distributing, please contact:**

Joanie Younes ([joanieunis@hotmail.com](mailto:joanieunis@hotmail.com)) or Michelle Alexopoulos ([malex@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:malex@chass.utoronto.ca))

