

The Beacon



Because of this decision, we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start and is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Look at it! All this comes from God who settled the relationship between us and him and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade others to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 The Message

My Dearest Siblings,

Happy New Year! As we enter into 2024, we enter into another year, of hope, new possibilities, and new beginnings. I have spent a great deal of time reflecting on the idea of new beginnings and this is what I would like to share.

My personal hope for 2024 is that St. James and St. Brendan sees a steady growth in meaningful ministry. I pray that we will be open to new ideas and new ways of collaborating with the people of the community, as we face challenges of our future.

However, before we talk about your future, I want to check in with all of you. “How are you?” I realize that I probably won’t be able to hear all your answers, however, I am asking the questions to invite you to reflect on how you are feeling. How is your body, mind, and spirit? In November of 2018, Rev. Rob left St. James and St. Brendan, you had two years of interims, and then the pandemic, and a winter storm that stopped us from celebrating in 2022. You have seen a great deal of change over the past 6 years, some welcomed and some not so welcomed. I pray that this year, we will begin moving forward, heal from all our past church and personal hurts, and grow.

I invite you during 2024 to ask others, “How are you?” and then to listen intentionally and deeply to their response. This is a way for us to continue to become more Christ-like. Jesus gave a variety of examples of this during his lifetime however, the two examples that come to my mind. First, there was his meeting with the Samaritan woman. The second would be his meeting on the road to Emmaus with his disciples. In both of these moments, Jesus asked “How are you?” and listened intentionally and with compassion to their words.

The times we are Christlike can be sacramental moments. The times we are Christlike and offer ourselves to others, to listen to their stories, and their hearts can be sacred, and spiritually powerful for everyone. I pray that in 2024 we as a community can have a multitude of those moments, individually and collectively.

May we make 2024 a year of love, compassion, patience and understanding.

Jesus had meals with the poor, the rich, the Jews, the Samaritans, the Pharisees, and those with unsavory reputation. He listened to everyone and saw their inner hearts which were only visible to God. Jesus led them to understand themselves as beloved and sacred to God. He allowed them to have their dignity no matter their circumstance.

The past 6 years have been exhausting and difficult for everyone. Thankfully, you as a community have journeyed together with a sense of solidarity and love.

I pray we continue to harvest the graces that have come to us over the past 6 years and throughout all our lives. I pray we continue to trust in God and that together we know our future will be bright and strong.

May 2024 be a year of great blessings, great joy, and great love.

Rev. Jody.



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas Tree and the Blessing Box.

This year our gifts from the tree went to Port Care, McKay School, the YWCA's Program for Survivors of Human Trafficking, and their women's shelter.

A Gentle Reminder

Especially when you come to any service.

We ask that you be fragrance free.



A variety of people have allergies, and we wish for everyone to be able to enjoy the Service. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



SHROVE TUESDAY

PANCAKE BRUNCH

TUESDAY,
FEB. 13
11AM.
TO
1 PM.

DINE-IN
OR
TAKE OUT



PANCAKES & SAUSAGE \$8.00 (2 FOR \$15)

For your convenience, order you advance tickets now
by calling the church office on
Tuesday or Thursdays at 905-834-3184
Tickets will be available at the door but in limited
number.

ST. JAMES & ST. BRENDAN ANGLICAN CHURCH
GUILD HALL, 72 CHARLOTTE ST., PORT COLBORNE

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Learning Cafe @ The Guild Hall
72 Charlotte St Port Colborne
Thursday, February 1, 2024
10:30 am to 11:30 am

UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA
& CAREGIVER SUPPORT



Guest Speaker:
Sarah Putman
Director of Education
Alzheimer's Society Niagara Region

*"Strategies for caregivers
to maintain stamina
in their caregiver role"*

RSVP Sandi Marr
Call: 519-616-0930
email: rsmarr@bell.net

- ~ Bring a Friend
- ~ Refreshments
- ~ Door Prizes

Funded by The Government of Canada **Canada**
in partnership with St. James & St. Brendan Anglican Church

Made with PosterMyWall.com



The next Parish Council is on January 17th at 7:00 pm.



On Sunday, February 25th, 2024, Annual Vestry. We will be having only one service that Sunday at 9:30 am. It will be said service. We will meet in the Guild Hall after service for some coffee and treats and then have our meeting.

Voting Rules for Vestry

In every congregation within the Diocese of Niagara there shall be a Vestry composed of all the baptized members of such congregation of the full age of 16 years, who for at least six months preceding the holding of a **Vestry meeting have been identifiably involved with that congregation, through worship, fellowship, and financial support to that congregation**, subject to the certification and appeal procedures outlined in 1. (b), (i) and (ii). (amended,1986)



Planning Ahead

In June of 2026, we will be having a 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Community of St. James and St. Brendan. In preparation for this wonderful celebration, we are asking you to dig through all your photo boxes and find any photos you may have of all 3 communities.

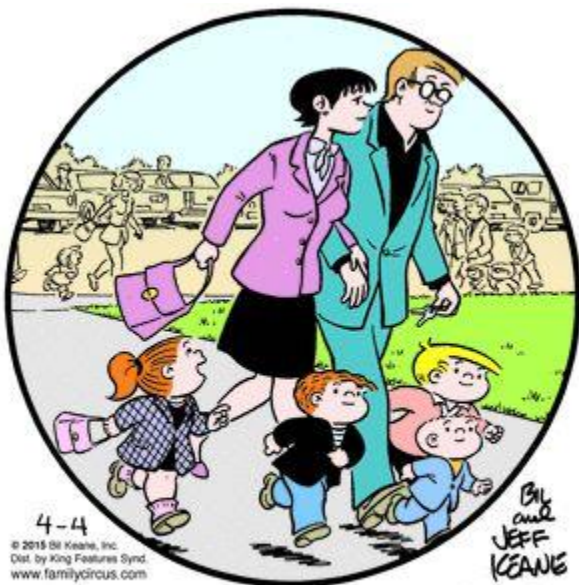
St. James

St. Brendan

St. James and St. Brendan.

We will keep you posted when you have more information. Thank you for your help and cooperation for this great celebration!

Church Chuckle



4-4
© 2015 Bill Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

**“I like it when everyone in church
sings about that Ollie Louya guy.”**

**If you are unable to attend Service, nor do you not
have internet, please listen to the Gospel and the
Sermon on your Phone.**



Everyone is Welcome to All Our Services

Tuesday Morning Prayer

9:00 am.

Thursday Morning Healing Eucharist

10:00 am.

Bible Study

Every Thursday Morning

10:30 am.

Sunday Eucharist

8:30 am & 10:30 am. September to June

9:30 am July and August

Taize

Third Sunday of the Month

The next Service is January 21st, 2024.

Followed by a Pizza and Wine in the Guild Hall

Praise and Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of every month.

The next Service is January 28th, 2024

At the Pub with God

Fourth Sunday of every month after the Praise and Worship

Service at the Belmont @ 5:15 pm.

January 28th, 2024

Service for Peace

The next Service is Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

12:15 pm.

God Answers Prayers (G.A.P.)

Wednesday, January 17th, 2024

In the St. Brendan's Chapel

10:00 am

Places to Find Us:

<https://www.portcolborneanglican.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjamesandstbrendan/>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StJamesandStBrendanAnglicanChurch>

Instagram

[stjamesandstbrendan](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesandstbrendan)



St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church

55 Charlotte St.

Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C9

Phone: 905-834-3184

Email: anglicanoffice@gmail.com

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact anyone on the Corporation.

Rector: Rev. Jody Szoke

905-414-4860

rectorstjamesandstbrendan@gmail.com

Warden: John Hogan

Warden: Kathy Kairies

Deputy Warden: Brian Abbott

Deputy Warden: Jennifer Main

Vision Statement:

To Live as Christ Lived, Loving Everyone!

Mission Statement:

*To invite, welcome, educate, and support people into the
Community of St. James and St. Brendan and into the
Life of Christ.*

