# **Parish Life**

#### **Outreach Committee**

Collaborating to do God's work by leading initiatives and partnering with KW agencies, impacting people's lives in our community and the world.

### ST. JOHN'S Ground Beef Roundup

We have collected 26 packages of ground beef which total 27.3 kgs or 57.98 lbs for the St Johns ground beef round up and a financial donation of \$1440 has been sent to St. Johns THANK-YOU!

#### Share the Warmth

This year we collected 70 coats, 4 pairs of ski pants, 3 pairs of boots and multiple hats and scarves. They were taken to Emmanuel United Church which is located in downtown Waterloo, as they have a large street outreach ministry. This winter outerwear will be given to the people who frequent Emmanuel's outreach lunch program. By working together, we are able to help provide help for those who are in need. Thank you for your donations.

### Children's Community Closet-CCC

For the first time in almost 3 years, we were able to open our doors to our neighbors on August 19th and 20th! It was a great success and we were able to help over 45 families with clothes, toys and books. A huge thank-you to all the volunteers who came to help set everything up and clean up afterwards!

#### Foster Children

One of our foster children has graduated from this program and our support has changed his life through better health, education and clean water. Our support will never be forgotten!

In his place, we have a six-year-old boy who has been waiting to get into the program for some time. Alagupandi Krishnan lives with his Mom and Dad, is Hindu and speaks Tamil. Through our support he too will have a chance at a better future. Thank-you!

### Angel Tree & Bells of Christmas

This year we are excited to launch our combined event with both Angels and Bells on our Tree by the Narthex for our congregation to take some and purchase gifts in support of these two worthy causes. We are supporting 3 families, a young adult and some youth as well as approximately 94 seniors from Winston Park! The tree went up November 20th with gifts required back at the church by Sunday Dec 11th to allow time for them to be delivered. Thank you for your support and helping make Christmas happy for all ages ©

#### **YWKW**

In January we will be collecting much needed items for YWKW Emergency Shelter. Watch for an e-blast!!!

**Future Activities**-we will keep you updated through e-blasts on our initiatives.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your generous support. We are truly making a difference in our community!

Outreach Co-Chairs: Dianne McCandless and Heather Murphy



Bottle Pull!



Share the Warmth



Cancer Turban Crew



Paul & Yvonne Brown-Christmas Market Painting



Christmas Market Cafe



Welcome Newcomers!

# **Parish Profile**

## Youth Mentoring Youth at St George's - Meet Adriana and Adam

A key ingredient to growing our parish is to nurture the youngsters and their families in this place. The youth, begin as babies and toddlers who are baptized at our font. They grow and become the ones we see in our nursery, choirs, pageants, Sunday School programmes, First Communion classes and our vibrant Youth groups. We sit incredulous when each young person is presented with a Quillow as they prepare to graduate from high school and head to post- secondary education or the world at large! It is hard to explain how the Holy Spirit continues to show up for each of these incredible youth and we wonder where did the years go? The baby is now a young adult who will take their faith connection with them as they move into their new lives. With prayer and hope we remind them they will always have a

welcome place to come "home" to!

This September as we try to put Covid behind us and make up for time PAUSED, we are so excited to welcome Adriana Cronin and her partner, Adam Aldcroft, to our Youth Leadership team. It is with a positivity and grace they have eagerly and quietly agreed to create and nurture our youth in this place. The Holy Dragons?? Taking inspiration from our resident Dragon puppet, Sigmund, and the history of St George we begin afresh!

Now Adriana is no stranger to us.

Her parents, Keith and Kelly, moved from Oakville with Jessalyn and Adriana and eventually Noah became part of our regular 10:00 o'clock services. She stated that the family "bounced around a bit" as they shopped for a church that was a good fit. St George's became that good fit for a young family. Adriana recalls that she was confirmed on the same day that Noah was baptized. She recalls everyone gushed over how Noah was so adorable and cute in his suit. For her, confirmation that day marked her quiet embrace of her Anglican faith and a life-long dedication to various ministries at St George's.

Adriana was our Youth rep to Synod from age 17 until she aged out at 24. To this day Fr Stephen is always delighted and surprised at what a fuss Bishop Townshend makes when he enthusiastically greets her at Diocesan gatherings. As our Youth Rep on Diocesan Council she travelled to Ottawa in previous years. We have been blessed to have such a quiet and thoughtful young woman representing St George's. Adam was baptised and confirmed at St John the

Evangelist in London, but he joined St James Westminster because of their Youth programme. When he was 15 or 16 he travelled with other youth to France on a pilgrimage to a Taize Monastery. He was so moved by the young people from all over the world who were drawn by their faith to interact and experience this palpable faith journey. When he returned to London he felt called to be a youth leader in his church.

It would be his pull to St Paul's Cathedral in London that brought he and Adriana together. At a youth conference --and a relationship that began as likeminded Anglicans—their friendship grew. Adriana credits her sister Jess for somehow introducing them to one another. That was six years ago. You will recall that as Adriana entered our St George's Lay

Readership team, Adam was at her side sharing in her preaching of faith and in their faith journey. Both are discerning what their next steps in their calling will be. Adriana is hoping to graduate from Laurier this year. Will she be a chaplain or a parish priest? Only time and God's design will tell. But...we are excited to see. As for Adam, he is considering youth ministry and its leadership. A great partnership indeed!

Both look to create a youth group that will bond at St George's. They want to build a safe community and a safe space where the

youngsters aged 10 and up will meet regularly to discuss faith and have opportunity to serve the parish and have great fun. An organic curriculum Adriana proclaims—faith based—where young people assembled can ask questions and look for answers together. Where they can wonder, and laugh, and look for opportunities to be an active part of the St George's parish. At one of their first Friday evening pizza gatherings they cut over 170 Angels for our Christmas Angel tree! And several weeks later they baked cupcakes for the Christmas Market. Currently the group are enthusiastic about making Christmas cards for the 94 senior residents at Winston Park. Will the Christmas pageant be next?? We shall see...

From baptism, to first communion, to Quillow presentations, these youngsters are most blessed to have Adriana and Adam walk with them and help navigate their faith journeys. And so, too, is the parish of St George's!

Check them out at: sgfhjunioryouthgroup.com