



Christ Church Ashton

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Christ Church The Rev. Kerri Brennan Incumbent

8948 Flewellyn Road
Ashton, ON K0A 1B0

www.ccashton.org

CLERGY TEAM

The Ven. John Bridges
The Rev. Dr. Bill Prentice
The Ven. Sally Gadd
The Rev. Charlie Boole

ADMIN STAFF

Lorna Brûlé
Carol Spencer

613-836-1001

I am so pleased to greet you and your family this advent season, my first with the Parish of Christ Church, Ashton! How appropriate that we have the opportunity to celebrate new ministry together during a season of expectation and preparation—when we can learn what each other's hopes and plans are for the future of our community of faith. It is a time for us to reflect on what it means to be a community of faith. It is a time to reflect on how our faith is lived out within our world. It is a time to look for God's hope being born into the most unlikely of places.

I am aware that much has been shifting and expanding in this community over the last year and a half, not the least of which is my arrival. The partnership that was established with St Paul's Kanata continues successfully to support the delivery of ministry. I can tell you that what most attracted me to joining this team is the encouragement of creativity, the exposure to broader perspectives, and the diversity of voices we are in dialogue with. All of this, I believe, benefits the communities we serve as well as the clergy team members.

With the opening of *God's Got You Covered*, our nearly new shop, we not only meet a need in the wider community for affordable, accessible clothing and jewelry, we also support the clients of Interval House and those in crisis. The love and care dedicated to the rectory prior to the shop's opening has reinvigorated the house as a warm, welcoming space from which good ministry is offered and at which visitors may break bread together over a homemade lunch. I invite you to pop in for coffee and a look-see if you have yet to experience the store!

As the New Year approaches, our planning ramps up. Thanks to the generosity of many, the campaign to raise funds for a new shed has proven successful and you can expect it to be erected in the coming months. We are currently exploring how to redevelop our liturgy to create a genuinely intergenerational worship service. I feel passionate about the inclusivity of our children and youth in all areas of our Church. My hope is to honour our liturgical traditions while also attending to all of the members of our faith community. Additionally, keep an eye on our website (www.ccashton.org) in the coming weeks as it is being refreshed.

As with all exciting developments, we need your support to make these things happen and new ideas to come to fruition. At Christmas, God sent hope in an unexpected place, but that hope, the Christ Child, needed to be cared for and raised by human parents, and followed by human disciples. God works through us to make dreams into reality. It is with this in mind that I invite you to prayerfully consider your financial support of our parish ministries, asking whether your financial givings accurately reflect your ability and situation or whether it is time to re-evaluate. Additionally, if you feel so called, you may offer a financial gift above and beyond your regular Sunday givings through the enclosed seasonal envelope.

I am grateful for the opportunity to meet and to learn to know the people of Christ Church. It is fantastic to witness how God is doing amazing things here in this parish. God is able to do these things because our parish is full of amazing and faithful people. Our church is actively working to make sure that the light will always shine in the darkness, and the Christ Child will always have a loving home in which to be raised.

I wish you a blessed Advent, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. May the peace and graciousness of our God be with you and your family during this holiest of seasons.

Be well in service,

Rev. Kerri

The Rev. Kerri Brennan
Incumbent,
Christ Church, Ashton

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Services

5:30 p.m. Carol Sing / 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Family Service
10:00 p.m. Carol Sing / 10:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist candle lit service

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist (You are invited to wear your PJs to the service if you wish!)

Sunday, January 1 – New Year's Day

* There will be no 8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

God's Got You Covered (Nearly New Shop located in the church rectory)

Thursdays: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 29, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.