



# Christ Church, Rawdon

*Located in the traditional territories of  
the Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat people.*

## **Summer Worship: 10:00 every Sunday**

**Worship services** will be held in Christ Church as scheduled above, and barring technical difficulties, will be live-streamed on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/789373873?pwd=cG94T3Z2MHOwTkRwZTJhVWRpL0kwZz09> and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pg/christchurchrawdon/posts/](http://www.facebook.com/pg/christchurchrawdon/posts/). You can also hear the audio by telephone at 438 809-7799 (when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 789 373 873).

*To my dearly loved sisters and brothers of Christ Church Rawdon.*

*I write to you as we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the celebration of the Gift of the Holy Spirit.*

*I was licensed as the priest-in-charge of Christ Church effective the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, which was the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the current liturgical year. Since then, I have had the privilege to celebrate the 2 Great High Feasts – Easter and Christmas with you; shared with you the pilgrimages of Advent and Lent, met Jesus with you in the Season of Epiphany [a season which the ancient church spoke of as a season of the Revelation to the Gentiles], and met the risen Jesus with you in the blessed 40 days from Easter to Ascension. Through these months I have had the privilege of meeting many parishioners in their homes, in hospitals, in long-term care facilities, in meetings and community events, around dinner tables, in living rooms and kitchens, at graveside and at worship. Growing to know the saints and souls of the parish has been a blessing, and I thank you for your grace and your generosity.*

*With Pentecost we begin the longest season of the year – a season which is typically referred to as Ordinary Time, for it is a season where the Church lives out its life in service to God and community – working out our salvation in prayer and song and common witness.*

*Since I became the chair of the corporation of Christ Church Rawdon, the corporation and extended corporation have been working tirelessly to gain a more objective understanding of who we are as a congregation and as a parish; all to discern and prayerfully-consider the paths to growth and renewal which have been prepared for us. We are blessed with faithful men and women, with many willing hands and good brains and strong imaginations. We are charged to build God's Kingdom in Rawdon, that God's Grace and Love might be a balm and a blessing for those who turn to us for pastoral care, for encouragement, and for healing. We are working on congregational development, on discerning better strategies for the use of the resources which have been entrusted to us, on learning how to weave the life of the community into the life of our parish, and the life of our parish into that of the broader community. For the first time in many years, we are working to invite those who use our hall for their meetings – Masons, AA, NA, CA... to participate in the life of our parish. Strengthening our filial relationships is essential to strengthening the fabric of our community and parish. We are now frequently inviting men and women and clergy of other denominations to join us at worship and parish events, for no one person or denomination holds the Truth – the Truth is, rather, where we seek to dwell, and by opening our hearts and our parish doors to others from a breadth of traditions we are blessed with the opportunity to meet what is True and Good and Blessed through the lived and faithful experiences of others.*

*Over the next weeks, through to September, our parish has a host of activities lined-up, for though school will soon break for summer, the work of our parish will not pause, but accelerate. On the next page are several upcoming events to note in your agendas. Events not listed below will be published on-line and in Sunday bulletins.*

1. On Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at 14:00 The Rev'd. Thomas Paul, a retired minister from Madison Baptist Church and a resident of Montreal, will preside at a graveside service for Mary Parkinson Millar and Samuel C. Millar, both of Rawdon, both to be laid to rest in our cemetery. The ACW is preparing a reception.
2. the Ven. Dr. Edward Simonton will be joining us on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June at 11:00 to preach at the funeral of Verna Asbil-Negm [Anne Millar will serve and be crucifer, I will preside at Eucharist]. The ACW are preparing a reception to be held in the parish hall following the service.
3. We have an important ACW event in the parish hall on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of June: a Rummage Sale, from 10:00 to 15:00. Set up will be done on Friday at 14:00. Donations and help with set-up and sale are welcomed. To make donations to this activity please contact Sue-Ellen Jones [sueellenquilt@gmail.com](mailto:sueellenquilt@gmail.com)
4. We have our auction, with the sale of crafts and baked goods and raffle taking place at the parish hall on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of July from 10:00 to 15:00. To make donations to the auction please contact Brent Parkinson [breparkinson13@gmail.com](mailto:breparkinson13@gmail.com) and to make donations for craft or bake sale please contact Sue-Ellen Jones [sueellenquilt@gmail.com](mailto:sueellenquilt@gmail.com)
5. On Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> of July the Ven. Michael Robson will preside at Eucharist while I am away. The family of Elizabeth Nunn (nee de Fougerolles) will be present in number, and after worship Elizabeth's ashes will be laid to rest in her parent's grave, followed by a reception prepared by the ACW.
6. On Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> of August the Ven. Michael Robson will preach and preside [while I am away].
7. On August 13<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the funeral of Susan Irene [Way] Tinkler.
8. On Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August members of the de Fougerolles family join us a second time; and following worship we will lay the ashes of Robert de Fougerolles' to rest in his parent's grave. A reception will follow.
9. We have been approached by a couple seeking to marry in our church on the Saturday of Labour Day long weekend. The couple are not members of the parish; but a wedding is an opportunity to welcome guests and newcomers into our church and to learn how we worship and what we believe. As an opportunity for evangelism, such weddings sow seeds which are important for future growth.
10. Over the summer work will be done on a SWOT analysis [an analysis of Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats] of our parish with the Rev. Dr. Neil Mancour, our congregational development officer. The goal is to have 2 or 3 relaxed evening meetings with Neil working to see ourselves more clearly and to discern avenues to growth and renewal – and the threats which we face if we do not act. Notices for these meetings will be circulated in parish bulletins and electronically.
11. The Rev. Dr. Neil Mancour will also prepare us for 'Messy Church' in the fall, for it is in enfranchising and welcoming children and organized disorder that we can learn much about how to grow our parish.

*I pray you a blessed summer. I encourage you to participate in life and worship of our parish throughout the summer. I ask you to hold each other in prayer, and to bless each other with grace and words of encouragement.*

*Fr. Rodney Clark+*

*1-514-571-3202 [frrodneyclark@gmail.com](mailto:frrodneyclark@gmail.com)*

*Enclosed is a return-addressed offering envelope. Please bring the envelope with you to Christ Church when you join us to worship. If you are unable to join us, please mail the envelope to the parish. To become a regular donor we recommend you sign-up for monthly donations at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/70387> When you type in this URL you will land at the giving page for Christ Church Rawdon at CanadaHelps.Org.*

**Christ Church, 3537 rue Metcalfe, Rawdon, QC J0K 1S0**

Parish Contact Information: 514-571-3202, [christchurchrawdon@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchrawdon@gmail.com)

Parish Web Site: [www.christchurchrawdon.com](http://www.christchurchrawdon.com)

Prayer Contact: John Clague, 450-834-3905, [jclague@sympatico.ca](mailto:jclague@sympatico.ca)

Requests for Flower Memorials: Ann Allen, 450-834-2492