



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

FEBRUARY 2022

Volume 18, Issue 4
February 2022



*Welcome to the Church of St. James', Orillia
Whether you are a follower of Christ, or on a spiritual journey, all
are welcome to this Holy and Sacred place.*



FROM THE DESK OF CANON JOHN

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy New Year! At the time of writing for the February newsletter, I am closer to New Year's Day than I am to Vestry on Sunday, February 27th. Despite the challenges of setting a 2022 budget, thinking about changing patterns of worship in Orillia, or new types of mission and outreach, I know that we can go into the new year on a positive note!

I am very proud of our parish. We were not defined by the burdens of a COVID pandemic. Throughout 2021, we found ways to keep outreach programs going, such as Loonie Lunch and Pennywise. A Social Justice initiative coming out of the social justice diversity motion at Vestry was taken up the St. James' Reconciliation Circle, resulting in a Land Acknowledgement Statement. In our worship we met new friends in the soloists and musicians who helped us in our services, a stellar tech team who moved us from great videos to live streaming, and our Lay-Readers who were used in important ways. In December, the congregation was very generous in their offerings to the parish and in their financial support of Loonie Lunch, ACW Christmas Project, and FaithWorks.

This should leave us feeling good about our church and aware that we are a community that faithfully wants to do the work and mission of Jesus.

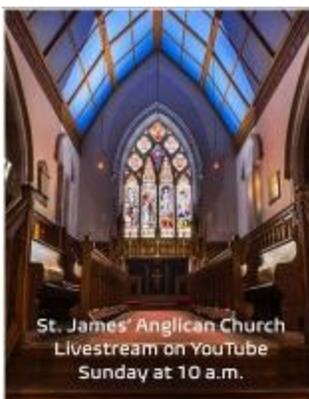
Epiphany is a wonderful opportunity to talk about how the Spirit is leading this community as a member of Christ's Church. The readings from Luke and Corinthians are theologically rich and invite us into understanding more deeply how we bring all of our gifts to support this community. As you may see from my sermons in January and for the month of February, I want to explore the challenges that we face in this new year, and how we as a parish will respond. See this as an opportunity to take what we hear and learn in Scripture and apply it in our everyday lives!

An important collect (or prayer), from the Book of Common Prayer and one appointed for the Second Sunday in Advent is:

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant us that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sometimes we may let the importance of Scripture pass us by. We are sending out the service bulletins by eblasts so that you can follow along and you can also find them on the website. I invite you to read the Word alone or with your family; take note of what stands out for you; and ponder how it impacts on you and your church.

Thanks be to God. Amen.
Canon John



Our Vision - A strong faith community, reflecting God's Love to those around us.
Our Mission - To serve and share Jesus Christ
Our Values - Faith, Compassion, Integrity, Respect



This photo is of a recently discovered stereoscopic view of the interior of the Old Stone Church that was used from 1857 to 1891. Note that there is a plaque on the right edge that looks similar to those in the church now. Does anyone know if anything else survived?

Fred Blair

As the poster beside this indicates, own our historian, Fred Blair, is making a presentation for OMAH this February that connects with the Oro African Church on Old Barrie Road at Edgar, between Barrie and Orillia. Read the poster to find out how to receive the link to his talk.

VIRTUAL HISTORY SPEAKER SERIES 2022

Black Veterans of the War of 1812



The Black community on Wilberforce Street in Oro was created in 1819 to reward veterans of the War of 1812 with land grants. But why did most Black veterans refuse to settle there? For Black History Month, **Fred Blair** shares his extensive research into the Black experience of the war, including stories about some Oro families and other Black veterans.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, AT 7 P.M. ON ZOOM

To register and receive a link to the talk, call Monica at 705 326 2159 or email visitors@orilliamuseum.org. Admission is free, donations to OMAH are appreciated.

OMAH
ORILLIA MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY

UPCOMING IN 2022

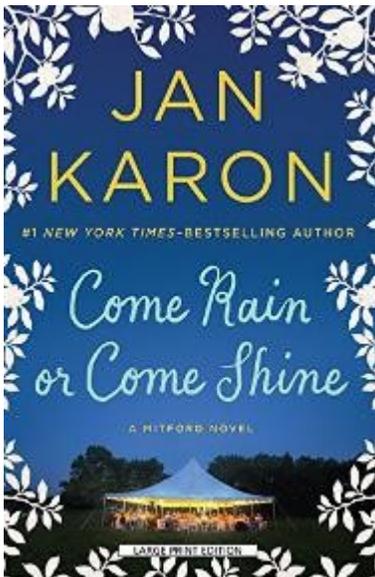
March 16: John Savage – Logging and Longford Mills
April 20: Judi L. Humphries – Gravenhurst's Second World War Prisoner-of-War Camp

Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.

Peter 4:8

BOOK REVIEW COME RAIN OR COME SHINE

Jan Karon's Come Rain or Come Shine
A Book Review by Canon John



Recently added to the St. James' Library is Jan Karon's Come Rain or Come Shine. It is number thirteen and a recent addition to the Mitford series. For those who have followed Father Tim and the cast of characters around him, you will know all about his adopted son, Dooley Kavanagh, who was introduced to us in the first book, At Home in Mitford. In this novel we are all invited to Dooley's wedding. Dooley is marrying his childhood friend, Lacey Harper. Father Tim takes a backseat to all of the wedding activities, but in many ways that is how it works when your child is getting married!

Karon's writing style is a little different from past novels. It essentially weaves a number of different plot lines from the perspective of familiar Mitford personalities. It can lead to confusion about who is actually speaking but it does come together in the end. Then again, most weddings come together in the end as you work through all the permutations that make wedding planning confusing!

For you traditional Anglicans, you will like the order of service printed out in the book just before the wedding is about to start. You can follow along with the wedding service as each step is told through the lens of the participants and guests. I particularly liked the commentary by Mink Hershell, a Baptist who wondered why it took Anglicans 'forever and a day to get married' and that they had to sit through something called a 'homily'.

PIKANGIKUM WATER IN THE NORTH UPDATE

In 2011 National Indigenous Bishop Mark McDonald and a working group formed a partnership with the leaders in Pikangikum, a remote northwestern Ontario First Nation community. Representatives from many churches met monthly in Aurora and St. James' began participating in 2012 – in time for the Advent Conspiracy. This cluster of concerned parishioners became the Living Water group; however, we used the name Water in the North.

Phase 1 of the project began with a \$100,000 national commitment from the Living Water group and ended in 2013 with 10 homes outfitted with running water and wastewater removal capabilities. As the work was taking place, young people from the community were trained in new skills in carpentry, plumbing and electricity.

Fundraising for Phase 2 continued and by October 2014 the total reached \$600,000. In November 2014, when the diesel generators powering the community of Pikangikum reached maximum capacity, the water work came to a 'temporary' halt. Sadly, youth suicides began climbing and leadership discerned how to better respond to the spiritual needs of all people.

Advent Conspiracy 2017 commitment was again directed towards the long-term commitment of water in Pikangikum. In other news, over \$60 million in funding was announced by the federal government to connect Pikangikum to Ontario's power grid.

The 2019 annual report of Pimatisiwin Nipi (Living Waters) group, led by Archbishop Mark MacDonald and supported by PWRDF, notes the installation of safe water and indoor plumbing to more than 20 homes from 2011 to 2019. Funds remain available to Pikangikum, raised by both PWRDF as well as a government grant that matched the funds, to be able to continue with further clean water initiatives in this community going forward. Pikangikum had faced several challenges during the year, with two evacuations of the community because of wildfires, as well as significant turn-over in the band's leadership. The time came to pivot from the work in Pikangikum into new partnerships beyond Pikangikum.

Finally, a proposal was developed in the fall of 2020 to equip more homes with clean, running water and make good use of financial resources raised in past years. In 2020 the community was able to institute early and consistent public health safety measures which have allowed the community to stay mostly COVID-free, as well to continue important offerings of church and other meetings in a safe way. Suicides have been significantly reduced.

To expand the work in response to urgent and widespread news during COVID, the Pimatisiwin Nipi group was grateful to be able to pivot fundraising in the fall of 2020 to a new partnership between PWRDF and Water First, an organization that addresses water challenges in Indigenous communities in Canada through education, training, and meaningful collaboration.

The December 1, 2021 issue of the Globe & Mail notes "The parliamentary budget officer has put a price tag on providing clean drinking water in First Nations, saying in a new report that the federal government still has a short fall to make up. Yves Giroux's report said the government has set aside more than enough money to meet the expected capital costs to build water and wastewater systems over the next five years. Where the government falls short is on financial help to First Nations to operate the systems, which Mr. Giroux's office estimate would need \$138 million more annually in federal funding. The Liberals had promised in their successful 2015 election campaign to end all boil-water advisories in First Nations within five years of taking office, a timeline that was supposed to be met this year. But the government last year said the target wouldn't be met, pointing to the pandemic among a variety of other factors in its way.

NDP critic Lori Idlout said, "In my riding of Nunavut, the city of Iqaluit has been without clean drinking water for seven weeks. If this were happening in a city like Vancouver or Toronto the problem would have been fixed immediately."

We recognize truth in these words and encourage the people of St. James' and the Orillia community to participate in our committee work or the work of our Reconciliation Circle.

Social Justice and Mission Committee.



Thank you! ❤️

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

Our 2021 Advent Conspiracy event has been a great success. Approximately \$5500 has been donated for Loonie Lunch expenses by the generous donors of St. James'.



Thanks so much for your help with this vital outreach service.

Rosemarie Freeman, Outreach Ministry



“No, I’m pretty sure it’s do unto otters as you would have otters to do unto you.”



FAITHWORKS CAMPAIGN

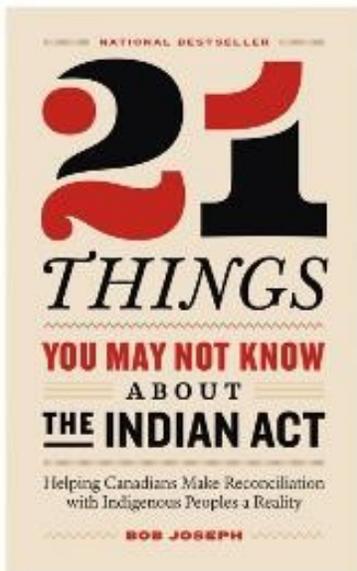
The annual campaign to raise funds for Faithworks is ongoing. Contributions to date have been gratefully received but it is not too late to contribute if you would still like to do that. Donations can be made through the parish office designated for Faithworks. This is an important mission supporting some very needy services throughout our Diocese including Couchiching Jubilee House and The Lighthouse here in Orillia.



BEHIND THE SCENES LIVESTREAM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES



A little “behind the scenes” look at the preparation for the very first live stream service on Sunday January 2, 2022! Thanks to all who made it possible!!



The Reconciliation Circle invites you to join a Book Study

21 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE INDIAN ACT

Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality

Written by (Chief) Bob Joseph. The Indian Act was created in 1876 and since that time it has become the root of dictating to a people how they are supposed to live and is responsible for many negative and enduring stereotypes about Indigenous Peoples. This is a timely book study because the intent of Bob Joseph is to examine and understand the past so that we can move to reconciliation in Canada.

Copies will be ordered from Manticore Books and offered for sale at the church office (approx. \$19.95). Tentative start date 3rd week in February.

If you are interested in joining the book study, please advise Phyllis at:

office@stjamesorillia.com or phone 705-325-2742

Or
Canon John at:
rector@stjamesorillia.com



TEA AT THREE ON THURSDAYS

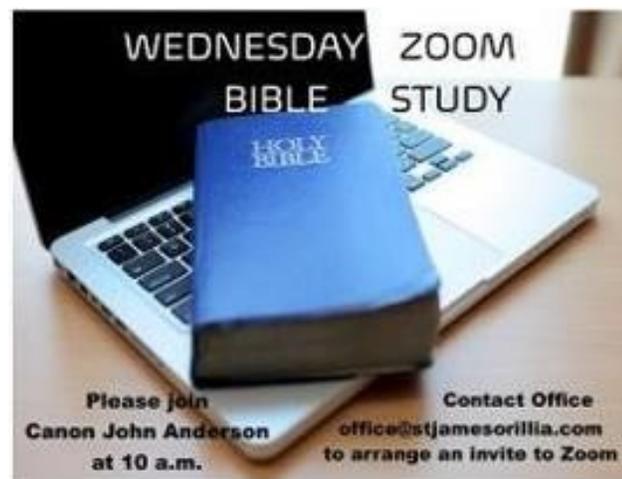
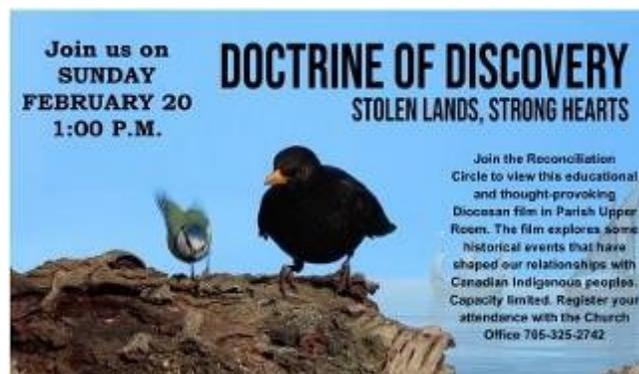
Tea at Three on Thursdays at 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. This will be a Zoom meeting with no agenda other than to connect with Church friends face to face for a casual time. Anyone wishing to join should contact Christine Blair at: office@stjamesorillia.com for an invitation.

ST. JAMES' LAND ACKNOWLEDGE

We acknowledge the first people who walked this land before us. The land on which we gather is the ancestral territory of the Anishinabek (ah-nish-in-nah-bek) Nation, specifically the Chipewas of Rama First Nation. This territory is covered by the John Collins Purchase of 1795 and the Williams Treaties.

We gratefully acknowledge the beauty and bounty of the land where we live, and our gratitude for the earth, the provider of all that is required to sustain physical life. We, as the youngest visitors here upon the earth, must ensure that the earth is here for the future generations of all beings that live upon her.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and work in this community, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.



ST. JAMES' WALKERS AND COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR



It's cold out there. And on February 26, we are going to do something about it. Together with thousands of Canadians across the country, we will be walking with The St James' Anglican Church Walkers and fundraising to support hungry, homeless, and hurting people and families in our community. Only this year we are going to do it by ourselves digitally, again.

The Lighthouse in Orillia has completed an awesome new facility which includes an emergency shelter (40 emergency beds for men, women, youth and families), the Soup Kitchen Cafe, a separate wing with 5 separate bedroom spaces for youth experiencing homelessness - named by the James A. Burton Family Foundation - with wraparound supports such as addictions counselling, mental health counselling, life skills training and spiritual support. That's where your money will go.

If you click on the link below after you copy it into your browser, it will connect you to my personal fundraising page where you can donate securely. Or join the Team!

Thanks!

Bill (Mr. Bill) Manley

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/FundraisingPage.aspx?registrationID=5022792&langPref=en-CA>

PS. Please visit the CNOY web site ([Coldest Night of the Year 2022 - Home \(cnoy.org\)](http://Coldest Night of the Year 2022 - Home (cnoy.org))) and The Lighthouse web site ([The Lighthouse \(orillialighthouse.ca\)](http://The Lighthouse (orillialighthouse.ca)))



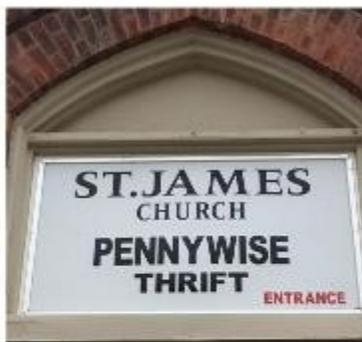
Pennywise is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
12 noon to 3 p.m.
Winter clothing is available now
For any special occasion come in to see our gowns for \$50 (worth \$300 or more).
Masks required. Covid protocols in place.
CASH only please; small bills or coins preferred.

DIGGIN' FOR GOLD

COVID-19 has affected all of us. We NEED your help for our Outreach programs. Locally we currently assist The Sharing Place Food Centre, Green Haven Shelter, Lighthouse Shelter, Couchiching Jubilee House as well as our own Loonie Lunch on Wednesdays. Drop off your broken or unused gold jewelry to our Pennywise store. We accept 10k, 12k, 14k, 18k yellow or white gold.



Loonie Lunch takeout with items from Pennywise Thrift Shop



NOW OPEN
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
12 noon to 3 p.m.
Come early for best selection. Masks required. Covid protocols in place. CASH only please; small bills or coins preferred.

*You are loved.
There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
We love because He first loved us.
1 John 4: 18-19*

**Looking for Volunteers to work in the shop.
Contact Office 325-2742 if interested**



PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan – Authorization Form

What is the Pre-Authorized Giving Plan?
Sponsored by the Diocese of Toronto, Pre-Authorized Giving (P.A.G.) assists parishioners in the diocese to make their regular offertory donations to their church by direct debit.

Why Should I Participate?
Advantages for you:

- Convenience: your offering is received automatically every month and automatically deposited in the Parish account.
- You can plan your giving in advance for the whole year
- You can continue to support St. James' when you are away.
- You can continued support of ministries and programs
- Decreased environmental impact to reduce envelope use.
- Changes may be made any time by contacting the church office
- Givers do not have to write a cheque or carry cash each week
- Safe and secure

Advantages for St. James':

- A regular, dependable flow of contributions to St. James'.
- Easier to plan the budget in advance for the whole year
- A reduction of paperwork and bookkeeping.
- Decreased environmental impact.

FündScrip

Where Shopping is Fundraising!

A Great Way to Support St. James' While Giving to Others!

What: Gift card program that gives a percentage to our Church

Who: Most major retailers and more! (gas, groceries, entertainment, etc.)

Where: Across Canada

When: Right now! Great way to budget for household shopping

Why: To support St. James' Church

How: Pick up Order Forms by calling the church office; Place order the first Sunday of each month, Pick up gift cards the following Sunday



MANY, MANY THANKS!

Once again, the St. James' Christmas Project, organized by the ACW for over 40 years, was a tremendous success, thanks to the amazing generosity of our Parish Family. Since COVID is still restricting our activities, we resorted to the same plan we had come up with last year. Twenty-six families were given gift cards in November to buy Christmas presents for children 18 and under; the same number of families received grocery store gift cards in December to buy their Christmas Dinner and extra food as well. On top of that, gift cards and Tim Horton's cards were given to the Orillia Youth Centre staff to give to the 20 neediest teens they work with - plus three bins of toiletries and more, available to any teen who had a need. Every year I continue to be overwhelmed by St. James' care for our community. You certainly made Christmas happier for over 120 people - God bless you all!

Mae Cox, for the ACW Executive



DARE TO DREAM



Covid viruses, public health rules, Diocesan rules, personal space, proper masks – these are all not part of our dreams. But if by some chance we might ponder about a better world, we might see ourselves sharing hugs and laughing together over a coffee and sharing pictures of our loved ones once again.



The ACW (Anglican Church Workers) are dreaming about a Spring Outdoor Bake and Plant Sale in our church circle. Maybe we can show off some of our homemade crafts. We would also like to think that maybe we can finally repeat our traditional Avenue of Boutiques in November. We might not be able to do our famous luncheon but crafts and baking again are our mainstay.

We learned this past year that our bakers are the best and you shoppers have been wonderful. So, when the snow goes, please look at your gardens and see if anything needs to be thinned out or if you would like something new in a spot. Bakers, please stock up on your supplies.

We just have dreams right now – but God is watching over us and we can always hope.
Joan Gardy

DO YOU HAVE A CRAFTY HOBBY?



The ACW is hoping that in the spring and again pre-Christmas that we can repeat our very successful bake and craft sales. Our bakers are fabulous. But we wonder if we might share some of your talents.

Do you paint, make note cards, knit, embroider, do photography or woodworking, or make jewelry? In early May, we might be able to do an outdoor plant sale and include our wonderful baking and maybe some of your crafts. We could use the auditorium with its double outside doors to direct a shopper's flow so there would be protection if it rains.

We would ask you to tithe from your sales for St James'. We will follow all COVID and health unit rules. If you feel you can share, please chat with Miriam Wright, Mae Cox, Julia Nicholls, Christine Blair, Kay Page, Anne Thompson or Joan Gardy. We are all willing to hear from you.

Joan Gardy

February Calendar

We are not able to provide a calendar of meeting times, events, or programs, due to COVID-19. Please join us for in-person Worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. or by watching the Sunday webcast service on our website, Facebook or YouTube.

Your Ministry Council

Anyone interested in reading the current Ministry Council minutes may contact the Church office for a copy.

Are you ill? In the Hospital? Now in a nursing home?

If you or someone you know from our congregation is ill, in the hospital or has moved to a nursing home, please let us know by calling the church office. **We have no other way of knowing**, as the hospital and nursing homes are no longer permitted to give this information out due to the Privacy Act.

Hospital Pastoral Care

Having met the required hospital protocols, Mae Cox, our Pastoral Care Visitor for OSMH, is now able to actually visit patients in person. If you know anyone from our Parish Family who is in Soldiers, please notify the Church Office so a visit can be arranged.

Newsletter Sponsorship

Each month we ask for a sponsor to support the publication of our parish newsletter. Many of our family receive it via the internet but many still enjoy receiving the paper copy and/or they might not have access to a computer. The donation of \$100.00 each month pays to produce our internet copies, the paper copies and their mailing. Please contact Phyllis in the office 705-325-2742 if you would like to sponsor a month.

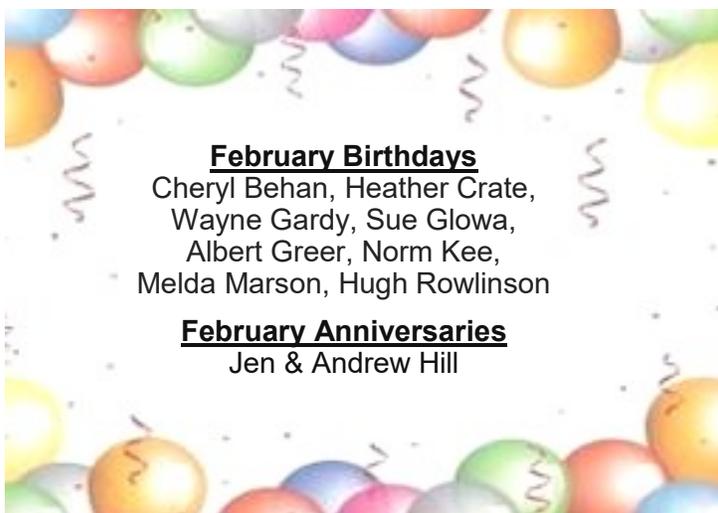
Fundscrip

The Fundscrip deadline is **Sunday February 6**. Orders and cheques (payable to St James' church) can be dropped off at the bin at the Gardys'. If you need directions, please call Phyllis in the office 325-2742. Pick up will be **Friday February 11**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.

FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS

What did the pastor say to a man with Twitter addition?
Sorry, I don't follow you.

Why didn't they play cards on the Ark? Because Noah was always standing on the deck.



February Birthdays

Cheryl Behan, Heather Crate,
Wayne Gardy, Sue Glowa,
Albert Greer, Norm Kee,
Melda Marson, Hugh Rowlinson

February Anniversaries

Jen & Andrew Hill

ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN CHURCH
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