



ST. JAMES JOURNEY

AUGUST 2026

Volume 22, Issue 8
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*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 ARCHDEACON JOHN

Dear Friends in Christ,

On the Eighth Sunday of Pentecost, I reminded the congregation that St. Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. (Romans 8: 38 - 39)

We experience separation in our lives all the time. We may feel separated from loved ones or friends; we may experience anxiety and fear; and some may feel that God is not at work in their lives. For some of us, we may be experiencing a separation of sorts as St. James goes through this period of transition.

I reminded the congregation that when we come into our church to worship the triune God, we do so as a faithful community. We are attracted to a church for all kinds of reasons. It may be the music, the preaching, the outreach, the liturgy, the beauty of the space, or perhaps all these things. However, at the end of the day whatever experience we may seek, it is in the context of being part of a community with people who share a common desire to experience the sacred and worship the one who has called us friend – Jesus.

I confess that I am concerned some people have expressed to me and to others that because St. James is in this period of transition it may not survive. They may point to my leaving for my new chapter in my vocation or to Jeff leaving as a music director as a reason to depart. This may be an excuse to leave or to become detached from the church. Remember, church is more than just the priest or the music. I think we need to take a page from the experiences of the parishes which form part of the Huronia Community of Churches. They have all experienced challenges of different types, from a fire to losing their clergy. However, these parishes came together to meet these challenges. They have remained cohesive and positive because they are faithful as a community of believers. They know that nothing separates us from the love of God.

More importantly, St. James is going to remain a vibrant part of the worshipping community in Orillia. It may look different in the days ahead but the church will be present. I know that there is hard work ahead for the community of St. James. However, this transition time will be met with the solid Board of Management that is in place and will provide leadership. The College of Bishops is supportive of St. James. The Bishop is working hard to find an interim who will continue to work with Rev. Carol. Then there are all of you who bring wonderful gifts to your church.

Time and time again, many of you have said that this is your spiritual home. Father Richard Rohr said that "God has quietly broken through and stands perfectly revealed in the Now of things." St. James and its community is part of that Now of things – of the kingdom of God which is intertwined in your spiritual home. So continue to be part of your spiritual community!

Peace, 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





Greetings from your Wardens!

Summer is moving along. It has been a busy one for St. James. On June 6, we offered our thanks and best wishes to Reverend Samuel in a special service with Bishop Riscylla Shaw and the Huronia Community of Churches. We'll look forward to watching him as his messages are conveyed throughout the Deanery.

June 28th marked the date of a special luncheon that celebrated the dedication of the many volunteers who give so selflessly to enrich the lives of our congregation and the community.

July has been a month of change. Archdeacon John announced his resignation from St. James after 8 years of committing himself as our priest and incumbent. He also worked as an Archdeacon to a wider area in the Diocese of Toronto. Most recently, he also undertook the regionalization of churches currently underway in our Deanery. It has also been a time of unification. It is a time when we realize and acknowledge that under his strong leadership, we are all working together in the service of God and each other. Please mark SEPTEMBER 6 on your calendar to thank John and give him a terrific send-off.

This has also been a time of struggle as we recognize our dwindling congregation numbers and the lack of corresponding resources, both in volunteer hours and financial resources. The Board of Management and Bishop Riscylla have met with Julia and Sue as well as other members on the Board to develop a plan going forward. Archdeacon John has reminded us that these plans will involve change. The change won't happen overnight but will require analysis, adaptation, patience and co-operation. We will strive to build a solid future for our beloved St. James.

Enjoy our all-too-short summer. Consider attending our Wednesday music presentations. There are very special, gifted musicians ready to lift your spirits. Bring a friend and share our beautiful sanctuary with others who enjoy our annual summer entertainment. Above all, our auditorium offers relief during our regular Sunday services, where we also find relief in worshipping with our church family, as a spiritual community.

Sue, Julia and Leslie

As your Associate Priest, I remind you that St. James' continues to offer worship and our various ministries into this month of September and beyond. We will say goodbye and God Bless to Archdeacon John in a joint service with the Huronia Community of Churches, on September 6th, while an Interim Priest will be in place to work with all of us at St. James'.

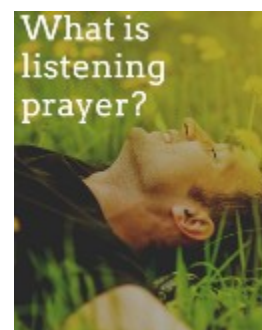
Know that the church is its people, and God's Spirit continues to give life and love, strength, guidance and peace to individuals and to this community of faith. We pray for all the ongoing ministries, and our participation as followers of Jesus.

As I have been looking after the Pastoral Care team I can assure you, we have been faithful in offering our visiting, our prayers and support for all who are in need throughout the year. I encourage all those who wish support from the clergy and/or a member of the team to call the office and we will be in touch.

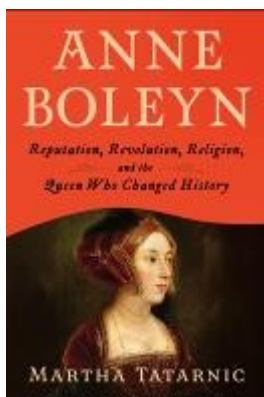
Note that there will be a **Workshop for Pastoral Care** about Prayer and Holy Listening, on **September 26th** here at St. James'. Please mark your calendars! Our presenter is Rev. Sandor Borbely who is the Incumbent at St. Thomas, Shanty Bay, and a wonderful resource concerning our topic. This is a deanery project, and we are inviting people from all the churches from across our Deanery to participate. Please watch for more information in the coming days.

If you are interested in participating in Pastoral ministry, please speak to me, and be sure to attend the workshop!

Your servant in Christ, Rev. Carol Hardie+



ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be meeting September 14th at 10 a.m. in the Church parlour to discuss Rev. Martha Tatar Nic's most recent book "Anne Boleyn: Reputation, Revolution, Religion, and the Queen who Changed History." The story of Anne Boleyn has intrigued generations, and yet she has also been frequently portrayed through tropes such as seductress or power-hungry manipulator. But a closer examination reveals instead a complex woman who exerts enormous influence on the English Reformation and the political and religious landscape of Europe. Tatar Nic argues through this book that while Anne's religious convictions form the root of everything we know about her, it has been an omission from her history.

Please join us on September 14th at 10 a.m. for a discussion of this book.

All are welcome!

Linda Davidson

St. James' Book Discussion Group – 2026/2027 2nd Monday of the month - 10 a.m. All Welcomed

	SEPTEMBER 14 Reputation, Revolution, Religion and the Queen who Changed History Anne Boleyn		JANUARY 11 A Work in Progress James Martin
	OCTOBER 19 (3rd Monday) The Good Eye Jess Gibson		FEBRUARY 8 Liberty Street Heather Marshall
	NOVEMBER 9 Sharing the Light Monique Gray Smith		MARCH 8 Maiden Voyages: Women and the Golden Age of Transatlantic Travel Sian Evans
	DECEMBER 14 Behind The Pickle Jar Wendy McCuaig		APRIL 12 Beartown Frederick Backman
			MAY 10 He Looks Kind of Rough (Do You Want Me to Stay?) Sherri Lawson



UPDATE FROM THE PENNYWISE SHOP

We have seen a significant drop in customers, because of challenges getting to Pennywise shop due to road closures for the Coldwater St paving project & people being advised to stay in due to fires in Northern Ontario, but we press on!

There is a new poster on the double-door entrance to the church office with instructions on where & when to drop off donations.

There are two new outside "H"-style Coroplast signs with instructions on where & when to drop donations. One sign is placed at the outside entrance to Pennywise shop, the other is placed at the driveway leading to the garden door. Thanks for all donations!

JoAnne Barr

"Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."
Hebrews 10: 25



Home | St. Nicholas CDC
stnicholascdc.org

UPDATE ON KENYA MISSION TRIP 2026



We returned home on June 8th from a very successful mission to Kenya. Highlights of the trip were 7 very busy clinic days, one at St. Nicholas Orphanage, now called ACK St. Nicholas Community Development Centre, 5 in Kibera and a return visit to the Massai Village, home parish of previous Archbishop Eliud Wakabula.

Archbishop Wakabula is quite unwell, and we pray for his comfort and hopefully recovery. In addition, with the Dental Clinic roof leaking, we were able to replace the roof, averting damage to the dental suite, supplied by St. James' in 2017. At St. Nicholas, Dr. Stanley and Dr. Fran examined a very ill-looking 12-year-old boy, on whom we were able to order a CT, discovering a tumour and abscess in his nasopharynx. We treated the infection in Kibera. He has had surgery for biopsy, and we now await results. After returning home, we did some urgent fundraising and were able to send funds to cover the remaining cost of this surgery. Thank you so much to the parishioners of St. James', our friends and families for your continued support of such an important mission. Further information and pictures will be included in an upcoming newsletter, and we also will plan to do a presentation sometime in the fall.

A THANK YOU FOR DONATIONS!! - KENYA TRIP - 2026

Thank you for the donations towards our medical supplies and medications that we took with us to Kenya. There were 14 volunteers accompanying Fran McCordic on this trip, May 19th to June 8th, 2026. The 7-day clinics we held saw about 1000 people. Medical physicians, a dentist, optometrists, lab tests and free medication were provided.



It was also arranged to replace the metal roof and ceiling over the dental chair. In the office, new lighting has been installed as well.

We received many thanks from those treated. So thank you for making this possible with your donations. We also got to plant trees on one site as a remembrance of our trip.
Joyce Hird, Team Member



St. James' Wednesday Noon-Time



2026 Summer Recitals 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

JULY 8
Megan Hayward
Katie Pergau,
Vocal & piano

JULY 15
Duo Regale
Corey Gemmell,
Aaron James
Violin & Organ

JULY 22
Brent Mayhew,
Piano

JULY 29
Cadence Brassard,
Organ



All are welcome.
Bring a bag lunch.
A cool drink will be supplied.
Free will offering welcomed.

ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN CHURCH
c/o PETER ST. M. CHURCH

AUGUST 5
Dynamic Duo
Randy Nichol, Tenor,
Christina Bosco, mezzo
soprano with guest pianist
Blair Bailey

AUGUST 12
Dan McCoy,
and friends, piano and
eclectic music

AUGUST 19
Ron Greidanus,
Sebastian Ostertag
Piano & Cello

AUGUST 26
Rebecca Campbell,
Ellen Meyer
Vocal & Piano duo



Farewell to Runa at the Feast of St James - July 26



Picnic the lawn for Feast of St James - July 26



CHURCH FUNNIES

- Two little boys were at a wedding when one of them leaned over to the other and asked, "how many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen...four better, four worse, four richer, and four poorer."
- Which king in the Bible preferred to do everything alone? King Solomon.
- What did Daniel tell his real estate agent? "I'd prefer a house with no den."
- Who was the funniest person in the bible? Samson - he brought the house down.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday August 4, 11, 18, 25

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Wednesday August 5, 12, 19, 26

10:30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Thursday August 6, 13, 20, 27

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Saturday August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pennywise

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and SPECIAL

Sunday August 2

Food Bank Sunday

Monday August 3

Civic Holiday - Church office closed

Tuesday August 4

6:30 p.m. A.C.W. meeting

Wednesday August 5, 12, 19, 26

12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Summer Recitals

Tuesday August 11

7 p.m. Advisory Board Mtg. in person

Sunday August 30

Deadline for FundScrip - 1 week early due to Labour Day



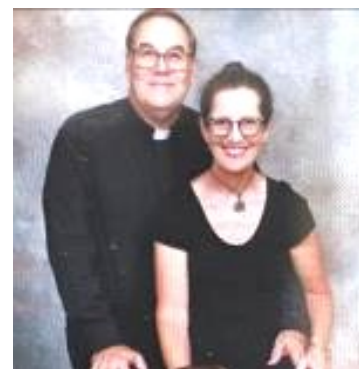
Tickets for High Tea
On Sat. Sept 19, please
call JoAnne
at 705-259-0490

PLEASE NOTE - SUMMER BREAK
*There will be NO Community Breakfast
Last one June 28 resumes September 13*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Archdeacon John's last service will be on Sunday, September 6th, 2026. There will be one service that day at 10:00 a.m. We will also be joined by The Community of Churches of Huronia. We encourage everyone to attend this joint service to give thanks for John's ministry, and to send John and Lisa off with our support and encouragement. A reception will follow in the Stubley Auditorium.



"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature can heal and give strength."

John Muir

Your Advisory Board

Anyone interested in reading the current Advisory Board minutes may contact the Church office for a copy. A copy is also posted on the Bulletin Board in the Hall.

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

Beth Morum is a Pastoral Care Visitor for OSMH now as well as Mae Cox. If you know anyone from our Parish Family who is in Soldiers, please notify the Church Office so a visit can be arranged.

Greeting Cards for Parishioners

Lay-Pastoral Team and ACW have had an important ministry of sending out greeting cards for birthdays, anniversaries, sympathy, or get-well cards. If there is a parishioner that you wish a greeting card to be sent to, please let us know! Contact the Church office to connect with Christine Blair for Birthday or Anniversary Cards or Lynda Harris for Thinking of You, Sympathy, Get Well or Congratulations.

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 the office at 705-325-2742 if you would like to sponsor a month. **(November is unsponsored.)**

The Next Newsletter

If you wish to place a submission, announcement, prayer, pictures etc. into any future newsletter, please contact Nancy at nancynoakesmorrison@gmail.com. Please provide any submissions for the **September Newsletter** by **Wednesday August 19, 2026.**

FundScrip

The FundScrip deadline is **Sunday August 30** Orders and cheques (payable to St James Anglican Church) can be dropped off at the Church office. Pick up will be **Sunday September 6**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.

IMPORTANT

Any cheques made out to the church must read as follows:

"St. James Anglican Church" Alternately, please consider an e-transfer accounting@stjamesorillia.com



August Birthdays

Alan Cooper, Gerry Murfitt, Susan Scott, Betty Slocum,
Judith Beamish, Phyllis Johnson, Jeri Stone,
Christine Blair, Chip Weist, Ophelia Wiseman

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