



ST. JAMES JOURNEY MAY 2026

Volume 22, Issue 6
May 2026



*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,

A part of this newsletter is a document called "Congregation Givings". As we begin our journey with a Board of Management (BOM) a cornerstone of its success will be communications between the BOM and the leadership team with the congregation. This will include a range of topics of ministry, from stewardship to outreach to the buildings.

We begin this feedback process with this chart on congregational givings so that you have an idea of how people direct their givings and the dollar ranges. The chart includes givings towards important outreach projects.

It has been mentioned on several occasions that our revenues do not cover our expenses, particularly clergy and building costs. Keep this in mind but let us not dwell on it right now. At this time, I would ask that you review this document and jot down your questions, concerns, or your thoughts on congregational development. I have not offered up any opinions on this chart so that we can hear from you. I would like to ask that you share this with our wardens, ministry leader, or myself.

Peace,
John

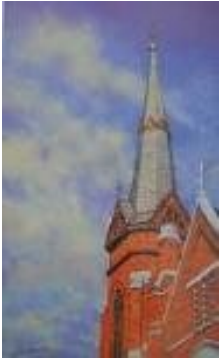
Congregation Givings		
	2018	2025
\$ 1 - \$ 50	45	42
\$ 51 - \$ 100	14	23
\$ 101 - \$ 200	17	16
\$ 201 - \$ 300	21	13
\$ 301-\$ 400	6	11
\$ 401-\$ 500	6	10
\$ 501-\$ 750	23	15
\$ 750-\$ 1,000	18	13
\$ 1,001-\$ 2,000	47	32
\$ 2,001-\$ 3,000	18	12
\$ 3,001-\$ 5,000	12	15
\$ 5,001-\$ 10,000	5	7
\$ 10,000+	1	2
Total Givings	\$242,031	\$271,597

2025 Giving Totals included the following:

Offerings,donations	\$219,956
Loonie Lunch	\$1,285
Community Breakfast	\$1,385
Kenya	\$3,800
Christmas Hampers	\$3,470

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!

The robins and red-winged blackbirds are a frequent sight, and the tulips, daffodils and hyacinths are in bud. Dare I say that spring is well here? Time to put away the winter coats (I hope).

A very busy Holy Week has come and gone. From a sombre Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to a joyful Easter Sunday, we had lots of opportunities to reflect on our relationship with our Lord. What a beautiful Easter Sunday service we had! Many thanks to Robin Watson for her 40 years or so of bringing her musical talent to our Easter celebrations. A wonderful St David's Easter cantata on Holy Saturday added to the joy of the season.

The ladies of St David's will be joining our ACW ladies at the 9th of May plant, bake and craft sale. Be sure to come and enjoy the goods on offer. Several other events are occurring in May, so watch for further details in this newsletter, in the weekly bulletins, and notices to follow.

James and Judith Beamish have been very busy working on a time-consuming project in our building. Every room and every lock has been numbered, and every key has been assigned a matching number. A huge Thank You to J & J for this undertaking. Job well done!

As I write this, it is National Volunteer Week. There are so many volunteers toiling for St James and for our efforts to do the Lord's work, from the choir, to the Altar Guild, from the lay readers to the greeters, from the servers to the anointers, from the ministry leaders to the ministry workers (Pastoral Care, Fellowship, Social Justice & Outreach, Communications, ACW, Christian Growth and Stewardship), from the Financial team to the Pennywise team, from the Community breakfast workers to the Loonie Lunch workers, and the Property team. There are just so many of you that I can't name you all, for fear of missing someone. Please know that you are appreciated, whether you spend an hour a week or up to 5 hours a day working quietly away with your support. For some of you, it's a very physical, hands-on "job" you do for St James. For others, it may only be when you are called on for a loaf of sandwiches or to help move some tables or chairs. And for some, your support is a financial contribution, when your health, physical limitations or age make it too difficult to do more. You are all appreciated. Thank you!

One more person that we wish to thank publicly is Cyndi Lewis who spends countless hours at the church, quietly working behind the scenes, ensuring that all is right with the microphone volumes, the lights are on or off as needed, the children's area is packed up for various concerts, and then put back in place for Sunday services, as well as other jobs here and there, and she sings in the choir too! Thank you, Cyndi.

Our wish is that we all will continue to make St James a welcoming, warm and successful place to show God's Love to all who enter here. It takes a team, pulling together in all categories, to make this happen. Thank you for your part.

Julia, Sue and Leslie.

GATHERING: FESTIVAL OF FIRST NATION STORIES

Would you be interested in learning more about current Indigenous authors, their writings and their own personal stories? The Chippewas of Rama First Nation are hosting a free, open public gathering at the Rama Community Centre (5950 Rama Rd.) on Saturday, May 23rd between 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. You can go to all of it or drop in for part. Hearing these authors read some of their personal stories is a wonderful way to learn more about “real people” whom we often only know in a distant or stereotypical fashion. Since “Reconciliation” comes under the umbrella of The Social Justice and Mission Committee we encourage you to spend some - or all - of Saturday May 23rd at this fascinating cultural event so close to home. For more information, search on-line for “2026 gathering festival of 1st nations schedule.” Hope to see you there!

Mae Cox



Chief Ted Williams of Rama



Easter Sunday - Baptism of Runa, The Nicholls' granddaughter.



To Our Volunteers



THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH A HEART LIKE JESUS.



CHURCH FUNNIES

The following statements about the Bible were written by children:

- Jesus enunciated the Golden Rule, which says to do unto others before they do one to you. He also explained a man doth not live by sweat alone.
- Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
- The Epistels were the wives of the Apostles.
- St. John, the blacksmith, dumped water on his head.



LENTEN CHALLENGE OUTCOME

Our 2026 Lenten Challenge to raise funds for supplies for the upcoming Kenyan medical mission (May 2026) was an amazing success. During Lent, funds raised amounted to \$5,340. Thank you to all who were able to support this effort. The funds will be used to purchase medications, lab supplies, dental and ophthalmology services, and miscellaneous other medical necessities. Well done, St. James!



Parish seeking Director of Music



Our beautiful high altar with the morning sun.

St. James' Anglican Church, Orillia, is seeking a Music Director who is creative, collaborative and passionate about honouring music as a fundamental part of worship and parish life. Skill and experience as an organist and/or pianist, ideally both, and choir director well-versed in the Anglican form of worship and improvisation are preferred. See the [full job posting](#) for more details. To apply, submit your curriculum vitae with a cover letter outlining your music experience (Links to recordings and/or videos showcasing your music abilities are also welcome.) to Leslie Fortune, Search Committee Chair, at stjamesorilliawarden@gmail.com. The posting will remain open until a successful candidate has been found.



Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada



Social Justice & Advocacy - Diocese of Toronto

200 followers • 201 following

Following
Message Search

SJAC gets new Facebook page

Owing to some unfortunate technical difficulties, the Facebook page for Social Justice and Advocacy has been re-launched. To follow advocacy news on Facebook, including events around the Diocese and the amazing work of parishes and FaithWorks ministry partners, like and follow the new page at www.facebook.com/SJACDioTO.

PENNYWISE THIFT SHOP



OPEN 

Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday
12 noon to 3 p.m.

Open Every Saturday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A little Thrift Shop promoting big rewards. Donations greatly accepted.
CASH only. Phone 705-325-2750

Pennywise Thrift Shop now has an email address.
stjamespennywisethriftshop@gmail.com.

Our telephone number is 705-325-2750

We are about to repurpose the walkway leading from the electrical room to the laundry room into an extension of the shop in which we will sell dresses, gowns, men's suits, ties and dress shirts.

JoAnne Barr - Manager of Pennywise

*"Only God Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian Mother in the molding of character in her children."
Billy Graham*

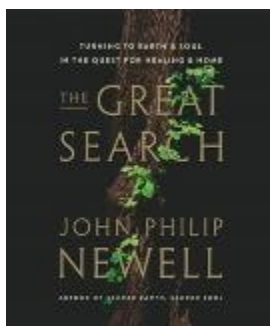
ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - ADVANCE NOTICE



The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be holding their final meeting June 8th before reconvening in September. We will be selecting the books for reading once we resume in the fall. All are welcome to join us who enjoy coffee, fellowship and reading - especially if you enjoy hearing and exchanging opinions. Anyone who might be interested in joining us in the future and has a book or two to offer as a suggestion is more than welcome.

Please come with your ideas - suggestions should include the title, author, length, genre and availability as well as a brief synopsis in support of your recommendations. See you on June 8th at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlour!

Reminder: Book Discussion Group May 11th



The St. James' Book Discussion Group will be discussing 'The Great Search' by John Philip Newell on May 11th - an intriguing book on spiritual questing. Organized into 3 parts, Newell looks at nine philosophers, mystics and thinkers from a variety of faith backgrounds. All are welcome so come and join us as we share our thoughts and opinions over a cup of coffee. We are meeting May 11th at 10:am in the Church Parlour.

Linda Davidson



The ACW Spring Sale will be on May 9th
We will be looking for plants and baked goods.
Your plants & baked goods donations
can be dropped off on
May 8 between 3 and 5 p.m.
Thank you in advance!



If you have any plants to donate please
drop them off Friday 8th between 3 -5
p.m. or early Saturday morning. This year
we are hoping to hold the event outside,
we are looking for market tents to borrow
for the day. Please reach out if you have
one, by contacting Donna Mandley, or
Anne Thompson.





the cellar singers
Mitchell Pady, Artistic Director

LOVE SONGS

Liebeslieder Waltzes *Liebeslieder Polkas*
J. Brahms P.D. Q' Bach

Sunday, May 10, 2026 3:00 pm

St. James' Anglican Church Tickets: \$30 / \$15 under 30
58 Peter St N, Orillia, ON www.thecellarsingers.com

CENTERING PRAYER AND MEDITATION
TUESDAY AT 12 NOON in person in Choir Room



George Sanders leads the group. For more info contact
office@stjamesorillia.com or 705-325-2742

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Community Breakfast

Tuesday May 5, 12, 19, 26

12 noon Centering Prayer
12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Wednesday May 6, 13, 20, 27

10: 30 a.m. to 12 noon Loonie Lunch
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Thursday May 7, 14, 21, 28

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop
7 p.m. Choir Practice

Saturday May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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

Sunday May 3

Food Bank Sunday
FundScrip Sunday

Tuesday May 5

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

Sunday May 10

3 p.m. Cellar Singers Concert

Monday May 11

10 a.m. - Book Discussion

Tuesday May 12

7 p.m. Advisory Board Mtg. via zoom

Thursday May 14

6 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg

Monday May 18

Victoria Day - Office Closed

Tuesday May 19

2:15 p.m. Pastoral Care Mtg.

*“We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come; he came on the day of Pentecost. He has never left the church.”
John R.W. Stott*

SUMMER IS A'COMING AND SO ARE THE WEDNESDAY MUSIC EVENTS

As well as anticipating some nice sunny warm weather, soon you can also look forward to some wonderful weekly summer music at St. James. Once again, there will be Wednesday noon-time music events throughout July and August in the church from 12.15 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. There is an exciting range of musicians scheduled to bring you a delightful hour of relaxation and the finest music. See the schedule for guest artists each week. Don't forget to mark your calendar!

Rosemarie Freeman



St. James' Wednesday Noon-Time



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

JULY 8
Autumn Debassige,
Blair Bailey,
Vocal & Piano duo

JULY 15
Cory Gemmell,
Aaron James
Violin & Organ duo

JULY 22
Brent Mayhew,
Piano

JULY 29
Cadence Brassard,
Organ



AUGUST 5
Randy Nichol,
Operatic Tenor,
Christina Bosco,
Guest Contralto
Blair Bailey,
Collaborative Pianist

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

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

ST. JAMES' ANGLICAN CHURCH
58 PETER ST. N. ORILLIA
705-325-2742
office@stjamesorillia.com
http://www.stjamesorillia.com



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 & December are 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 **June Newsletter** by **Wednesday May 20, 2026.**

FundScrip

The FundScrip deadline is **Sunday May 3** Orders and cheques (payable to St James Anglican Church) can be dropped off at the Church office. Pick up will be **Sunday May 10**. 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 office@stjamesorillia.com



May Birthdays

Gail Ward; Martin Ward, Audrey Bell,
Margret Casebow, Bill Manley,
Anne Murphy, Joan Gordon

May Anniversary

Christine and Fred Blair

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH
58 Peter St. North, Box 272, Orillia, Ontario
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office@stjamesorillia.com
<http://www.stjamesorillia.com>

Rector: Archdeacon John Anderson
Editors: The Communications Committee

