



ST. JAMES JOURNEY

SEPTEMBER 2026

Volume 22, Issue 9
September 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,

"May God direct our steps as we begin new journeys."

Lisa and I begin a new journey as we prepare to leave for the Parish of Campbellford, Roseneath & Hastings. The Parish of St. James also begins a new journey with a Board of Management as it starts a visioning process. The Rev. Canon David Warren will also be your new interim priest, providing spiritual and pastoral care.

The journeys we are all undertaking will be exciting but also a bit scary as we face unknowns; they may feel daunting, but they are also openings to new possibilities; and they will remind us that transition in the church has always been part of our DNA. However, journeys are not just about the future, they are a reminder of where we started.

The congregation of St. James needs to remember that it does have a rich history in Orillia and the lives of many people who have entered its doors. Its outreach and mission have always been regarded and respected by the Diocese and our community. Its congregation is made up of many highly skilled and faithful people who have given their time, unique abilities, and tithing to the church. All of this means a solid foundation to build upon as you go forward.

I started at St. James in September 2017, and I have been your incumbent for the past eight years. Much has happened during that time, including changes to our governance structure, making capital improvements to the building, saying goodbye to the ministry of Albert Greer, a three-year regionalization process, and responding to the challenges of COVID. Personally, I give thanks to St. James every day as each one of you walked with me through my cancer treatment and recovery as I learned to walk again. All these challenges have given me a new perspective on ministry which I will value as I go forward on my own new journey.



J. R. R. Tolkien wrote, "Don't adventures ever have an end? I suppose not. Someone else has to carry on the story." In our own way, you and I continue our Christian journey. It does not have an end; we are just carrying on with the story!

My friends - go in peace, and as you go about your journey, know that Jesus walks with you. He promised he would. And while some may call us servants, he has called us friends. In the strength of that powerful friendship, go forth on our respective journeys until we meet again. Peace be with you.

Yours in Christ,
Ven. John E. Anderson

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





THE WARDENS' CORNER

Greetings from your Wardens!



Where has the summer gone? School starts on September 8th and in many ways, most people feel like Sept is the start of a new year, even more than 1 January. Not just school-aged children start a "new year". Obviously, September is the start of a new season; we begin to pack away our summer tops and sandals and get out our sweaters and jackets. Those who have gardens begin the harvest and then start putting away the garden beds for the winter. Soon (but not just yet) the lawn mowers will be winterized and put away too. Out will come the leaf rakes and leaf bags. Many of our church users are back with their meetings and activities: yoga, Scouts, Community Breakfasts, Cellar Singers, and the Wednesday Eucharist to name just a few.

Our church is also entering a "new season" as we say goodbye to our priest John Anderson on September 6th, and say hello to our interim priest David Warren on September 8th. The Board of Management is now up and has started "walking", with the first working meeting having been held August 18th. Please be patient with us as we find our footing, while anticipating further guidance from the Bishop.

Change is always challenging, and for some, quite scary. Imagine you were in the crowd when Moses parted the Red Sea and then urged you to cross. (Exodus 14). With soldiers behind, high walls of water beside, and an unknown, unseen future ahead. It was fear and faith in the exact same spot.

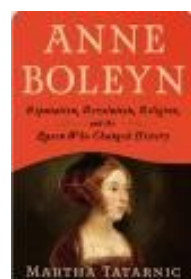
Obviously, we are not in the same life-or-death situation, but some would describe our situation as unsettling or disquieting. But have faith. The Wardens assure you that we are doing everything we can to ensure that St James will continue to exist: to serve the Lord; to be able to minister to you; and to support as many of our traditions, programs and community as possible, while change and adaptation occur.

Sue, Julia and Leslie

You can pray in a pew or
pajamas, in traffic, in
tears, or in total silence.

God doesn't need a
location. He just needs
an invitation.

@saltandlight.words



ST. JAMES' BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The St. James Discussion Group will meet on October 19th at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlour to discuss 'The Good Eye', a collection of short stories by Jess Gibson. These stories are set across the globe and span the genres of crime, art, and fantasy, where the characters find that the world can change in an instant and are challenged by contradictory forces as they wrestle with the limits of their perception. All are welcome to join us for coffee and fellowship along with a lively discussion about these short stories. Please feel free to join us for fellowship, coffee and sharing of thoughts and ideas.

Advance Notice

The St. James Book Discussion Group will be discussing the book "Sharing the Light" by Monique Gray Smith on November 9th in the Church Parlour. This book offers a collection of short stories, poignant reflections, and thoughtful questions that are woven together. And as an Indigenous author, Monique also brings her cultural wisdom and unique perspective to each chapter. All are welcome to join us.

Final Reminder

On **September 14th**, we are discussing Martha Tataric's book 'Anne Boleyn: Reputation, Revolution, Religion and the Queen who Changed History' in the Church Parlour at 10 a.m.

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



OCTOBER 19 (3rd Monday)
The Good Eye
Jess Gibson



NOVEMBER 9
Sharing the Light
Monique Gray Smith



DECEMBER 14
Behind The Pickle Jar
Wendy McCuaig



JANUARY 11
A Work in Progress
James Martin



FEBRUARY 8
Liberty Street
Heather Marshall



MARCH 8
Maiden Voyages: Women and the
Golden Age of Transatlantic Travel
Sian Evans



APRIL 12
Beartown
Frederick Backman

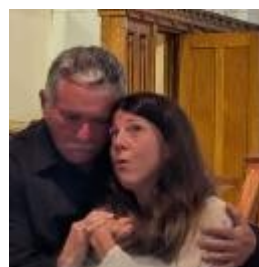


MAY 10
He Looks Kind of Rough
(Do You Want Me to Stay?)
Sherri Lawson

*"Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him.
That is all the doing you have to worry about.
St Jeanne de Chantal*

WEDNESDAY NOON-TIME RECITALS ROUND UP

The Wednesday Noon Time Recitals this summer have been a roaring success! Every Wednesday was very well attended and the performances have featured everything from beautiful voices, fantastic musicians and beyond. Megan Hayward, a newbie on the performance scene and first on the schedule, amazed us with her lovely warm voice accompanied by the versatile Katie Pergau, and enchanted us all. Then ever popular Brent Mayhew once again brought us his stunning piano playing and charming style.



New to our Orillia recitals were Corey Gemmell on violin and his cohort Aaron James from the Toronto area. What a huge treat it was to have these two participate in our series. They were absolutely sensational! How fortunate we were to have hosted them here in Orillia

Cadence Brassard, a 17-year-old organist, enthralled us with her advanced organ skills and her delightful personality before she heads off to McGill University this fall.

August brought us an ever-popular local trio, Randy Nichol, tenor, Christina Bosco, mezzo soprano and the versatile Blair Bailey, on piano. The audience loved this recital.

Then Dan McCoy, music director from St. Paul's Church, brought an eclectic group of music students and friends to this mid summer recital. We were all smiles listening to his fiddle and accordion groups, his young piano students demonstrating Dan's unique piano instruction methods and his own organ performance. It was a happy recital indeed.

Ron Greidanus, pianist, choral director, recitalist etc. etc., and his cohort Sebastain Ostertag, cellist of national and international fame treated us to a lengthy serious work by Rachmaninoff plus additional lighter more eclectic music. Such an accomplished and coordinated pair they are and we are so fortunate they love to share their music with us.

The finale of the summer recitals brought us full circle back to our own Rebecca Campbell, soprano and her accomplished collaborative pianist, Ellen Meyer, with a beautiful recital of voice and piano. You may not have realized we had such fantastic musicians in our very midst! It was such a great way to conclude a very successful recital series.

Special thanks is owed to Cyndi Lewis, my right-hand woman on all the technical "stuff" and more. She is absolutely invaluable!

Ann and Chip Weist and occasionally, Mae Cox looked after refreshments very ably.
Rosemarie Freeman



WHY CAN'T A CONGREGATION BE MORE LIKE A CHOIR?

If you are in a congregation with a Choir, you might notice the following behaviours:

1. They do their best to show up EVERY Sunday; they've made a commitment to do so.
2. They are loyal to their Leader and do their best to support that person.
3. They care about each other, and someone will usually check on a member who isn't there without giving notice.
4. They believe they have a role to play in the Service: to enhance each other's worship of God with their music.



Your role might not be to lead in the singing: it might be to encourage someone else with your presence, to comfort someone who's having a difficult time, to share a word of hope - or who knows what else? How can you know how you might be needed - what opportunity you missed - if you aren't there?



Just because you don't have a specific job for that Sunday (Greeter, Altar Guild, Reader, etc.) doesn't mean you're not NEEDED, that God doesn't have a purpose for you!

Not every Choir member is a soloist: most of us are simply "background blenders" and "volume suppliers", but to have a choir, we are ALL necessary, so we encourage each other to come out regularly, so that we can all learn and grow better together.....



Remember the old sign: "What's missing from CH_CH? - UR!!"
WHY CAN'T A CONGREGATION BE MORE LIKE A CHOIR??

From a long-time Choir Member, Mae Cox

PENNYWISE THRIFT SHOP



Starting the week of August 24, Pennywise will be changing to fall and winter clothing. Tuesday, September 1st, household fall and Halloween decorative items and Halloween costumes will be on sale.

JoAnne Barr





Tickets for High Tea on Sat. Sept 19, please call JoAnne at 705-259-0490 Almost Sold Out!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Archdeacon John's last service will be on Sunday, September 6th, 2026. There will be **ONLY** 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 Stubleby Auditorium.



ATTENTION

WE HAVE A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS
FOR ANY E-TRANSFERS DONATIONS OR PAYMENTS.

IN THE FUTURE PLEASE USE
ACCOUNTING@STJAMESORILLIA.COM

PRAYER: THE FOUNDATION FOR PASTORAL VISITING AND HOLY LISTENING



Presented by
Rev. Sandor Borbely of
St. Thomas Anglican Church,
Shanty Bay



Hosted by Huronia Deanery

**Saturday September 26, 2026
at 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (\$10.00 Fee)**

Registration at 9:30 a.m. Lunch provided.

Please register at Church Office

705-325-2742 or office@stjamesorillia.com or sign-up sheet in hall.



CHURCH FUNNIES

- Dad, where did you learn to make banana splits?, Sundae School
- Anyone know what a Bishop does? I think he moves diagonally.
- Feeling warm? This church is prayer-conditioned.
- Under the same management for more than 2,000 years.
- Who was the smartest guy in the bible? Abraham, He knew a Lot.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday September 6, 13, 20, 27

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Community Breakfast
(Starts Sept 13)

Monday September 14, 21, 28

9 a.m.—12 noon St. David's Quilters

Tuesday September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

9 a.m.—12 noon St. David's Quilters

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

12 noon - Centering Prayer (TBA)

Wednesday September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

9 a.m.—12 noon St. David's Quilters

11 a.m. - Eucharist - (Starts Sept. 9th)

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

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Thursday September 3, 10, 17, 24

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Saturday September 5, 12, 19, 26

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

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and SPECIAL EVENTS

Tuesday September 1

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

Sunday September 6

FundScrip Pick Up

Food Bank Sunday

Monday September 7

Labour Day Holiday - Church office closed

Tuesday September 8

2 p.m. Social Justice Meeting

7 p.m. Advisory Board Mtg. via zoom

Monday September 14

10 a.m. - Book Discussion

Saturday September 19

2 p.m. ACW High Tea

Saturday September 26

9:30 p.m.—3 p.m. Pastoral Care Workshop



FREE SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



**ALL ARE
WELCOME**

**Every Sunday
8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
in St. James'
Auditorium**

*A joint venture with St. David Anglican-Lutheran, St. Athanasius Anglican,
St. James' Anglican & Community Members.
Our goal is to provide food and fellowship in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

To honour the *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* (September 30), and to live out the 95 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission:

The Huronia Community of Churches is holding a KAIROS Blanket Exercise on Saturday, October 3 from 9:30 to 1:30 in the Auditorium at St. James Anglican Church, 58 Peter Street North, Orillia.

Included will be:

- 2-3 hour facilitated session
- Faith-sensitive discussion and reflection
- Reconciliation action

"If God is making you wait, do what waiters do ...serve."

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.

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 **October Newsletter** by **Wednesday September 23, 2026.**

FundScrip

The FundScrip deadline is **Sunday October 4** Orders and cheques (payable to St. James Anglican Church) can be dropped off at the Church office. Pick up will be **Sunday October 11**. 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



September Birthdays

Linda Tiffin, Marilyn Kalbfleisch, Nancy Hammond,
Jack Gourlie, Phyllis Jackson,

September Anniversaries

Pat and Nancy Morrison

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH
58 Peter St. North, Box 272, Orillia, Ontario
L3V 6J6 705 - 325-2742
office@stjamesorillia.com
<http://www.stjamesorillia.com>

Rector: Archdeacon John Anderson
Editors: The Communications Committee

