



ST. JAMES' JOURNEY

OCTOBER 2021

Volume 17, Issue 1
October 2021



*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 Thanksgiving to you!

The other day I was walking along Martin Drive and I noticed that one of the houses has already put out their Halloween decorations! It reminded me that there is a general sense that people want to get back to some sort of new normal. I know we sort of want to rush ahead to being in a place where we don't have to wear masks, use the word zoom, and be distant from one another.

Here at St. James', we have worked slowly to return to in-person services and having meetings. It is my hope that most of us are double vaccinated and we are more willing to return to in-person worship. Jeff, our Music Director, and I are trying to find ways to make our worship time engaging, Spirit-filled, and welcoming. I hope you can come back to our church on Sundays. Those who have attended have expressed joy in coming back, seeing old friends, and sitting in church and being open to the Spirit!

As most of you are aware by now, the Diocese does require all clergy, employees, volunteers, contractors that come into the church, and licensees to be double vaccinated. The Wardens have been given the task to ensure that there is compliance. I ask your prayers for Judith and Doug at this time, as they have to assume one more task in their busy week. Remember, it is those volunteers who are coming into the church that who are of immediate concern. This includes those in worship on Sundays, or ministries like Pennywise and Loonie Lunch.

The Wardens, the COVID Safety Committee, and I want to be responsive to your concerns and suggestions about protocols and ensuring that we all can meet in a safe place. I have also received some important questions about the protocols that I would like to address.

Q: *A few have asked if masks are needed if a person is double vaccinated and we are socially distanced? Also, given the size of the chancel and nave at St. James', can the singers, readers, and Canon John not remove their masks during worship services?*

A: The Diocese continues to monitor the fourth wave, all the variants, and the need for protection. Changes to the universal masking guideline in our Diocese must wait but are always being considered. Vaccinations are vital to this consideration, as they protect people from serious illness. Having many people vaccinated will bring about many changes over time. The Province of Ontario currently **mandates universal masking in public places and gatherings, with faith organizations, or places of worship, specifically named.** We are fully complying with this mandate in our guidelines. Universal masking indoors is also a bylaw in most municipalities. Establishments and faith-based organizations are required to have a masking policy in place. There are no exceptions for clergy or worship leaders, readers, and singers. Masks are a layer of protection that continue to be needed for everyone. The provincial mandate and the bylaws are reviewed from time to time, and we will also consider our guidelines as more information and changes arise.

Q: *During Communion, we wash/sanitize our hands immediately before receiving the wafer from our priest; we slip it under our mask and eat it; walk six feet and are required to wash/sanitize our hands again! This seems to be excessive caution.*

A: While it is true that COVID-19 is primarily an airborne disease and is less often transmitted by touching surfaces, it is transmitted primarily through droplets or airborne particles entering and leaving the nose and mouth. Therefore, extra caution must be exercised before and after touching one's face. Cleaning your hands before and after putting something into your mouth is standard hand hygiene. Also, it is good practice to sanitize one's hands before and after removing and replacing one's face mask, as virus-laden particles can build up either inside or outside the mask. Given that one can transmit COVID-19 without being symptomatic, even after being vaccinated, we do not at all believe this to be excessive caution. Furthermore, communicants should FIRST move 6 feet away from the celebrant before removing their face mask to eat the Host, not remove or lift their mask while still near the celebrant. We wish to allow people to receive communion in as safe a manner as possible. Full observance of these protocols will allow us to continue to do so.

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Q: Is it possible in a church for food and drink to be consumed after the service or a private function at the church such as a funeral reception?

A: Currently, due to the fourth wave of COVID-19 and particularly due to the highly transmissible Delta variant, we do not allow rental or church groups to serve food and drink.

Q: When will there be congregational singing and/or a choir? Will the high altar be used soon?

A: These are good questions. The Diocese will consider singing by more than one soloist after Thanksgiving and subject to trends and the Delta variant. I suspect that the status quo will be in place until Christmas. In terms of the choir returning, that will be subject to Diocesan protocols. Presently, we cannot use the high altar because it does not allow for proper social distancing.

I thank you for your questions and input with respect to making our worship and meeting spaces a safe environment. Please speak to me or a Warden about any of the protocols that are in place. I am really pleased with how the congregation has eased back into worship and I thank you for your patience and understanding.

God's blessing be upon you and your family at this Thanksgiving. Let us remember the One who calls us friend and walks with us.

Yours in Christ,
Canon John

HERITAGE PROJECT

George Vick was born on the Isle of Wight, England. His parents were Joseph Vick and Mary Ann Young. George arrived in Rochester, New York in 1842 and moved to Toronto about 1844. He later joined his father in Atherley about 1850 and in 1851 married Eliza Emily Bailey in Orillia. In 1856, George and his father opened the first bakery shop in the village. They purchased grain from the local farmers and at first sent it to Washago to be milled into flour. George's sons later joined him in his three conjoined stores on Mississauga Street where they sold flour, feed, and provisions, fruit, groceries, bread, cakes, and confectionary items, and imported teas from China and Japan. George purchased the mill on the Orillia waterfront and converted it to a roller mill. Local farmers benefited from the mill as George purchased about 50,000 bushels of wheat a year from them. George had additional buildings including a cold storage that could hold a train carload of fruit. Larger bread companies from Toronto shipped bread to Orillia but failed to succeed against George's fresher baked bread which he sold in town and to the tourist resorts in the area.

George and some of his family members were memorialized on the walls of St. James' Anglican Church, Orillia. Here are photos of George and one of his store windows.

Fred Blair



COVID SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Diocese of Toronto has issued a COVID Vaccination Policy for its parishes. All clergy, employees, and volunteers (high, medium, and low risk) are required to be double vaccinated and to provide proof on or before September 30. This policy also applies to all independent contractors, service providers, and licensees that are on the premises (both inside and outside). Medical exemptions will be considered if a note is provided by a doctor registered with the CPSO.

Pursuant to the policy, only a Warden can be shown proof of vaccination/exemption to ensure your privacy. The date of the first and second vaccination will be recorded. This means that Phyllis and Canon John are not in a position to receive proof of vaccination. A plan is being developed to receive this information by assigning Wardens to be present on Sundays and weekdays when there are more volunteers present. Priority has to be given to those who are volunteering on a Sunday, and for Loonie Lunch and Pennywise.

If you have any concerns, please call Canon John or email him at rector@stjamesorillia.com



PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE

In Christian community, there are many ways in which Pastoral Care is offered. Pastoral Visiting is a particular and intentional form of Pastoral Care. It is the ministry of the church to its members who are unable to be present with the community at times of worship or celebration due to illness, frailty, bereavement, or other isolating concerns. Pastoral visiting is a ministry grounded in the relationship that members of the congregation have with one another, and in particular, the relationship the visitor establishes with the person visited. In person pastoral visiting has not been permitted since March 2020, due to Covid restrictions, but telephone call visits and mailings from the committee have occurred on a regular basis.

Kate Allen

Testimony

My pastoral interaction has meant so much to me. My faith is now stronger because of the conversations had with Lynda Harris. Losing my husband and best friend in July 2019 would have been so much harder to cope with if it had not been for the pastoral care I have received and still do. My thanks and blessing to all.

Vickie Macdonald

Card Section

Due to the isolation caused by COVID-19 we decided a new way to reach out to Parishioners was needed. Last Christmas we sent out cards to everyone on our mailing list. Since late winter we have also sent out birthday and anniversary cards to all who have told us at least the months for these special days. We also send out cards on the first anniversary of the death of someone, to the families of those for whom there were services at St. James', to let them know we recognize this is a painful time.

We recognize Pastoral Care is not needed just by the sick or shut-ins. During this difficult time, we have realized that every one of us needs that care from time to time. We all need to know we matter, and someone is thinking about us.

Christine Blair

Pastoral Care Notes

The Pastoral Care Note is a four-page leaflet whose purpose is to provide a bit of inspiration, information and education each month. During Covid, it has been mailed not only to all those on our Pastoral Care List, but also to any Parish Family members without a computer, if they wished to receive a second mid-month mailing from St. James'. Hopefully, we will soon be visiting and delivering our Notes once again in person!

Mae Cox

Lay Anointers

Kate Allen, Maggie Astrauskas, Mae Cox and Sylvia Baker are Lay Anointers who have taken the Diocesan course and been licensed by the Bishop. Prior to the COVID lockdown prayer and anointing with oil were offered monthly at both Sunday services to promote health in body, mind, and spirit. We feel especially blessed to participate in the healing ministry of Jesus.

Sylvia Baker

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain has an average of 35 requests and updates per month. These requests are from people approaching Phyllis in the office, our prayer chain members, Mae Cox and other members of our church. We assure the person that is seeking prayer that their request is confidential and, if someone else is requesting prayer for them, that the person who is in need agrees to being placed on the chain. (We respect people's privacy). We also ask if they would like to have contact with our clergy as well as Communion or Anointing. Then Kate or Canon John would be contacted. If someone is in the hospital, Mae Cox would be contacted.

The updates are the responsibility of the member that originally contacted the prayer chain for prayer and contacts our members at least once a month with an update report.

I would like to thank all the Prayer Chain members for their faithful work in this Ministry. We previously got together once a month for a business/social devotion time either at a restaurant or someone's place but with the pandemic we decided to have a Zoom meeting once a month for a visit with our eight friends. Hopefully we can meet outdoors safely very soon.

God Bless our Prayer Chain Members.

Kay Page Ashmore, Wendy Caston, Barbara Claire, Heather Crate, Robert Fraser, Joan Gordon, Cheryl Kellas, Wendy Slattery

If you are interested in joining our prayer Ministry, please contact Wendy Caston

Wendy Caston



WORK AT ST. JAMES'

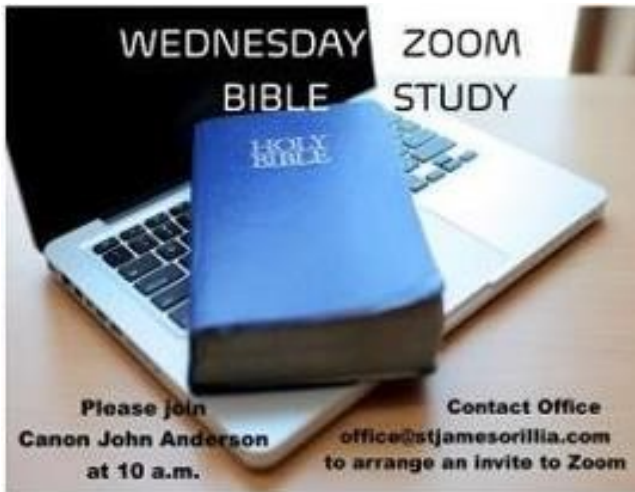


Over the years many a child has been excited to have encountered St Nick or Santa at St. James'. Both these loved personages have a special relationship with our Bill Manley, better known as Mr. Bill. Mr. Bill has filled many roles at St James'. He taught Sunday School classes from the days of very full classes till now with a few occasional children. He helps with Vacation Bible School in the summer. During COVID he could be found in the kitchen as part of one of the teams cooking dinners for the Lighthouse until they became fully functioning. He and his wife, Deb have also been seen in the kitchen cooking pots of soup for the Looney Lunch or helping with Christmas dinners. He also has organized events to raise funds for Faithworks and is part of the Social Justice and Pastoral Care Ministries. I may have missed things that Mr. Bill has been part of, but often like St. Nick he is very quiet about things he does.

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.



TURKEYS NEEDED

St. James' is collaborating with Sharing Place to provide a Take-Out Turkey Dinner. We will be feeding 200 people.

Any Turkey contribution (uncooked turkey, turkey breast or turkey roll) would be welcomed.

Please drop off at Church Office before October 7
Outreach Committee

"It is not how much we have but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness."
Charles Spurgeon

St. James' and the Sharing Place plan to partner to present a full turkey dinner take-out for 200 people in the community to be picked up at Sharing Placed on Friday, October 8. What a great way to work together!

Virtual OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY CONFERENCE 2021



Re-memering and Re-Making Community

"I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live..."
—Ezekiel 37:14

Workshops:

Supporting affordable housing in your neighbourhood, growing food security, refugee resettlement, climate advocacy, trans issues, and more!

Keynote Speaker:

The Rev. Gerlyn Henry
Assistant Curate,
St. Timothy,
North Toronto



Saturday, October 30, 2021 • 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
via Zoom (a link will be sent to participants upon registration)



Register here: www.toronto.anglican.ca/outreachconference
Please register by Friday, October 29, 2021

Hosted by

Social Justice & Advocacy Committee



OUTREACH MINISTRY

Diocesan Outreach Conference Saturday October 30 via zoom.

All of you are invited to join us for this annual Outreach Conference featuring guest speaker, The Rev. Gerlyn Henry, assistant curate at St. Timothy's, Toronto. In addition, you can choose to attend several of many excellent workshops on subjects such as affordable housing, food security, refugee resettlement, climate advocacy and many more.

The workshop is free of charge. All you need to do is register at www.toronto.anglican.ca/outreachconference by Friday Oct.29

This is always an informative and FASCINATING event. Don't miss it!

A.C.W. BAKE AND MINI CRAFT SALE

Just in time for your Thanksgiving dinner, the ACW ladies are offering you home-made desserts on Thursday Oct 7th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - while quantities last. We are using the parlour entrance. There will be dinner rolls, cookies, loaves, tarts, brownies, St James' famous scones and a few pies. We also have some clever ladies who have made pickles and salsa.

If you are looking forward to winter and Christmas, we will also offer cozy mitts (adult) made from recycled sweaters or in the Newfie pattern, a selection of colourful aprons, bibs - both for adults and babies, some football size knitted pigs (terribly cute and cuddly) and a selection of knitted cotton dishcloths (you can never have too many).

To pre-order, please contact Miriam for the aprons, bibs, and sweater mitts, Joan for the knitting and baking. Call the Church office.

Our goal is to raise funds for our St. James' commitment and the Christmas Hamper Project. Please join with us and enjoy!

Joan Gardy



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.



SUNDAY IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES



September 12 - our 1st In-person Worship Service

Such a thrilling feeling to be back in
our beloved church building!

You won't want to miss Amy Dodington's solo after
the sermon, and Christina Bosco's solo
during communion!



September 19 - our 2nd In-person Worship Service

A special thanks to our soloists Autumn Debassige
and Alan Cooper for singing today! Autumn's solo
following the sermon "Make Me A Channel of Your
Peace" was beautiful!

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

October 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 October 3**. 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 October 8**. Thank you for your continued support of this beneficial project.



FUNNY CHURCH SIGNS

Give Satan an inch and he'll become your ruler.

Tithe if you love Jesus. Anyone can honk.

Wrinkled with problems? Come to the Lord's House for a faith lift.

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."
Albert Schweitzer



October Birthdays

Andy Ayers, Brian Crate, Tim Gillett,
Bill Kellas, Stephen McClelland
Mary McEvoy, Wendy Slattery

October Anniversaries

Vic & Martha Howarth, Bill & Cheryl Kellas,
Bill Manley & Deb Woodman

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

Rector: The Reverend Canon John Anderson
 Editors: The Communications Committee
 Composer: Nancy Noakes-Morrison
 Production: Phyllis Johnson

