



ST. JAMES JOURNEY APRIL 2026

Volume 22, Issue 5
April 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,

To preach Christianity meant (to the Apostles) primarily to preach the Resurrection. ... The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection and its consequences were the 'gospel' or good news which the Christians brought. (C. S. Lewis, Miracles)

I want to remind us of the joy of Easter.

We live in times where we find the world to be grim. Some of us may be contemplating our own mortality, as friends and loved ones pass away; we can find ourselves dwelling on what Shakespeare referred to as the 'undiscovered country', or what happens after we die. We may also find the constant talk of decline in church attendance to be dispiriting. And we may find that there is a passivity to our approach to our faith. Many of us might be wondering, "Where is God in the midst of all of this trouble?"

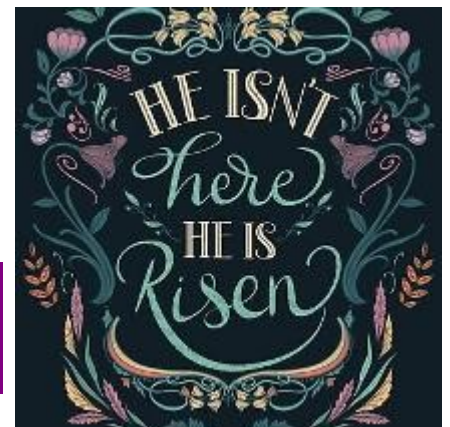
But life is also about the experience of wanting joy. And certainly, the joy of family, friends, community, and experiences is important. However, Easter joy is more than just worldly pursuits and relationships. As Christians, C. S. Lewis believed that 'we are made for another world'. The undiscovered country just may be that place where we say, "home at last, and I have been looking for it all my life" (Lewis, Narnia: The Last Battle). In the resurrection, we have hope and joy because we are at home with Christ.

I believe this Easter joy and hope can help us in our day-to-day life. Why? Because the world we live in is created by God. God's grace is infused in our world. Jesus came to bring the kingdom of heaven here on earth, and it has broken in. This world is to be valued, cared for, and loved. Easter joy reminds us that we care for and love each other. Friends and family members will face suffering and grief, but our Christian faith gives us a path forward.

The story of the empty tomb and the resurrection of Jesus literally gives us a profound insight into that heavenly realm. But it also gives us insight into getting on with the work of Jesus: planting seeds to grow into flowers, being the welcoming father of the prodigal son, making space for the woman at the well, accepting the words of the blind man who gained sight, and making space for all who are searching for peace and joy. This is the good news that we must share both at Easter and each and every day! Hallelujah!

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





THE WARDENS' CORNER

Greetings from your Wardens!

March brought us longer hours of daylight, melting snow and a continuation of the many worship and fellowship opportunities that make St. James' such a special place.

We begin April with Holy Week and numerous opportunities to be a part of this most holy time. St. David will join us to take part in several services. Plan to experience the varied emotions of Holy Week, from anguish and sorrow to the joy of Easter morning. It is through experiencing these feelings that we can walk through April, celebrating our risen Lord.

Whether you take part in the Loonie Lunch, Pennywise Shop, coffee hour, choir or any of the varied activities that our willing, dedicated volunteers assist with, you're bound to experience a togetherness that clearly demonstrates the bond shared by our church family.

Have a blessed Easter season. Julia, Sue and Leslie.



St. Patrick's Day
Potluck Dinner
Saturday March 21st



JOYCE HIRD RETIRES FROM PENNYWISE



Joyce assumed management of the Pennywise Shop in January of 2019. She headed up a team that has resulted in a welcoming shop where customers repeatedly comment on how pleasant it is to visit and shop.

Joyce developed policies and procedures for shop operations, oriented new volunteers, monitored all service levels and attracted volunteer workers with many service-related skills to work in the shop.

Joyce offered families/individuals with very scarce means or in crisis, vouchers for free essential clothing and household items on a monthly basis. As a part of serving our community, Joyce set out free clothing for people who attend our parish's Loonie Lunch and Sunday breakfast programmes every week.

It is difficult to accurately record the amount of time that has been devoted to managing Pennywise-related activities because she continued to work at home with scheduling, managing financial matters, and consulting with volunteers. Joyce worked on Pennywise business 5 days a week!

The parish income generated by the efforts of the Pennywise staff in the thrift shop is very substantial and has been critical to our parish budget.

Joyce has earned a well-deserved retirement from managing the shop. She can get back to enjoying her many hobbies and an exciting upcoming trip to Kenya, including a medical mission.

Joanne Barr, a volunteer with extensive retail business experience, is assuming the management of Pennywise. It is being left in good hands!

Profound thanks to Joyce from the parish of St. James'.

Rosemarie Freeman



TOWARDS CREATION CARE AT ST. JAMES

You are reminded that, at our Vestry Meeting at the end of February 2026, the Diocesan motion promoting Creation Care was passed by the St. James congregation. One step being taken towards taking some action to promote Creation Care in our parish is revisiting local and parish recycling and garbage control practices. It is hoped that these articles will remind you of and encourage you to actively promote recycling both at home and within our parish.

There is considerable new information about the Recycling Programme that will be written over several newsletters, as it is quite extensive. (May, June, August) Here is the first of the new recycling information

New Recycling Programme and How it Affects You

This past January 1, in Ontario, a new programme under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act transferred both the cost and the responsibility for the blue box programme to the producers of the products rather than the municipalities.

The Green Bin

Your Green Bin can be used for food scraps, which may include fruits and vegetables, corn cobs and husks, eggs and eggshells, breads, grains and cereals, dairy products, and cooked meat and bones. It also can include soiled paper towels, house plants, dryer lint, tissues and paper napkins, nuts and shells, coffee filters and grounds, tea bags, salads and dressings, rice and pasta. The programme does not include diapers, hygiene products, cleaning wipes or plastics of any kind. Only certified compostable biodegradable products are accepted. The big difference from the Townships is that Orillia's green bin programme **Does Not Accept Pet Waste.**

Recyclables, including the Green Bin, are picked up weekly, and garbage is picked up every other week. If you have questions about the Recycling Programme, you can **contact Emterra at 1-888-597-1541** or **circularmaterials.ca/Orillia**. Under this programme, the cost of recycling was not covered in the BIA, nor for Churches or non for profits. Council has passed a motion to pick up the cost of covering that cost for this year. It is necessary to register to be included. St James' has registered.

The Orillia 2026 Waste Collection Guide can be picked up at City Hall or downloaded at **Orillia.ca/waste**. The Simcoe County Guide can be downloaded at **circularmaterials.ca/Simcoe**

Pat Hehn, on behalf of the Social Justice and Mission Committee





PALM SUNDAY - March 29 - 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
St. James - Holy Eucharist
Rev. Carol Hardie



MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 2 - 7 p.m.
With St. David Anglican - Lutheran Church
Solemn Liturgy of the Eucharist, Anointing & Stripping of the Altar



GOOD FRIDAY - April 3 - 10 a.m.
St. James - Archdeacon John Anderson and Rev. Carol Hardie
Alex Andrews, violin and St. James Choir



EASTER SUNDAY - April 5 - 10 a.m. (one Service only)
St. James - Archdeacon John Anderson and Rev. Carol Hardie
Jeff Campbell, Pipe Organ; Robin Watson, Trumpet;
Joseph Holton, Drummer; Laura Christie, Trombone with Alexandra Teske,
Lead Soprano; Christina Bosco, Lead Alto & the St. James Choir with
Gareth Anderson Brass




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



St James Anglican Church
58 Peter Street N, Orillia
Saturday April 4, 2026
2pm
705 - 326 - 8782

The Body of Christ

Join us for an Easter Cantata performed by the St. David Church choir and friends
Directed by Brent Mayhew



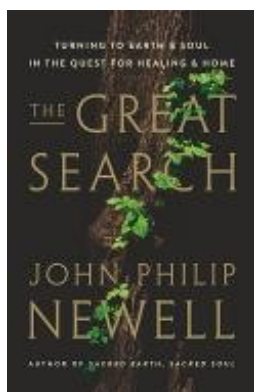
A free will offering will be collected

www.stdavidsorillia.org
www.brentmayhew.com

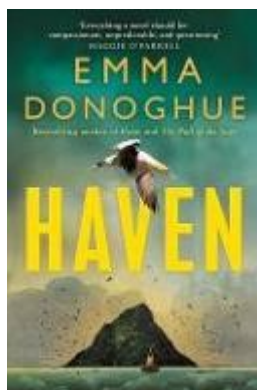
Written and arranged by
Pepper Choplin

“In the Spring, I have counted one hundred and thirty six kinds of weather inside of four and twenty hours.”
Mark Twain

ST. JAMES BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - ADVANCE NOTICE



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 and the last we will discuss until September. Using the story of Adam and Eve's fall from the Garden of Eden, Newell examines the relationship between our spirituality and the Earth. Organized into 3 parts, Newell considers the writings of nine philosophers, mystics and thinkers from a variety of faiths, including Martin Buber, Carl Jung, Julian of Norwich, Rumi, Rabindranath Tagore, Etty Hillesum and Edwin Muir. Please feel free to come and join us as we discuss and share our thoughts and opinions over a cup of coffee. We will be meeting on May 11th at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlour.



April Book Discussion
The St. James' Book Discussion Group is meeting April 13th at 10 a.m. in the Church Parlour to discuss 'Haven' by Emma Donoghue, a thought-provoking novel on the faces of faith as revealed through three monks as they settle on an uninhabited and inhospitable island in the 7th century. This novel may also draw some comparisons to October's book on Brebeuf. All are welcome! Come and join us for a cup of coffee as we share and discuss our perspectives and reactions to this novel.

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 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Thank you in advance!



FOOD BANK SUNDAY
First Sunday of every month

Our Green Bags are located in the narthex for your use. Fill them with any item listed here. They will be delivered to The Sharing Place Food Bank.

Thank you!!

TOP NEEDED ITEMS

- Canned Soup
 - Veg / Chicken Noodle / Mushroom / Tomato
- Canned Vegetables
 - Corn / Beans / Tomatoes
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Meat and Fish
- Pull Tab Canned Goods
- Rice
- Sugar
- Flour
- Tea Bags
- Instant and Ground Coffee
- Whole Grain, Low-Sugar Cereal
- Cooking Oils
- Broth / Bouillon Cubes
- Toilet Paper



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

Parish seeking Director of Music

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.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP SERVICES

Thursday April 2

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with St. David

Friday April 3

10 a.m. Good Friday Service with St. David

Sunday April 5 Easter Sunday

10 a.m. Easter Sunday (only 1 service)

Sunday April 5, 12, 19, 26

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Community Breakfast

Tuesday April 7, 14, 21, 28

12 noon Centering Prayer

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Wednesday April 1, 8, 15, 21, 29

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

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

Thursday April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

12 - 3 p.m. Pennywise Shop

7 p.m. Choir Practice

Saturday April 4, 11, 18, 25

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

Saturday April 4

2 p.m. St. David Cantata

Sunday April 5

Food Bank Sunday

Easter Silent Auction following the service

Tuesday April 7

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

Monday April 13

10 a.m. - Book Discussion

Tuesday April 14

2 p.m. Pastoral Care Mtg.

7 p.m. Advisory Board Mtg. via zoom

Thursday April 16

6 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg.

Saturday April 18

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Repair Cafe

Saturday April 25

7 p.m. Cellar Singers Concert



EASTER SILENT AUCTION
Following the 10 a.m. service Easter Sunday there will be a Silent Auction. Come out to bid or buy



CHURCH FUNNIES

The following statements about the bible were written by children.

- Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.
- Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without ingredients.
- The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.
- Why wouldn't the Pharaoh let the Hebrews go? He was in de-Nile.
- **Forget Elf on the shelf, Jesus wants Ewe in a Pew.**

Your Ministry Council

Anyone interested in reading the current Ministry Council 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 **May Newsletter** by **Wednesday April 22, 2026.**

FundScrip

The FundScrip deadline is **Sunday March 29** Orders and cheques (payable to St James Anglican Church) can be dropped off at the Church office. Pick up will be **Sunday April 5**. 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”**



April Birthdays

Sylvia Baker, John Fortune
Andrew Hill, Leigh McCann
John Smith

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

