

PARISH PROFILE

St. Mark's Anglican Church

Orangeville



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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF NIAGARA ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Welcome! If you are reading this introduction and sensing the possibility of a call from God to serve alongside the people of St. Mark's, Orangeville, you are very welcome.

St. Mark's holds a special place within the Diocese of Niagara and the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. For over 170 years, it has stood as an anchor of God's mission of love in the heart Orangeville.

With their eyes firmly fixed on the present and future, St. Mark's is seeking a rector who will embrace, lead, and enact both the parish's Mission Action Plan, situating it within our wider diocesan vision. Together, we seek to discern where God calls us to life and compelling us to love, both locally and in the wider community, ignited by the irresistible love of Jesus and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

Already deeply engaged in the life of the community, the parish family of St. Mark's is welcoming, energetic, friendly, and passionate about the ministry to which they've been called: "to make Jesus known." They strive to be the face and hands of Christ in their neighbourhood and beyond.

As you read further into this document, a snapshot of their ministry and faithful witness, I pray that you may feel the gentle urging of the Holy Spirit to consider journeying with this devoted community of faith.

God's richest blessing in your discernment.

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J.A. Bell
Bishop of Niagara

WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PAROCHIAL COMMITTEE

St. Mark's is a vibrant, well-established faith community committed to serving the Town of Orangeville and the community beyond. We are located in downtown Orangeville in a well-maintained historical building.

Our congregation is large and filled with people who deeply care about our faith and our community. We generously offer our time, treasure and talents. Our financial position is sound. We offer a wide variety of programs both within and outside the parish membership. We enjoy fellowship at our coffee hours, lunch and learns, and many social events throughout the year. Our building is a busy place, used by many parish groups and groups from the broader community.

We seek a Rector who will stretch us in new ways and support growth in ministries that keep St. Mark's welcoming, energetic, and grounded in Christ's teachings – within and beyond the parish.

We trust that our Parish Profile provides a comprehensive snapshot of who we are now and who God is drawing us to be in the future.

Blessings,

Neil White (Chair)

Carol Hulcoop

Judy Conning

Mark White

Carol Foley

Anthony Irwin

Cathy Wilson

Archbishop Colin Johnson (Advisor)

March 2026

A MESSAGE TO THE RECTOR WE SEEK

We are excited to meet you and to welcome you into our midst. The leader we seek is someone who:

- is approachable and people oriented, and excited to get to know us
- is passionate about reaching out to young people and their families
- will focus on our spiritual guidance and pastoral care
- is a good delegator and skilled at recognizing the skills and talents of others
- will conduct worship services that deepen our relationship with God and honour our love for the Anglican Liturgy
- is a skilled preacher whose sermons are relevant to everyday life
- who will help us welcome and develop programmes that will meet the needs of those coming to St. Mark's looking for a spiritual home
- is able to clearly articulate a compelling, inspiring and actionable picture of a desired future for the parish
- will be a leader in the community working with others to Connect Community with Christ;
- is able to build community relationships to integrate our outreach and love for our neighbours with other community programs.

St. Mark's represents a unique opportunity to serve and shepherd a committed well-established parish family in a desirable location.

Join us to lead us in our mission to connect community to Christ, and to take the next steps toward a bright future for St. Mark's. We invite you to consider St. Mark's as the next step in your ministry.

OUR MISSION AND MISSION ACTION PLAN

Our Mission – “Connecting Community to Christ”

We strive to be a welcoming Christian community in the Anglican tradition who put our Faith into action throughout the Orangeville area.

Our current Mission Action Plan has been reviewed and updated to reflect those plans that have been initiated and ongoing, and current initiatives.

PARISH INITIATIVES

Adult Faith Formation	Reshaping Parish Culture to Enable Ministry	Fullness of Life in the Neighbourhood
1. Book of the Month Bible Study BEGAN IN WINTER 2023 AND ONGOING	1. Redeveloping Welcoming procedures and integration process SUMMER 2023 WELCOME COMMITTEE TO REVIEW, REMAINS ACTIVE	1. Meditation Group BEGAN IN FALL 2022 AND ONGOING WITH BOTH PARISHIONERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS
2. Bishop’s Lenten Book AN ANNUAL LENTEN ACTIVITY	2. Rejuvenate Parish Communications LOOKING TO UPDATE IN 2026	2. Ministry Sunday (semi-annually) INITIATE 2026
3. Discussion Group: Issues & Questions of the day BEGAN BUT NOT ONGOING	3. Greeters Training Programme COMPLETED IN SPRING 2023, ESTABLISHED DESIGNATED WELCOMING GREETER	3. Neighbourhood Newsletter - (Quarterly) BEGAN SPRING 2024 (“You are invited” and “What’s Happening at St. Mark’s”)
4. Revive/Alpha/Anglicanism 101 T.B.D.	4. Renew Stewardship Programme BEGAN RENEWING PROGRAMME IN WINTER ’24, ONGOING	4. Parish Nurse Initiative with Parish and Community Focus BEGAN WITH WOW GRANT MARCH 2025 AND ONGOING

Section 1: Hopes and Dreams

When asked, “What is special about your parish?”, the following themes emerged consistently from the respondents.

- the long history of a well-respected and welcoming parish in the community
- the presence of many long-term parishioners who form an active and strong volunteer base
- history of adaptability and the ability to create a long-term view with determination to thrive
- worship in the Anglican tradition
- Christ focused in both worship and service
- well-positioned to expand children’s and youth ministry

“To see the parish continue to evolve so that we have strong offerings for people of all age groups that contribute to their spiritual development and sense of community.”

A survey respondent’s hope

Our hope is to continue to build upon these themes, while being open to new ways to worship and to do ministry in an ever-changing cultural environment.

When asked, “What plans, thoughts, dreams do you have for the future?”, the following themes consistently emerged from the respondents.

- that we provide offerings that are designed to strengthen the understanding of Anglican liturgy and what it means to be Christian in a post-Christian world
- to provide a place of learning, community and sanctuary for people of all ages
- to provide a place that welcomes and meets the needs of young adults and young families
- to grow our music ministry and choir
- to carry on and be responsive to the needs in our community through our outreach initiatives
- to invest more resources to support our seniors, our sick and those in need
- to invest in a comprehensive, professional communications strategy and our online presence to engage with people inside and outside the church

“St. Mark’s has an amazing well of resources, compassion, and commitment to bringing God’s love to each of us and to the community. It is important to continue to nurture and appreciate such a blessing.”

Parish council respondent

Section 2: Our Future

Our Strengths & Challenges

St. Mark's has a wide variety of strengths and assets.

Strengths

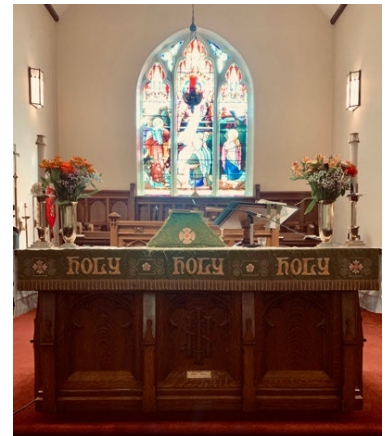
- We strive to be a welcoming, open and inclusive community
- Our monthly Celtic service enhances our worship focusing on nature-based imagery, and God's presence in everyday life
- We have a strong, committed volunteer base that faithfully ministers to the needs of our parish family and the community
- We offer a wide variety of ways for parishioners to be involved
- We have many gifted parishioners who give freely of their time and talents for the benefit of the parish
- We have an amazing Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator, a gifted Music Director, two dedicated Honorary Assistants and a much-loved Deacon
- Our Parish Nurse ministry is growing as parishioners are seeing the benefits of this new ministry and the dedication of our parish nurse
- We have relationships with several community organizations already and our parish nurse is cultivating more to help our parishioners access appropriate community resources to help them navigate the complex health care system.
- Location in the downtown core facilitates our outreach initiatives to the community
- We have a public-health approved commercial kitchen
- Our building in downtown Orangeville is well-maintained with access to ample parking
- Our location is close to Toronto and international airports, but offering small town living and the opportunity for a balanced lifestyle
- Our financial position is strong with a significant investment portfolio



Challenges

Our future is not without challenges.

- Aging congregation
- Declining volunteer base due to volunteer fatigue and aging, combined with a challenge to bring in new volunteers
- Challenge to attract, engage and retain young adults and young families
- Challenge to share our faith with the increasing cultural diversity in Orangeville and changes in a society that is suspicious of institutional religion
- Need to build a stronger digital strategy, increase our presence on social media platforms, and make a major update to our website
- Increase communication to the community outside the parish walls that will require a comprehensive, professional communications strategy
- Challenge to improve signage, specifically an electronic sign at the front of the church, although the church exists within the designated heritage area of Orangeville and faces bylaw restrictions
- Recognition and acceptance that some uncomfortable change will be required to meet the cultural, social and spiritual needs of a younger generation
- The need to remodel and modernize the washrooms in the parish hall and access to the office floor, recognizing the limitations we will experience due to the age of the building



Our Future: Our Journey Together

A survey respondent shared this very positive outlook for the future of St. Mark's:

“St. Mark’s congregation is filled with passionate people who deeply care about their faith and community. With the right leadership and strategies in place, I believe St. Mark’s future can be very bright.”

St. Mark's represents a unique opportunity to be a part of a committed well-established parish family with a mission to connect community to Christ.

We invite you to consider St. Mark's as the next step in your faith journey and to join us in taking the next steps toward a bright future for St. Mark's.

Section 3: Our Parishioners

Our parish has a strong core group that attend every week for both Sunday services and although significantly smaller in numbers, a consistent group that attend the Thursday morning weekday service.

“The parish is welcoming and serves the community while maintaining biblical and liturgical focus.”

Parish Council Member

As with most Anglican churches, the parish has an older demographic in relation to the community. In our recent parish survey, 86% of the respondents were 55 and over. The majority of the respondents were living as a couple or independently on their own. Only 15% identified themselves as a family, and only a few as a young person living at home. A focus for the future is to ensure that the parish identifies ways to connect with the younger generations.

The majority of parishioners (75%) have been attending St. Mark’s for more than ten years, and commit their time and finances to the ongoing ministry of the church.

Summary statement and charts from Vestry report

PARISH ROLL	2022	2023	2024	2025
# of Members on Parish Rolls	564	560	511	510
# of Identifiable Regular Givers	184	179	181	164
# of New Members	4	10	5	4

St. Mark’s draws parishioners from Shelburne, Grand Valley and the surrounding areas of those towns with the closure of the Anglican churches in the two towns. Both towns are experiencing significant growth and becoming more multi-cultural.

Section 4: Worship and Liturgy

Regular Sunday Services

Worship services at St. Mark’s welcome parishioners through a variety of liturgies and music. Currently, services are offered on Sunday and mid-week on Thursday mornings throughout the year.

SERVICES	2022	2023	2024	2025
Average Sunday Visits (In-Person)	76	82	87	87
Average Sunday Views (Online)	102	77	81	83
Average Sunday Attendance - Total	178	159	168	170
Average Thursday Attendance	6	5	6	6

Time	Format	In-Person	Live-Streamed
Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Said Eucharist service from the Book of Alternative Services in the Language of the Book of Common Prayer	Yes	No
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Choral Eucharist using the Book of Alternative Services	Yes	Yes
Thursday 10:00 a.m.	Said Eucharist service from the Book of Alternative Services followed by Bible Study	Yes	No
First Sunday of the month 8:30 a.m.	Said Celtic Communion Liturgy	Yes	No
First Sunday of the month 10:00 a.m.	Choral Celtic Communion Liturgy	Yes	Yes
First Thursday of the month 10:00 a.m.	Said Celtic Communion Liturgy	Yes	No

Live-Streaming Ministry

St. Mark's began live-streaming early during the Covid 19 pandemic and is now an important aspect of our ministry. It allows those who cannot make it to services due to mobility issues or illness, holidays or the weather to still be able to partake in the services. Live-streaming also allows former St. Mark's parishioners who have moved away to be able to stay in touch with St. Mark's. We have also identified viewers who have only ever watched our services online. Services are viewed on YouTube.

ONLINE	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Annual Video Views	29,760	34,127	20,359	13,338
Total Annual Hours Watched	2,200	1,800	2,137	4,317

Special Services

Traditionally we offer four Christmas services - three Christmas Eve and one Christmas morning. The Ash Wednesday service is held as Lent begins, and services are held each evening of Holy Week, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday morning prior to the Easter Sunday service. The St. Francis' Blessing of the Animals service takes place in the fall.



Baptisms, Confirmations, Weddings and Funerals

EVENTS	2022	2023	2024	2025
Baptisms	7	2	7	8
Confirmations	4	0	6	1
Marriages	6	0	1	1
Funerals in Year (Members)	4	9	10	8
Funerals in Year (Non-members)	13	10	8	1
Funerals in Year - Total	17	19	18	9

Music and Children

Under the direction of Gregory Dickison the choir is composed of dedicated choir members who rehearse weekly and provide music for the 10:00 a.m. worship service, as well as for special services throughout the liturgical year. The choir regularly rehearses and performs choral anthems for feast days and special occasions, in addition to leading congregational singing from the Common Praise hymnal and other musical resources as appropriate.



St. Mark's is equipped with an Allen electric organ, which is used less frequently than the grand piano located in the nave. Greg and the choir have been exploring increased use of the organ, including the introduction of monthly services featuring traditional, organ-appropriate hymnody.

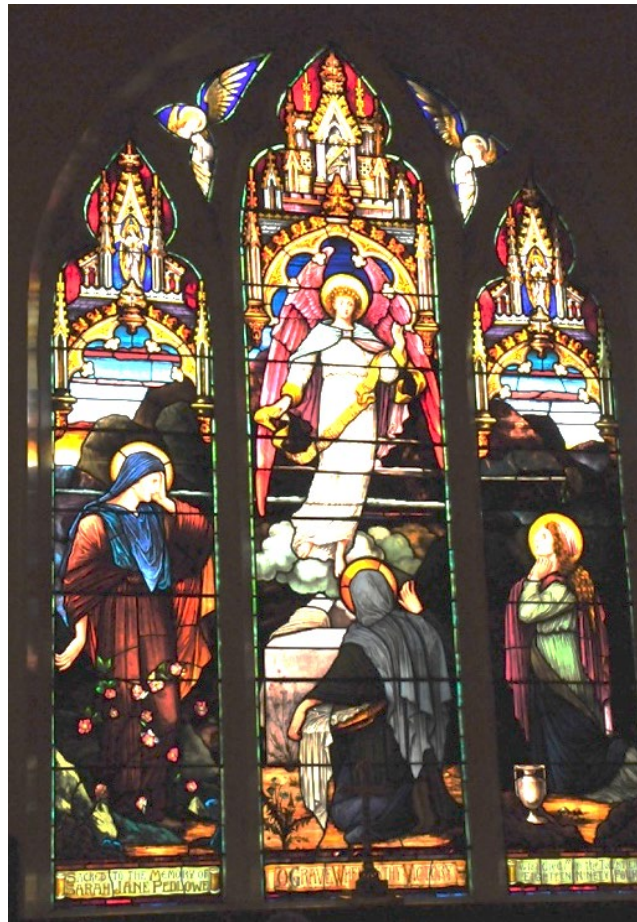
Gregory Dickison frequently serves as the musician at weddings and funerals. Additional local musicians may also be engaged as needed. The choir is often invited to participate in these services, particularly when the event involves a member of the congregation.

A programme is offered for children and youth during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service from September through early June. It is overseen by our fantastic and creative Child and Youth Ministry Coordinator, Tracey Croft and her terrific volunteer teachers. Children gather in classrooms at the beginning of the service but join the congregation at communion. A Children's Focus led by one of the clergy or Tracey follows communion prior to the recessional hymn.



Lay Involvement in Services

We have an active group of lay leaders helping during regular services. Our vocational Deacon, Rev'd Richard Beaudoin oversees this group. Twelve Licensed Lay Readers and Chalice Bearers are regularly involved in readings, intercessions, and communion on Sundays. Another ten parishioners read the first reading on Sundays. We are pleased that some of our youth under the direction of our vocational deacon are servers during the Sunday 10:00 a.m. service.



Section 5: Programmes and Organizations

“The Lions” – Children and Youth Ministry

Our Children and Youth Coordinator, Tracey Croft, is responsible for overseeing all activities related to children and youth. She coordinates volunteers, plans events, and maintains a weekly programme to suit the needs of the current church demographics from September through early June.

The Lions’ programme is offered at the 10:00 a.m. service, staffed by a team of 8 regular volunteers who teach and supervise on a rotating basis using *Spark*, a weekly lectionary-based curriculum for toddlers to Grade 7, with a mixture of resources for youth. The program is offered in three fully stocked classrooms and a full-size, fully equipped nursery room in the Education Wing. The Lions begin in their classrooms and are brought up for weekly Communion by a greeter. The Lions remain with the congregation in the front pews for the weekly Lion's Tale, an interactive chat shared on a rotating basis between the clergy and the Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator.

“We have an amazing Children and Youth Coordinator, and wish more children were there to appreciate her talents.”

Parish Survey Respondent

Approximately 10 children and youth attend each week, along with 2-4 program volunteers, with a total membership of about 20-25. Current average age is about 13, with the age range at 5-17. Several youth participate in the 10:00 services as crucifers and servers. Annual highlights include First Communion classes and service, Confirmation as numbers permit, an all-ages Christmas Pageant at the early Christmas Eve service, and periodic "Everybody Services" where the youth and children participate alongside the congregation, learning about the various aspects of the service and engaging the congregation in an activity that takes place instead of a regular sermon.

Currently, the Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator and two adult teachers supervise and plan the Youth Group, with meetings held once every six weeks, with approximately 8 youth attendees. Events include fundraising for parish initiatives, games, food, and learning about Jesus, the church, and ministry. The Youth Group is planning events for 2026, including volunteer projects.



Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith formation has been an important part of the ministry offered at St. Mark's and led by the clergy. The most long-standing programme is the Thursday morning Bible study which follows the mid-week service. Formerly in-person only, online through Covid restrictions, it is now hybrid to accommodate those who cannot come in person.

The Bible Book of the Month group was introduced in 2022, led by the Reverend Canon Stephanie Pellow. Participants read the same book of the Bible and meet to discuss it on the first Monday evening of the month.

A group of parishioners gather one afternoon a week during Lent for a book study, often selecting the Bishop's Lenten offering to discuss. St. Mark's was part of the pilot for the *Revive* programme, and *Alpha* has also been offered in recent years.

Altar Guild

St. Mark's has an active altar guild of 16 – 20 dedicated individuals grouped in teams who attend to altar preparation and the sanctuary, and the decoration of the church for special holy days, such as Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day. Weddings, funerals, and baptisms all require special attention from the altar guild.

Pastoral Care Ministry

The Reverend Canon Lynne Thackwray conducts regular worship services at a variety of nursing and retirement homes in Orangeville. She does hospital and home visits to parishioners and takes home communions to shut-ins. All clergy and our parish nurse participate in pastoral care at the local hospital, hospice and in nursing and retirement homes. Parishioners from St. Mark's are involved in the hospital's Spiritual Care programme as spiritual care visitors and providing prayer shawls.

Parish Nurse Ministry

The parish nurse ministry is a new ministry to St. Mark's initiated by the parish with the financial support of a WOW grant (Walking on Water, currently called a MIG – Missional Innovation Grant) in January 2025. The focus of the programme is on the health and wellness of our parishioners and those isolated or marginalized community members.

Yasmin, our parish nurse, provides education on a health and wellness topic monthly and arranges guest speakers for our 'Lunch and Learn' sessions that follow the 10:00 a.m. service several times each year, on topics ranging from Alzheimer's to fraud. She makes home visits, hospital visits and visits to long-term care homes on the request of parishioners. With her extensive background in community nursing, Yasmin is able to advocate for individuals and families and is able to link people to appropriate community resources helping them to navigate our complex health care system.

Parish Life – Fun and Fellowship at St. Mark's

Parish life extends beyond the worship services through various groups and activities that involve many of our parishioners at a variety of different times during the week. The weekly bulletin and 'What's Happening at St. Mark's' published quarterly invite parishioners to participate in the activities that fit their interest and availability.

- Soul Sisters fellowship: A group of 20 – 25 women meet together for breakfast and fellowship at a local restaurant once a month. Everyone is welcome!
- Men's Breakfast and fellowship: The men of the parish followed the example of the women and now also meet monthly at a local restaurant for breakfast and fellowship. All are welcome!
- Parish Brunch after Sunday Services: Two or three times a year, Deacon Richard and his crew make and serve brunch of eggs, bacon, sausages, hash browns, pancakes, toast and baked beans. Absolute best value for brunch in town!
- Book club: A group gathers monthly to discuss that month's book choice – fiction or non-fiction – as recommended by one of the group's members.
- Prayer Shawl: This group meets every other Tuesday afternoon to knit or crochet, have conversation, and enjoy a cup of tea and goodies. Prayer shawls are blessed during a church service and distributed to friends and loved ones who need comforting, and to hospital patients by parishioners and spiritual care advisors. Many prayer shawls have even been sent across the country and overseas.
- Meditation: A group of parishioners and community members meet weekly for an hour of quiet meditation and relaxation.



- **Parish Dinners:** Several times during the year we gather for a parish dinner. Often the dinners are themed, everything from a Greek dinner to our most recent 'Newfie Jiggs' dinner with appropriate food and sometimes entertainment. These events are small fund-raisers, but the focus is parish fellowship. Our annual dinner and silent auction which takes place close to St. Mark's Day is a fundraiser. The annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is a favourite.



Outreach & Social Justice

Outreach is an important part of our ministry at St. Mark's. Parishioners give of their time, talent and treasure to reach outside our church walls and into our community and beyond. We are blessed to be able to reach out to those in need wherever they are!

- **Credit River Housing and HIWHOIS**

St. Mark's controls two social housing corporations - Credit River and Hiwhois – by approving the board of directors for both corporations. The board has contracts with a property management company to manage the day-to-day operations of both corporations.

Credit River Non-Profit Housing

Credit River Non-Profit Housing Corporation operates a non-profit housing complex in Orangeville known as Quarry Gates. It consists of 30 seniors' apartments and 70 townhouses, located at 60 Chisholm Street, in Orangeville. Our service agreement with the County of Dufferin requires 60% of the units to be rented at rent-geared-to-income (RGI) and the remaining 40% of units to be rented at market rates. St. Mark's assumed control of Credit River from Hiwhois Assistance Group in November 2007.

Hiwhois Assistance Group

Hiwhois Assistance Group is a charity that owns two detached homes in Orangeville operated as subsidized housing through a service agreement with the County of Dufferin.

- **The Beacon**

The Beacon is a community outreach that St. Mark's provides Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. It is a safe place for people within our community to come and socialize. It provides snacks and beverages at each meeting. It offers a wide range of activities including adult colouring, crafts, board games, bingo, festive holiday celebrations and much more. Our parish nurse joins us and offers help and support. She checks in with individuals, checks their blood pressure and provides health care advice and advocacy.

The Beacon is funded by The Andrew Laing Outreach Fund. The annual interest from this fund pays for Beacon supplies, food and beverages. A donation covers the Beacon Outreach Manager's monthly salary. The people who come and join each week are like a big family and this is a wonderful way for them to be connected in a group situation that offers peace, love and light.

- **St. Mark's Food Cupboard:** Our food cupboard offers perishable and non-perishable food to those in need in our community. It is open three times a week. It is staffed by volunteer parishioners. Our food cupboard is supported by generous donations from our parishioners and works in cooperation with the Orangeville Food Bank.
- **Advent Tree Programme:** Our Advent tree programme provides gifts/gift cards donated by parishioners to families in need in our community. This past Christmas we helped 12 families.
- **Christmas Day Lunch:** Many hands work together to prepare Christmas dinners for people to walk/drive by on Christmas day to pick up a full Christmas meal. In 2025, we gave out 150 meals. All dinners are offered at no charge to members of the community who might not otherwise have a Christmas dinner to enjoy.



- **Kay-Cee Gardens Christmas in the Park:** St. Mark's puts up a beautiful display in the park that shines throughout the season.

- **Adopt-a-Highway:** Three times a year parishioners can be seen along the highway picking up garbage on our section of Highway 10.



- **Coldest Night of the Year:** Each year we enter a team into the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser, a Canada wide event. The funds raised by our team support the Orangeville Food Bank.
- **Alongside Hope:** Parishioners gave generously to our Solar Suitcase campaign offering light to moms in darkness while delivering their babies. St. Mark's has a history of supporting a variety of PWRDF/Alongside Hope initiatives.

Section 6: Organizational Structure

Governance

The leadership of St. Mark's is shared by the Rector and Wardens, as the legal entity (Corporation of the parish) in consultation with the Treasurer and members of Parish Council. The objective is to facilitate open communication lines between the Rector, the Corporation and Parish Council for the benefit of the parish. This collaborative structure provides a means of day-to-day administration that allows the parish to use the gifts of the Rector and lay leaders in the most effective and appropriate way.

The Corporation (made up of the Wardens, Deputy Wardens, the Rector, and the Treasurer) meet on a monthly basis or as required, and are responsible for all matters pertaining to the operation of the Parish.

The Parish Council of St. Mark's serves an important role as an advisory board to the Corporation. There are an equal number of members appointed by the Rector and elected by Vestry. Ideally Parish Council membership represents a cross section of the parish demographics and includes the leaders from the various committees that are active in parish life, as well as the lay delegates to Synod. Although Parish council has no formal decision-making authority, it plays a vital role in consulting with the Corporation on important parish decisions. Parish Council meetings are usually held monthly except during the summer months and are chaired by a warden.

“ . . . we work together in a collaborative manner, in fellowship and friendship, sharing our love of God and rejoicing in his love for us.”

Parish Council member

Leadership & Staff

The following comprises our staff at St. Mark's Church. Unless otherwise noted below, staff are paid on a part-time or contract basis. The exception is the Rector.

The Clergy

- Rector – vacant at this time
- Interim Priest in Charge
 - The Reverend William Willis
- Honourary Assistants
 - The Reverend Canon Lynne Thackwray
 - The Reverend Canon Stephanie Pellow
- Parish Vocational Deacon
 - The Reverend Deacon Richard Beaudoin (volunteer)

The Staff

- Office Administrator & Communications Coordinator – Rebecca Contin
- Treasurer – Anne Gould
- Children & Youth Ministry Coordinator – Tracey Croft
- Parish Nurse – Yasmin Rizzi
- Music Ministry Coordinator – Greg Dickison
- Beacon Outreach Manager – Rebecca Contin
- Custodian – Mary Little
- Online Broadcasting Coordinator – Nick Pellow
- Envelope Secretary – Carol Hulcoop (volunteer)

Section 7: Stewardship and Finances

Stewardship

The use of our Time, Treasure and Talents continues to be the theme of stewardship at St. Mark's, encouraging our parishioners to contribute as they are able to the ongoing ministry and mission of the church. Traditionally, we have celebrated a Stewardship weekend in November with a parish dinner and focused message from the clergy on Stewardship Sunday. COVID restrictions earlier and the departure of our previous Rector at the end of October 2025 disrupted this routine. It is our hope that we will re-engage in this tradition.

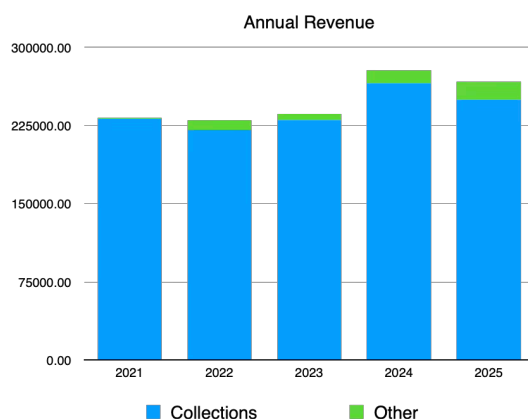
In the meantime, the Adopt-an-Hour programme has been a successful ongoing stewardship initiative. The cost per hour to operate the church and its ministries is identified and as they are able, parishioners contribute one or more hours through the year.



Many of our outreach initiatives depend upon the donation of time of our parishioners. Many maintenance projects are completed with the support of parishioners with talents as needed.

Financial resources

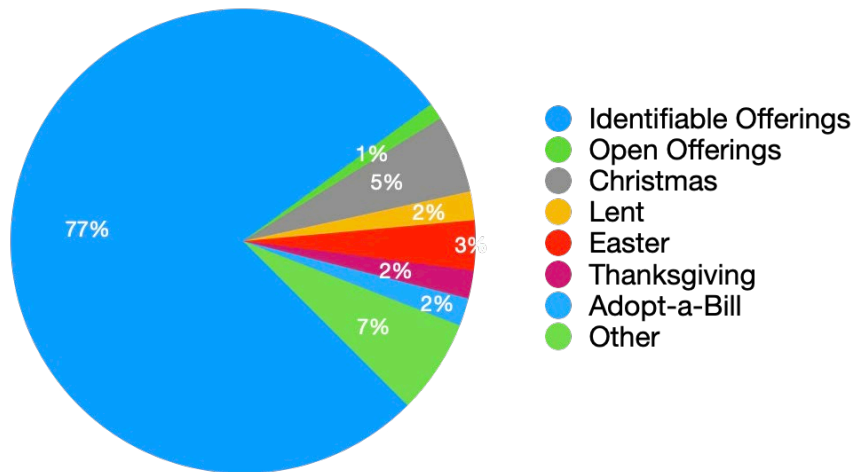
St. Mark's Church is financially sound. Corporation and Parish Council review the financial resources of the parish during the year, monitoring income and expenses to budget allocations for the year. We have a significant number of parishioners that subscribe to pre-authorized giving (PAG). We have been able to increase church rentals to augment 'Other Income'.



The Diocese of Niagara holds St. Mark's investments. The current value of the Heritage Fund is \$642,000, the majority of which is unrestricted. In addition, there are two funds - the Andrew Laing Outreach Fund and the Gladys VanDorssen Children's Ministry Fund - that are also held at the diocese. The interest generated is designated specifically for Outreach and for Children and Youth Ministry each year, while maintaining the funds' principal value. Thanks to continued bequests and market performance, our reserves have increased significantly over the years.

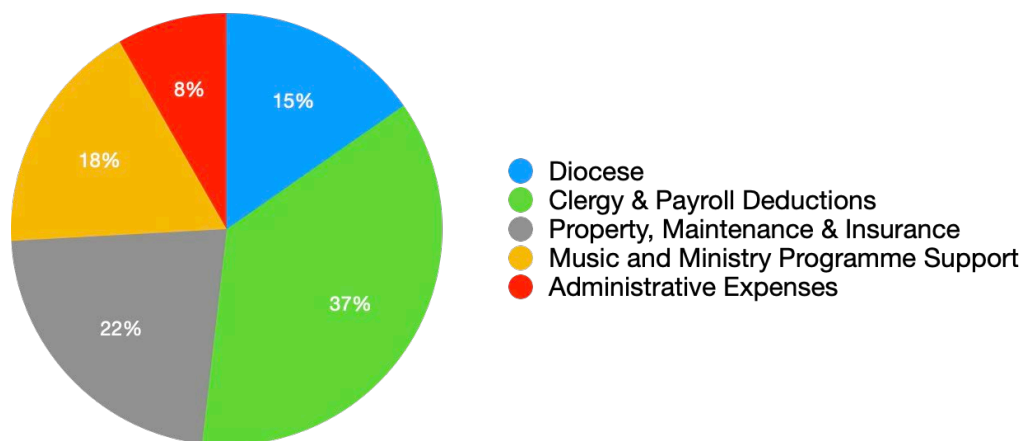
In total, our annual revenue has been in the \$325,000 range for the past few years. The vast majority of revenues are generated through identifiable offerings as shown below.

Revenue breakdown - 2026 Budget



In 2026, we have budgeted approximately \$356,505 in expenditures, for a net deficit of just under \$10,000. We are blessed to have restricted investments where the interest earned may be used for the specific purposes of Children’s Ministry and Outreach while maintaining the principal intact. A conservative interest estimate is included in our budget to offset the salary of the Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator and the Beacon Outreach Manager. In addition, we received a significant donation in 2025 that we have invested in a GIC with interest payable annually. We have internally restricted that fund so that the interest and no more than 10% of the principal may be drawn down in any calendar year to offset a year-end deficit.

Expenditures - 2026 Budget



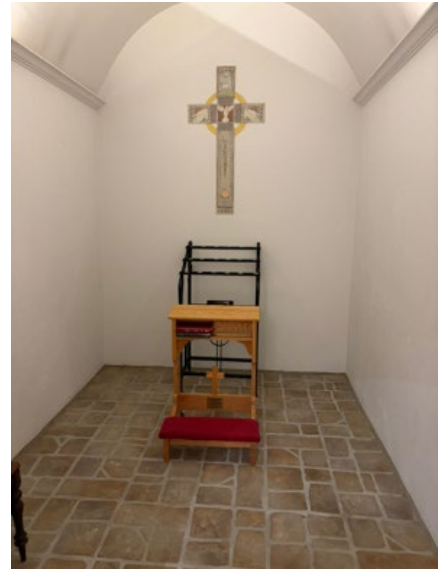
Section 8: Property

Building and Grounds

Additions were made to the current brick church in 1953 and 1959 to add the extension of the basement, kitchen, office, and education wing. In the 1990's the chancel and the sanctuary were rearranged into their current configuration.

A Celtic Prayer Cell was created - a 'thin place' for prayer and meditation. A time capsule in the floor of the prayer cell is scheduled to be opened on January 1, 2100.

In 2009 a project was completed to add a narthex, housing a two person lift and automatic doors making the church building accessible. The outside of the building was totally resurfaced, replacing the deteriorating quickbrick which had been applied several decades before. In 2015, with the financial support of a Trillium grant, the kitchen was renovated and is now a modern, well-equipped commercial facility.



St. Mark's physical structure is well maintained and cared for. Our diocesan decennial inspection was done in 2024 and passed with ease, with 90% of the recommendations now complete. In 2025, we had a detailed fire inspection. The church has a contract to cover the fire panel, emergency lighting, fire extinguishers, fire suppression and the exhaust hood. We are replacing all fluorescent fixtures with LED lighting. Furnaces and the air conditioner are relatively new. The elevator lift is on a semi-annual service contract.

Licensing of space agreements

St. Mark's currently has licensed rental agreements for space with several 12 Step groups. Our commercial kitchen is rented part-time to a catering business. These rentals provide consistent monthly income, augmented by single use community use of our space. We use the diocesan format for the license agreements, and all rental agreements are approved by the corporation and Vestry annually.

Section 9: History and Location

Historical Presence

St. Mark's Anglican Church has a rich history dating back to 1837, founded by fiery lay missionary Seneca Ketchum and his wealthy nephew Jesse Ketchum. The first St. Mark's Church was a small log structure located in a clearing in Mono Township. The parish evolved from a mission into an independent parish in 1854 when a significant stone church



was built on its current First Avenue site in downtown Orangeville, marking the beginnings of Anglican worship in the developing Orangeville area. St. Mark's outgrew the stone building and it was torn down to make way for the present brick structure built in 1868.

St. Mark's is a cornerstone of Orangeville's heritage, representing the spiritual foundation laid by early pioneers and growing alongside the town. In 2012 St. Mark's celebrated the 175th year of service to Orangeville and surrounding communities. All of the work done over the years to maintain, preserve, and upgrade the building and to offer spiritual and tangible care, is a testament to the commitment of generations of parishioners to continue to serve this community for years to come.

The Diocese of Niagara

St. Mark's is located within the Anglican Diocese of Niagara with the Bishop's cathedral located at Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton. Located within the ecclesiastical province of Ontario, it borders the Dioceses of Huron and Toronto. The current Bishop of Niagara is The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, who has been diocesan bishop since 2018.

There are just over 90 parishes within the diocese served by approximately 120 licensed parish priests, with several honorary clergy, vocational deacons and licensed lay people. The diocese is divided into five regional deaneries including Greater Wellington. Each deanery is overseen by a regional archdeacon and regional dean.



Town of Orangeville & The Community (www.orangeville.ca)

The Town of Orangeville is a historic town in Dufferin County, known for its charming, walkable downtown with unique shops, local eateries, and historic architecture, set within the picturesque Headwaters region. It blends small-town charm with modern amenities, offering a balanced lifestyle with access to outdoor recreation (parks, trails) and a thriving arts scene, while also serving as a growing hub for businesses and a commuter base for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Orangeville has experienced significant growth in recent years, with the population exceeding 30,000 and becoming more multi-cultural.

Headwaters Health Care Centre is an accredited, medium sized community-focused hospital serving Dufferin County and Caledon with 24/7 emergency services, acute care and complex continuing care. The hospital recently acquired an MRI machine to enhance the digital services locally. The Upper Grand District School Board serves Orangeville and the surrounding area, with two local high schools in Orangeville and several primary and intermediate schools offering both English and French Immersion programmes. In addition, private schools like The Maples (K – 8) and The Hill Academy (an independent private school for dedicated student-athletes) provide additional educational opportunities.

The Town of Orangeville offers a rich mix of arts and recreation. There are unique tree sculptures throughout the town and a variety of galleries and studios. You can attend live theatre offerings at Theatre Orangeville throughout the year. The annual Blues and Jazz Festival celebrates outstanding blues and jazz music every June. Skating, swimming and a variety of drop-in and organized programmes are offered at Alder Recreation and Community Centre for children and adults alike. At the Island Lake Conservation Area you can experience everything nature has to offer. Cast a line, paddle on the lake, walk the trails, or picnic by the forest. In colder weather, safely explore a frozen lake with a fishing rod, skates or snowshoes. The annual Maple Syrup Festival is a highlight at the conservation area.

