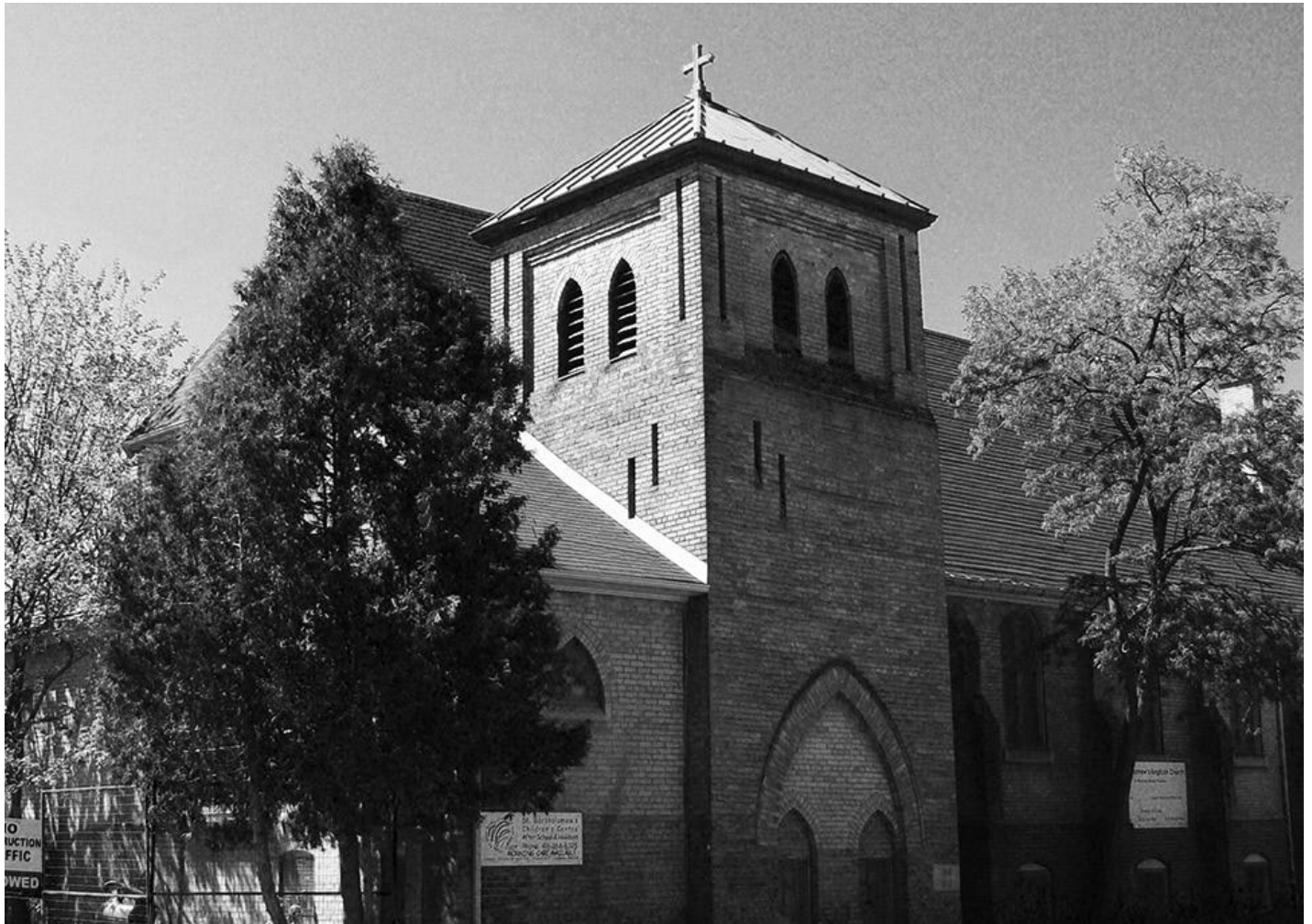


S. BARTHOLOMEW'S, REGENT PARK REPORT TO VESTRY, 9 MARCH 2025



St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Regent Park

The Ancient Faith for the Contemporary World

Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. The Bishops’ Letter 3

2. The Vicar’s Report 7

3. Envelope Secretary’s Report 10

4. Budget 2024 11

5. Organisation Reports

 Altar Guild 14

 Choir Director 14

 Organist 16

 Sidespersons 17

THE BISHOPS' PASTORAL LETTER TO VESTRIES, 2025



To the clergy, churchwardens, and parishioners of the Diocese of Toronto:

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

“...be renewed in the spirit ...” – Ephesians 4:23

In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, the Diocese of Toronto is exhibiting a burgeoning health and vitality that inspires us daily. To God be the glory! As your bishops, as we travel around to visit our parishes, we have witnessed the Holy Spirit engaging in marvelous ways with people, groups and ministries right across this Diocese – from Mississauga to Minden, from Cobourg to Collingwood. The Season of Spiritual Renewal, this invitation to spiritual growth, has been enthusiastically received in so many ways, including the sharing of prayer resources, participation in online workshops, and our bishops’ Advent study online. We are also looking forward to *LiveLent: God’s Story, Our Story*, a daily Lenten resource with a helpful guide for small group use.

We are excited that the next phase in this Season of Spiritual Renewal is called “Lift Up Our Hearts.” Over the coming year, large worship services will take place across the Diocese on five Saturday afternoons at 2 p.m. Each celebration of the Eucharist will feature excellent music, moving testimony, and preachers from within our own Diocese, each with their own unique approach to spiritual renewal. We hope you will plan to join us for one or more of these marvelous gatherings. Come on your own, bring a friend, or hire a bus! We will see you there:

- March 22 – St. James Cathedral (preacher: the Rev. Molly Finlay)
- March 29 – Trinity Church, Streetsville (preacher: the Rev. Canon Stephanie Douglas)
- May 31 – All Saints, Whitby (preacher: the Rev. Gerlyn Henry)
- September 27 – St. James, Orillia (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Rob Hurkmans)
- October 25 – St. Paul’s, Bloor Street (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Alvarado Adderley)

The call to spiritual renewal, however, was just the first of 20 Calls articulated in the Cast the Net strategic vision adopted by Synod and this Diocese in 2023. Over the coming year, you will hear us repeatedly emphasising the need for each congregation to review and consider all of the 20 Calls and then choose which two or three your parish will focus on. As you gather today for Vestry, this could be the perfect opportunity to start considering the question. A small group – the Netminders – has prepared resources to help you, which you can find on the Cast the Net web page. While it’s important to remember that no congregation could possibly answer all 20 Calls, we strongly believe that each congregation can consider two or three. Leading up to our diocesan Synod in November, we hope that every parish will be able to identify which of the Calls they are living into.

We are pleased to welcome our new Executive Director, Varun Balendra ODT. A familiar face around the Diocese, Varun has served in many volunteer capacities over the years, and we look forward to working together in this new capacity. By the time of our diocesan Synod on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8, we expect that we will be introducing a new Secretary of Synod and a new full-time Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisor, whose primary focus areas will be supporting the work of the Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism (ABAR) and other DEI training, and supporting individuals and parishes to grow, build community, educate and engage.

Some other new faces at Synod may include guests from the Diocese of Brasilia. This past June, at the Cathedral Church of the Resurrection in the city of Brasilia, the two diocesan bishops of Brasilia and Toronto signed the covenant that brings our two dioceses into a companion relationship. Since the signing of our agreement, a small representative group from each diocese has been meeting monthly – in both Portuguese and English – to pray together and to plan events. For example, clergy from both dioceses will gather online for a joint study day on liberation theology on March 25. In the fall, a youth delegation from Brasilia will join our own youth at the Re-Charge youth retreat at Muskoka Woods camp. And we anticipate sending a delegation from Toronto to Brasilia in 2026. We have even developed a shared logo for our relationship that combines elements of each of our own logos: our Diocese of Toronto dove springing from their Ipe Tree. You can expect to hear more about this companion partnership as we enter into the second year of it.

Closer to home, the partnerships within our own Diocese continue to flourish. When we speak of

casting the net, we are referring to the supportive, creative and collaborative ministry that occurs in each deanery and regionalization, between parishes and congregations, amongst church neighbours and colleagues. We are grateful to our hardworking and devout clergy and our dedicated lay leaders, especially churchwardens, treasurers, administrators, musicians and the countless church staff and parish volunteers who are Christ's hands and feet of ministry in our communities. We are so grateful for all of your faithful work in our parishes and beyond.

We have embarked on a feasibility study to discern if this is the right time for the Diocese to conduct a major financial campaign. Over the next six months, M M International, a Toronto-based fundraising firm, will listen to parishes large and small, soliciting feedback on a case for support. It is proposed that if a campaign does go forward, the majority of funds raised will remain in the parishes, with a smaller portion supporting the 20 Calls at the diocesan level. Your feedback and commitment will make the difference as we look into this additional way of working together.

Lastly, we want to encourage each Vestry meeting to consider this year's social justice motion: "Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario." The Church has a role to play in calling on government for responsible actions in caring for our most vulnerable neighbours, to ensure life-saving protections for those experiencing addictions and other challenges. Please consider how your parish can speak up, and out, for those who require advocacy. As we anticipate going to the polls in the coming year – federally and provincially – let us remember our baptismal promises as we cast our ballots, choosing candidates who align with our values. And let us pray for them.

For it is in praying that we are drawn ever deeper into relationship with the Triune God and become more attentive to the will of our Heavenly Creator. In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, we ask every reader of this letter to commit more deeply to a life of prayer, that it may infuse your every day with Grace as you witness to the Love of Christ in your life and to the world.

In your prayers, please pray for all three of us, your College of Bishops, both in your personal daily devotions as well as your parish's weekly intercessions. Know that we are praying for you too, giving thanks for our common life together across our wonderful diocesan family.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Andrew Toronto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil

Bishop of Toronto

+ Riscylla Shaw

The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw

Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

+ Kevin Robertson

The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson

Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

THE VICAR'S REPORT



Our sesquicentennial celebrations began on 30 January 2024 with the resumption, after many years, of an old S. Bart's tradition — the celebration of the Feast of the Royal Martyr, King Charles I. Our celebrations began with a Solemn Choral Evensong, conducted by our friend, Robert Busiakiewicz, with an address by Robert's father-in-law and sometime parishioner of S. Bart's, John Fraser CM. The evening continued with a roast beef dinner, prepared by members of our young adults' group, attended by approximately fifty guests.

Our liturgical life has continued to expand, with several new liturgies having been added to our calendar in 2024. For the first time in many years, the Conversion of S. Paul was celebrated with a sung mass. On 16 February we celebrated a festal mass to commemorate the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the dedication of our parish church. On 17 April we were delighted to welcome back to the Parish the National Indigenous Archbishop, Chris Harper, to preach at a special mass on the Feast of S. Kateri Tekakwitha. On the first Sunday in October we were joined at Evensong by our area bishop, Kevin Robertson, who confirmed six confirmands.

On 11 November we celebrated Martinmas (S. Martin of Tours) for the first time with a simple sung mass. In Advent we celebrated the three 'Rorate' Masses of Our Lady on Saturday (the denomination 'Rorate' is drawn from the Latin Introit, 'Drop down, ye heavens', sung at these masses). These liturgies, celebrated by candlelight before dawn, were well attended, not only by our own parishioners, but by members of several other Toronto parishes. The masses were sung to a plainsong setting by our women's chant schola. The motets were thirteenth- and fourteenth-century English and French polyphony, some of which were edited by Katherine Hill. We also celebrated simple sung masses on the feasts of two 'Advent Saints', S. Nicholas and S. Lucy; music at the Offertory and Communion on S. Nicholas' Day was mediaeval French repertoire accompanied by harp and mediaeval fiddle; that on S. Lucy's Day was both mediaeval and traditional folk music; the ordinary of the mass was sung to Martin Shaw's English Folk Mass.

Our Music programme has continued to blossom under the leadership and direction of Katherine Hill. The dedication of our section leads and volunteer choristers has allowed the Choir's repertoire to become even more ambitious, with the addition of more polyphonic and Gregorian masses, as well as motets and anthems.

In February we were delighted to appoint Bishop David Smith as our Parish Organist. Father David's advent has been a godsend, not only because of his extensive knowledge of choral repertoire, his extraordinary facility as a liturgical organist, and his knowledge of the Church's liturgy; he is also a remarkably supportive colleague with tremendous pastoral gifts, in the broadest sense of that phrase. Over the past year he has also been working with organ builder, John Struve, to plan a major phased rebuild of the parish organ. In the summer John was able to procure (free of charge!) several ranks of high-quality pipes for the Great Organ to replace lower-quality pipes installed in the early '80s. John also located a newer and smaller Casavant console to replace our current one, which is now in very poor shape.

Of course, no year would be complete without certain challenges. Over the summer the St Bartholomew Children's Centre moved to new quarters down the street to allow for a geotechnical survey to be completed preparatory to replacing the main beam underneath the nave. After much work by the Centre's staff, and with a great deal of community support, the new location, in a City of Toronto building, was found and a lease negotiated. Remarkably, the Centre was able to move into its new space in time for the fall semester without having to cancel any of its summer programming!

In the spring a leak opened up in the roof of the nave. Roofers discovered that several rows of shingle from the south side slant roof had come away, as well as some of covering on the flat roof over the Lady Chapel. A donation from a parishioner allowed us to repair the offending sections; plans are underway to replace the remainder of the shingle on the south side in the spring. (Remarkably, the shingles on the north side of the building are still in good shape!) In July, during a routine inspection, our boiler (which we believe was installed in 1930) was 'red-tagged' as irreparable. A donation from another parishioner allowed us to replace the old boiler with a new, high-efficiency boiler just in time for winter. Wonderfully, the whole building is now being heated to an even temperature without the need of constantly adjusting the thermostat, as we had to do with the old boiler.

I think it is important to point out that any one of these last two problems with our building would almost certainly have meant closure of the parish during the first five or more years of my time at S. Bart's. A suffragan bishop during my early days in Toronto was wont to say that most parishes in the Diocese are one roof or one boiler away from closure. S. Bart's has weathered both problems in one year, without having to borrow or default on other payments — a truly remarkable achievement!

Perhaps as remarkable is the fact that S. Bart's offertory income has also grown in 2024. Our 2024 Vestry budget projected a total offertory income of 165,000 — a 10,000 increase over our 2023 budget — which we exceeded by just over 3,000 for a total of 168,054.

(Remember that the total offertory income in my first year, 2013, was just over 54,000.)
Moreover, we have also received generous donations towards our food ministries.
I wish to record my gratitude to the parishioners of S. Bart's and the Cathedral. I am most grateful to my bishops, Andrew and Kevin, for their unstinting support of our parish and of my ministry; it is a pleasure and a privilege to have received a share in their ministry. My colleagues, the Rev'd Canon David Brinton, OGS, the Rev'd Theo Ipema, and the Rev'd Canon Geoffrey Sangwine have been generous in taking Sunday and weekday masses, as well as providing pastoral care, during my holidays and when I've had to take the occasional sick day. Kevin Forrest, our Diocesan Administrator, has continued to offer sage advice and clear leadership. Miles Nagamatsu has been always on hand to offer clarity about our finances and helpful advice, as well as keeping the ledger, overseeing the audit, and, with Marlone (Sandy) Dawkins, tracking our income. Thanks are also due to members of the parish executive and advisory board. My administrative assistants, Kerry Dickson, Lisa Ciolfi, and Serena Li have kept our 'virtual office' running like a well-oiled machine. We were sorry to say so long for now to Lisa. We wish her every success in her new ventures and look forward to her future visits.

Your affectionate friend and Pastor,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W A Hannam +". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

The Rev'd Dr Walter Hannam
Vicar

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Envelope holders and pre-authorized debit (PAD) donors commit to donating to the operations of the church.

In 2024 we gave out a total of 50 envelopes (16 of which were also linked with PAD) from which 42 donors contributed \$144,950.

In 2024 our budget approved at Vestry for overall Parish donations was \$165,000. We show revenue as of December 31, 2024 at \$168,335.

Overall there was an increase of \$13,587 in donations over the 2023 fiscal year.

I would like to take this opportunity, to thank all the volunteers who helped count the church collection on a weekly basis in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlone Dawkins RECE

Envelope Secretary

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2024

\$

Assets		
Cash		159,176
HST receivable		19,570
Advances		2,900
		<hr/>
		181,646
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		27,081
Deferred designated funds		138,864
		<hr/>
		165,945
Net assets		<hr/>
		15,701
		<hr/>
		181,646

Statement of Operations

For years ended December 31

	Note	2023 Actual \$	2024 Budget \$	2024 Actual \$	2025 Budget \$
Operating fund					
Revenues					
General	1	233,918	211,300	221,292	205,800
Parish funds	2	25,057	17,500	16,575	37,000
Charitable funds	3	34,192	25,000	34,135	46,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		293,167	253,800	272,002	288,800
Expenses					
Stipends and ministry	4	110,583	116,300	116,937	125,500
Parish expenses	5	104,331	98,300	106,402	107,200
Rectory expenses	6	9,666	10,500	11,072	10,500
Parish fund expenditures	7	39,894	20,500	33,446	28,000
Charitable fund expenditures	8	40,957	31,600	37,925	42,200
Interest		2,536	-	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		307,967	277,200	305,781	313,400
Surplus (deficit)		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		(14,800)	(23,400)	(33,780)	(24,600)
Capital fund					
Revenues					
Church building fund		63,150	-	122,500	151,000
Rectory renovation fund		-	-	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		63,150	-	122,500	151,000
Expenses					
Church building fund	9	20,140	-	129,491	-
Rectory renovation Fund		-	-	-	4,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		20,140	-	129,491	4,000
Surplus (deficit)		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		43,011	-	(6,991)	147,000

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Notes

	Years ended December 31,			
	2023 Actual \$	2024 Budget \$	2024 Actual \$	2025 Budget \$
1. General revenue				
Parish offerings	154,748	165,000	168,335	185,000
Bequest	2,000	-	3,914	-
Use of space	32,702	15,000	15,093	-
York Rectory fund	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,800
MAF grant	30,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Faithworks	262	500	300	500
Charitable fund administration	3,540	3,500	2,578	3,500
Other	-	500	-	-
Interest	3,866	-	4,272	-
	<u>233,918</u>	<u>211,300</u>	<u>221,292</u>	<u>205,800</u>
2. Parish funds revenue				
Altar Guild	3,777	5,000	3,215	12,000
Olive Smith Memorial fund (note)	10,965	10,000	600	22,500
Susan Johnson	10,000	-	10,000	-
Rector's discretionary fund	250	2,500	2,760	2,500
Young Adult Fund	65	-	-	-
	<u>25,057</u>	<u>17,500</u>	<u>16,575</u>	<u>37,000</u>
Note: Annual 2024 Budget for the Olive Smith Memorial fund will be used for organist and choir				
3. Charitable funds revenue				
Food ministries	17,442	25,000	30,171	40,000
Other outreach	15,600	-	1,500	-
Children's ministries	30	-	-	1,000
Church organ fund	-	-	400	5,000
Choral scholarship	600	-	-	-
SBCC Sponsorship Program	500	-	-	-
Other	20	-	2,064	-
	<u>34,192</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>34,135</u>	<u>46,000</u>
4. Stipends and ministry				
Rector-full stipend	79,635	82,800	82,462	84,000
Organist and Choir	28,424	30,000	31,737	35,000
Sexton	2,525	2,500	2,500	2,500
Supply clergy	-	1,000	238	4,000
	<u>110,583</u>	<u>116,300</u>	<u>116,937</u>	<u>125,500</u>

Note: Annual Budget for organist and choir is net of \$10,000 which will be funded by donations to Olive Smith Fund in prior year

	Years ended December 31,			
	2023	2024	2024	2025
	Actual \$	Budget \$	Actual \$	Budget \$
5. Parish expenses				
Church utilities	15,636	15,000	12,766	15,000
Allotment	13,684	15,200	15,169	21,000
Repairs and maintenance	22,385	18,000	20,889	20,000
Parish administration	1,243	1,500	2,089	1,500
Promotion	14,072	12,500	12,341	12,500
Insurance	8,528	8,900	8,867	9,700
Parish supplies and services	16,749	15,000	14,537	15,000
Church telephone	1,212	2,000	1,572	2,000
Professional services	4,200	4,200	4,500	4,500
HST remainder	3,706	3,000	8,168	3,000
Other	223	500	1,993	500
Bank charges and interest	2,694	2,500	3,510	2,500
	104,331	98,300	106,402	107,200
6. Rectory expenses				
Rectory utilities	4,504	4,500	6,362	5,000
Rectory repairs and maintenance	986	2,000	1,195	2,000
Rectory telephone and internet	2,144	2,000	2,102	2,000
Property taxes	2,031	2,000	1,413	1,500
	9,666	10,500	11,072	10,500
7. Parish fund expenditures				
Altar Guild	8,116	7,000	8,243	12,000
Olive Smith Memorial Fund	17,156	10,000	9,955	12,500
Susan Johnson	14,000	-	-	-
Rector's discretionary fund	-	2,500	1,035	2,500
Faithworks	-	500	14,214	500
Young Adult Fund	622	500	-	500
Other	-	-	14,214	-
	39,894	20,500	33,446	28,000
8. Charitable fund expenditures				
Food ministries				
Breakfast program	18,127	15,000	15,331	15,000
Emergency food bank	20,812	15,000	20,224	20,000
Saturday Drop-in	418	-	304	-
Church organ fund	-	-	1,566	5,000
Choral scholarship	1,600	600	-	1,200
Children's Ministries	-	1,000	500	1,000
	40,957	31,600	37,925	42,200

9. Church building fund

No budget has been provided for the exploratory work and remediation work in the basement. The Church is awaiting a quote for exploratory work. The exploratory work will then determine the cost of remediation work required.

ORGANISATION REPORTS

ALTAR GUILD

“O God, accept and bless the work of my hand and all who minister to Thee in the care and adornment of Thy sanctuary, that Thy holy name may be glorified; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord.” Amen.

May we please take this opportunity to thank the many who prepare and clean after our services. Since last year we have welcomed several new members to our Altar Guild:

Christian Hegele, Sydney Hegele (who has taken over most of the flower arranging from Veronica and Thomas), and Calvin Quick. We continue to rely on those who have also been members of the Guild in the past: Drew Badgley, Deborah McGinnis, and Rose Nabert.

A special thank-you to Bob, Scott, Father, and the many acolytes who make sure the sanctuary is ready for our services.

Thank you to you all.

Please see Father should you want to lend a hand or have ideas, it would be much appreciated.

“ O Father light up the small duties of this day’s life; may they shine with the beauty of your countenance. May we believe that glory can dwell in the commonest task of every day.” (St. Rose Nabert

For the Altar Guild

CHOIR DIRECTOR

CHOIR MEMBERS 2024-25 SEASON:

SOPRANO: Margaret Cormier; Sofia Muniz; Katherine Belyea; Veronica Curran

ALTO: Rebecca Claborn, Katherine Hill

TENOR: Jared Tomlinson; Greg White; Thomas McCallum

BASS: Jesse Billett

The choir’s main task is to serve the liturgy with the most appropriate texts and the most excellent music possible, reflecting the dignity and tradition of our liturgy. The choir carried out its traditional schedule of singing for Sunday and Red Letter Day masses, including Christmas Eve, Epiphany, Candlemas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Ascension Day and Corpus Christi, as well as Michaelmas, All Saints and All Souls.

The choir rehearses from 7-9pm on Thursday evenings during the choir season (September-June), and comprises hard-working volunteers and professionals.

We now have professional leads in our soprano, alto, tenor and bass sections (Margaret Cormier, Rebecca Claborn, Jared Tomlinson and Jesse Billett, respectively), which has provided a balance and stability to our choral programme. Other guest singers joined us on particular Feast Days this year:

Clara MacCallum-Fraser; Clara Krausse, Bernadette Domingo, Nicholas Nicholaidis; Sharang Sharma; Jean-Paul Feo; Jonathan Stuchbery; Robert Busiakiewicz, Jacob Wiens; Bryan Martin and Jamie Tuttle.

Some highlights of our season include the following:

- men's Gregorian chant for the Feast of S. Andrew, directed by Jesse Billett
- medieval music and instruments (Katherine Hill, fiddle and Paul Jenkins, harp) for S. Nicholas' Day
- medieval polyphony sung by women's voices on S. Lucy's Day
- Rorate Masses of Our Lady at daybreak on the three Saturdays in Advent, with chant and medieval polyphony sung by women's voices; a continuation and expansion of the tradition started in 2023!
- Christmas Eve, featuring our Gallery Band (Fr Hannam, Sofia Muniz, Jesse Billett & Katherine Hill) for carols before mass, and then sumptuous French Baroque music at mass, featuring Charpentier's Messe de Minuit pour Noël
- Gabriel Fauré's famous Messe Basse (for women's chorus) on Laetare Sunday and at the May Festival of our Lady, under the expert direction of our organist
- Wednesday Tenebrae (in its full form) during Holy Week, with choral responses by White, Lassus, Zelenka, Bruckner, Victoria and Gesualdo, directed by Robert Busiakiewicz

- the performance of the medieval liturgical Easter Play 'Visitatio Sepulchri' at the beginning of mass on Easter Day
- the singing of Clemens non Papa's sublime Missa Defunctorum on All Souls Day and Remembrance Sunday

Some choir statistics for the season:

Liturgies sung: 54

Mass settings sung: 15

Hymns: 140

Motets: 48

Hours of rehearsal: 140

ORGANIST

We have been blessed to have Fr David Smith as our parish organist since autumn, 2022. Fr Smith is a superb liturgical player, and we are grateful to benefit from his friendship as well as his considerable expertise, experience and wisdom week by week!

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

I want to thank all the members of the choir for their wonderful singing, and for their steadfast commitment to the music and liturgy of our parish.

I extend my thanks to donors to the music programme, the Parish Executive and the congregation for their support and encouragement, and I offer here my particular thanks to Fr Hannam for his wisdom, unfailing

good humour and his patient support and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Hill

ORGANIST

The Pipe Organ has been the musical instrument of choice in the church, second only to the human voice, for the greater part of the history of the western church. The expressive, noble and stirring tones of the instrument are especially valued in the Anglican liturgical tradition accompanying prayer and praise and providing incidental music to cover liturgical action.

The present organ at S. Bartholomew's Church has a somewhat checkered history. It is customary for an organ to be built for a specific space and liturgical use. However, our present organ is in essence a jumble of second-hand pipes and mechanical parts thrown together in a haphazard way without much thought to creating an integrated musical and artistic whole. Given this, it has served the parish well. However, it is in a state of rapid decay — the mechanics are very unreliable, there are many dead notes and missing pipes, and maintenance and tuning at present are an increasing challenge and expense.

Last summer, the parish was fortunate to receive the gift of a significant amount of first-class

pipework from a Toronto church, Forest Gove United Church, that has closed. As well, we have acquired a new console (the control centre of the organ), a new chest for the part of the organ visible in the gallery and other mechanical parts. God has indeed been generous to us and just in the nick of time! At present we have installed as an experiment five new sets of pipes. The sounds are bright, clear and full of life when compared to the tubby and sluggish sounds of the old pipework. I would be delighted to demonstrate them to any who would ascend into the gallery.

In consultation with John Struve, our organ builder, we have created a plan for the revivification of our instrument so that it can be a worthy partner in the musical offerings, choral and congregational, that are a distinctive and celebrated part of the S. Bart's ethos, thus making a perfect complement to our liturgical life. I am confident that when complete, this instrument will serve for at least a good 30 to 40 years without significant problems. It will be an instrument of which the parish can be justly proud.

We cannot complete this project without the help and support of the congregation and outside donors. Please consider supporting this most important endeavour, and do not hesitate to speak to me, Katherine or Fr Hannam for more information.

+David Smith, Parish Organist

SIDESPERSIONS

2024 was another excellent year for the S. Bart's Sidespersons' Guild. Guild members Jae Anne Bach Hardie, Jean Giroux, Emmanuel Amibor, and Greg Robinson were all very generous with their time and adaptable whenever scheduling complications arose.

We note with gratitude that Dr Jonathan Lofft has joined the Guild in the past year.

As we proceed into 2025, the guild is looking for

new members. If anyone at S. Barts—new to the parish or a mainstay—is looking for a way to volunteer their time and energy, we would welcome some new faces. I am always available before or after Mass to discuss joining the guild, so please do come for a chat if it interests you. As all guild members can attest, it is a great way to meet fellow parishioners you may not know otherwise, and it's a great way to build a bond with fellow Guild members.

Respectfully submitted,

Mackenzie Gilmore