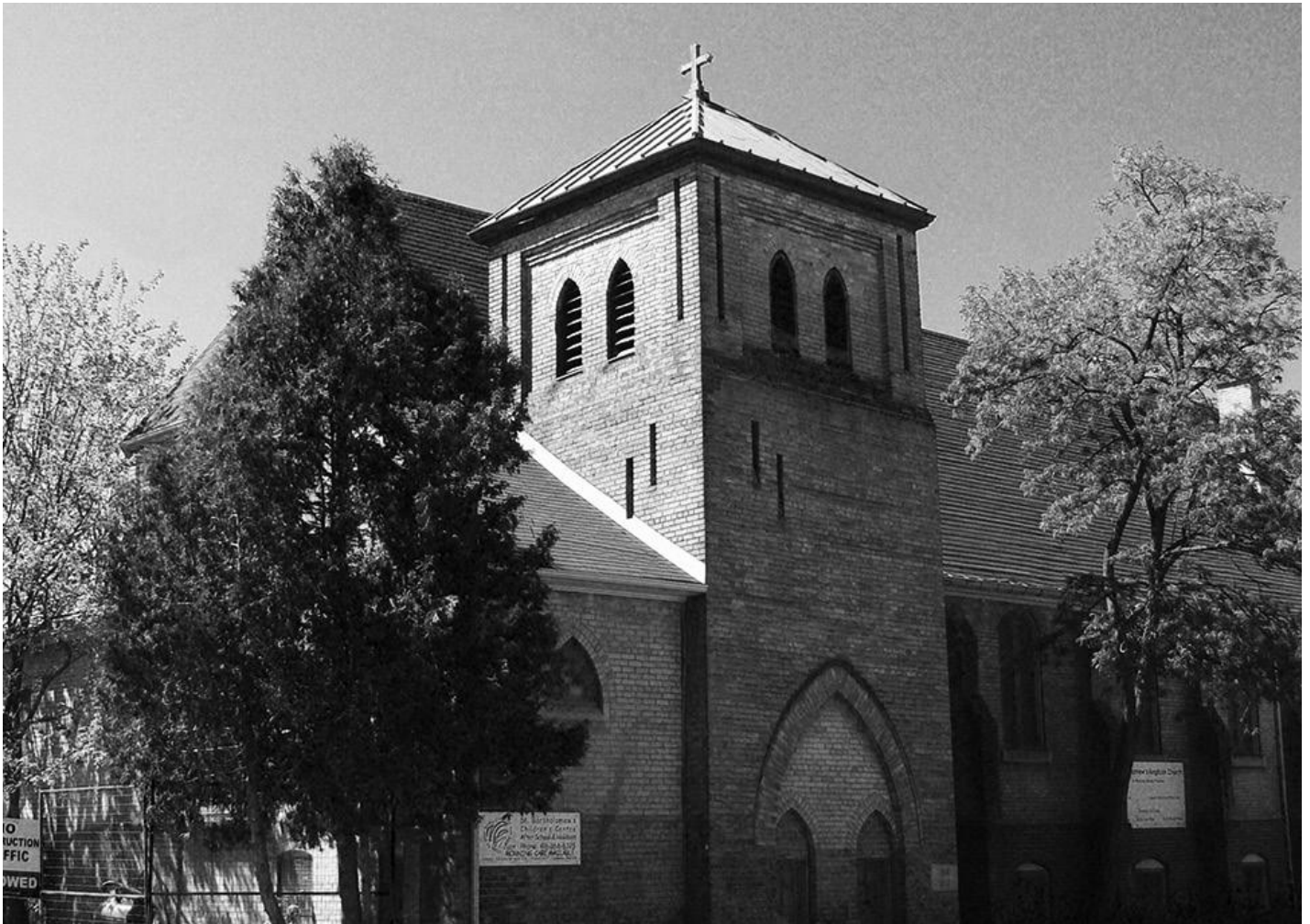


S. BARTHOLOMEW'S, REGENT PARK REPORT TO VESTRY, 8 MARCH 2026



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 6

3. Envelope Secretary’s Report 10

4. Budget 2024 11

5. Organisation Reports

 Altar Guild 14

 Choir Director 14

 Organist 15

 Sidespersons 16

 Synod Delegate 16

THE BISHOPS' PASTORAL LETTER TO VESTRIES, 2025



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

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

*“So they cast the net, and now they were not able to haul it in because of the quantity of fish.” –
John 21:6*

God’s goodness to the Diocese of Toronto amazes us every day. As your bishops, it is our joy and privilege to bear witness to the rich blessings, the varied gifts, the talents and skills, the sacrificial generosity, and the deep faithfulness of the Body of Christ in this Diocese. Every parish and community, and the many devoted Anglicans who make them up, inspire us. It has been a natural response for us to “Lift Up Our Hearts” in a spirit of gratitude and encouragement in 2025.

The very first Call of our [Cast the Net visioning process](#) was a Season of Spiritual Renewal. We heard over and over again that our Diocese is hungry to know and love God more deeply. During the season, more than 40 workshops were offered, geared to priests, deacons, lay leaders and people desiring to deepen their spiritual lives, hone leadership skills and discern God’s call. We held five “Lift Up Our Hearts” worship services: at St. James Cathedral; All Saints, Whitby; Trinity, Streetsville; St. James, Orillia; and St. Paul, Bloor Street. Large crowds gathered to worship, sing and pray for the renewal of the Church. Each one was a moment of grace and joy. The Season of Spiritual Renewal officially draws to a close with the end of the season of Epiphany 2026. Now a small group gathers to discern how we continue to grow disciples, enhance ministry and form servants of the Gospel, building on the foundation of what has been offered. Stay tuned!

The Netminders is a group of clergy, lay leaders and staff who continue to help parishes engage with the Cast the Net Calls and to bring them to life in each community. Every parish was invited to choose three or four Calls from the 20 – those that reflect the ministry that they are a part of now or hope to be in the future – and to bring them to Synod for discussion and mutual encouragement. With each part of the Body engaging our common Calls in different ways, we move as one.

At the annual clergy conference last May at Trent University, our speaker, the Very Rev. David Monteith, Dean of Canterbury, offered reflections based on Jesus the Good Shepherd, an image that resonated with our clergy, particularly in this time of disruption and uncertainty. Our clergy work so hard at hauling in the nets, and we say to them now, to all our priests and deacons: we see you, and we are grateful to God for the ministry that you do. The annual clergy conference is always a wonderful opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones, and this year was no exception. It was also our joy to host smaller clergy retreat days in the spring and fall. These were opportunities for clergy to gather in deanery groups for Bible study, to hear from their bishop and archdeacons, to deepen fellowship with one another and to share a meal. We want to respond to Call 12 to “continue and enhance support for all ordained people” as they engage in vital ministry.

Regarding shared ministry, our partnership with the Diocese of Brasilia continues to flourish, now entering our third year of seven. Our motto, “Partners in Christ, united in mission” (*Parceiros em Cristo, unidos na missão*) is grounded in Calls 4 and 13 regarding our participation in God’s healing work and ministries of service in the world. Dr. Paulo Ueti from Brasilia and the Rev. Canon Dr. Christopher Brittain from Toronto offered an online bilingual study day on liberation theology for clergy and lay leaders of both dioceses last March. The Rev. Dr. Rodrigo Espiueca from Brasilia invited us to seek signs of resurrection in his keynote address at the Outreach Conference in October. Bishop Mauricio Andrade participated in our bishops’ Advent series in December. Looking ahead, we will welcome Dr. Paulo Ueti as our guest speaker at this year’s clergy conference, and we can’t wait to receive a delegation of Brazilian youth for the ReCharge Youth Retreat. We also hope a small group of Toronto Anglicans can visit Brasilia this year.

We are pleased to be moving ahead with our work on equity, decolonization, diversity and inclusion with the hiring of our new EDDI Advisor, Dilesha Stelmach. Dilesha brings a strong experiential and educational background in this ministry, centered around Ephesians 4: 4-6: “there is one body, one Spirit, one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father, Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” With support from our HR department and the Bishop’s Committee on Intercultural Ministries, Dilesha is mindfully engaging, both practically and theologically, with our people – volunteers, staff, clergy – and with our infrastructure – policies, practices and the constitution and canons of the Diocese. She will be helping us to see the familiar in unfamiliar ways as we build up the ministry of every single beloved child of God in our Diocese.

To all our faithful people in so many vital ministries in our Church: thank you. To our hard-working churchwardens and treasurers, children and youth ministry workers, parish musicians, office administrators and envelope secretaries, altar guilds and custodians, ACW and outreach volunteers, and countless committee members: thank you. To our diocesan volunteers, members of Synod Council and participants on bishop's committees: thank you. To the staff team at the Synod Office: thank you. Together we all make up the strong net of the Diocese of Toronto, and together, by following the ways of Jesus, we receive "more than we can ask or imagine" – so many blessings collected in our net that we are barely able to haul it in.

When the nightly news seems especially dire, when anxiety is pervasive and the future seems uncertain, God's reign can feel far away. Yet our commitment to our baptismal covenant, our tenacious acts of faith, persistent resistance to the powers of evil, small but powerful acts of kindness towards our neighbours, and a deep, unshakable, unwavering belief that "the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it" (Psalm 24) will carry us through troubled times.

Please pray for us, as we pray daily for you.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,



The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil

Bishop of Toronto



The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw

Suffragan Bishop of Toronto



The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson

Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

THE VICAR'S REPORT



As I write this report I reflect that I am now in my thirteenth year as Vicar of S. Bartholomew's. To give some context to this number, only four priests have served the Parish longer. S. Bart's first rector, the Rev'd George Irwin Taylor, served the parish for thirty-six years, from 1878 to 1914, in the days before superannuation schemes and pension plans; Father Pashler, S. Bart's first 'advanced' Anglo-Catholic rector, comes in a close second with a thirty-four year incumbency, from 1925 to 1959 (if we count his curacy, which began in 1924, he served the Parish for thirty-five years!). Father Bellway served seventeen years (1959-1977) and Father Greene for sixteen years (1977-1993). It seems hardly

possible that I have been here for so long. Yet I can truly say that work in the Parish is as rich and exciting to me now as it was when I processed in to my first Parish Mass in August of 2013. S. Bart's is a remarkable place; its people, as a group, are a remarkable blend of welcoming, capable, devout, and generous. In the past thirteen years we have grown from a small mission of the Diocesan Cathedral to a parish that is not only financially self-sustaining, but continuing to attract new people of all sorts and conditions, with an ever-expanding round of liturgies, education events, devotional societies, and music programme. Our food ministries continue to feed countless people not only from our neighbourhood but from across the City, while the St Bartholomew's Children's Centre continues a decades-long tradition of caring for the children and families of our parish in its new location next door. It is difficult for me to imagine being as happy, let alone happier, in any other parish. Thank you to all of you for allowing God to draw you to this parish church. The Holy Spirit's presence in each and every one of you is a great gift to me and to our small corner of the Lord's Vineyard.

2025 began with two remarkable liturgical events: our Epiphany Mass and the second annual Solemn Evensong (and Roast Beef Dinner!) for the Feast of the Royal Martyr. These events were followed closely by Candlemas and Ash Wednesday. Lent was more than usually full with four new Lent programmes. On Friday evenings following the Stations of the Cross a small group of us read sections of E.L. Mascall's *Christ, the Christian, and the Church*, a remarkable treatment of the Church's doctrine of the Person of Christ as understood by St Thomas Aquinas. On Saturday mornings before the 11 o'clock Mass we kept an hour of guided contemplative prayer consisting of an abbreviated Office of Mattins followed by a guided Lectio Divina and twenty minutes of silence. After Mass a plant-based lunch was prepared and served by one of our young adults, Quinn Kiervan Starkey, after which the adult catechesis group met for an hour to discuss the Creeds and the Baptismal Covenant. Finally, immediately after catechesis, our Christian philosophy reading group met to read together that remarkable work of philosophical theology, Aristotle's *Metaphysics*. All of these groups were well

attended with approximately twenty participants overall, with several who attended more than one group.

On Low Sunday began my first ever sabbatical leave. The first month was mostly 'stay-cation' in the Vicarage, with a quick trip to Nova Scotia to preach at my godmother's funeral. Later in the month I was back in Toronto for the annual Robert Crouse Seminar with my longtime friend, the Rev'd Professor Sarah Coakley. During the Seminar I was approached by the Chair of the Corpus Christi Foundation, the organisation that has funded the Seminars, to ask if I would consider sitting on the Foundation's board of directors. I was very pleased to accept the invitation and have been enjoying getting to know both the Foundation's operations and the challenges that it faces. Plans are currently being made for a Crouse Seminar in 2027 to focus on the writings and career of Father Crouse himself (in past years seminars have focussed on figures from the early Church that Father Crouse had either written about or taught).

In June Sarah and I drove to the Maritimes in two cars with three cats! Sarah stopped in Fredericton to stay with her father whilst he recovered from hip surgery and I continued on to our home in Granville Centre. Over the next few weeks I spent most of my time reading in preparation for preaching at the Atlantic Theological Conference in Sackville, New Brunswick. Sarah arrived just in time to look after the cats while I was away. After the conference I returned to Granville. I divided my time between reading on our deck and in my favourite coffee shop, walking around Annapolis Royal, running, and visiting friends. Sarah and I also enjoyed some of our favourite pastimes — driving the back roads of Annapolis and Lunenburg Counties looking at scenery and farm life, visiting art galleries, and, of course, cooking and eating with local produce.

I also spent quite a bit of time in Halifax. In June and July I attended a seminar on Aristotle's *Metaphysics* at Dalhousie University, taught by one of my younger contemporaries from student days at King's-Dalhousie, Professor Eli Diamand. It was a remarkable seminar, made up mostly of faculty members; Drew Badgley was actually the only actual student registered for the class! I also celebrated and preached at S. George's Halifax. S. George's, of course, was my parish when I lived in Halifax, and was the Church in which Sarah and I were married. I had preached there several times before, but I had never celebrated mass there, so it was really lovely to do so.

In early August Sarah returned to Toronto for work and I remained until the end of the month. I returned to the Parish just in time to sing our Patronal Festival Mass. I returned with an unexpected but delightful addition to the Vicarage household, an eight-week old kitten who appeared in our yard in Granville and made it quite plain that we were his new family. After some initial shock we were very happy to comply. The other vicarage cats have received him more or less graciously and we have now all settled into a new normality.

I arrived back to discover that, in my absence, a remarkable opportunity had arisen — namely, the opportunity to rebuild the parish organ. Our remarkable organ builder, John Struve, had located some high quality pipe work to replace the lower quality stops in our Great Organ, as well as a new wind chest that would be a vast improvement on what was there. A donor had generously stepped forward and offered to fund the entire project. Through the fall John worked with our general contractor, Jamie Harkin, and engineer, Chris Cucco, to plan how best to install the new framing to support the Great. With the use of steel we will be able to eliminate the upright that held up the old organ, which will open more space for singers in the choir loft (we had been at capacity on several occasions in the past few years!). Our donor was also willing to pay for several upgrades to the Loft as well — replastering of the west wall behind the organ and reflooring in hardwood, both of which should greatly enhance the acoustics of the building and improve the overall sound of both choir and organ.

Throughout the fall and early winter we had a wonderful round of sung liturgies — Martinmas, S. Nicholas Day, S. Lucy's Day, and the final 'Rorate' Masses of Our Lady on the final Saturday in Advent. These liturgies, and especially those of Advent, were well attended, not only by our own parishioners, but by members of several other Toronto parishes. As ever, the choice of music and its execution were exquisite.

Over the course of the summer and fall we have had a remarkable number of newcomers to the parish. Between my first Sunday back and Christmas hardly a Sunday went by on which we didn't have at least one newcomer, and very often as many as five or seven. Some of these were, of course, visitors from other parts of the world, many of whom (remarkably) had heard of S. Bart's from friends or from searches online. Many others, however, were local, and many have remained and joined the congregation. Since the fall I have been teaching adult catechesis on Sunday mornings. Several recent newcomers have joined the group with others who have expressed interest in joining after Easter when we will begin treating the topic of Christian Prayer. We have at least one catechumen who wishes to receive Baptism at this year's Easter Vigil and others who are discerning either Baptism or Confirmation at the Bishop's next visit. We have a remarkable group of learners, and I've not only enjoyed teaching them but also getting to know them.

2025 has been yet another remarkable year in terms of financial growth. At our 2025 Vestry we projected an offertory income of \$185,000 — a \$20,000 increase over our 2024 budget. At the end of the year we had exceeded our budget by just over \$15,000 for a total of \$200,815. When we remember that the total offertory income in my first year (2013) was just over \$54,000 we can see just how much growth there has been. As of early 2026 we have received the final \$10,000 tranche of our five-year tapering Diocesan MAF Grant. Over the past five years our growth has either matched or exceeded the amount of the taper. It is a remarkable achievement for which we can justly be grateful to God

and to one another. More growth, of course, is needed; lost rental income during the geotechnical survey of the basement and rising costs present new challenges. When we consider how far we've come in a relatively short time in our parish's history there is every reason to think that God will be as generous to us in the future as he has been in the past.

I wish to record my gratitude to each and every one of you. 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 the ministry they have from the Apostles. My colleagues, the Rev'd Canon David Brinton, OGS, 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. Special thanks is due, of course, to Father Brinton for covering my sabbatical leave at no small sacrifice. 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. Finally, thanks are due to my administrative assistants, Kerry Dickson and Serena Li, who have kept our 'virtual office' running like a well-oiled machine.

With every good wish and assurance of my prayers, I remain,
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 typed name.

The Rev'd Dr Walter Hannam
Vicar

ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Envelope holders and Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) donors commit to supporting the operations of the church through their regular financial contributions.

In 2025, a total of **43 envelopes** were issued, **14 of which were also linked to PAD**. From these, **37 donors contributed a total of \$165,884**.

For 2025, the budget approved at Vestry for overall parish donations was **\$185,000**. As of **December 31, 2025**, total recorded revenue from donations was **\$200,815**.

Overall, this represents an **increase of \$15,815 in donations compared to the 2024 fiscal year**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who faithfully assisted in counting the church collection on a weekly basis throughout 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Marlone Dawkins RECE
Envelope Secretary

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2025

	\$
Assets	
Cash	272,913
Receivables	11,485
HST receivable	9,515
Advances	2,900
Prepaid expenses	10,351
	307,164
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	15,243
Deferred designated funds	252,125
	267,368
Net assets	39,796
	307,164

Statement of Operations

	Note	Years ended December 31			Annual 2026 Budget \$
		2024 Actual \$	2025 Budget \$	2025 Actual \$	
Operating fund					
Revenues					
General	1	221,292	205,800	231,793	214,550
Parish funds	2	6,575	37,000	32,934	22,500
Charitable funds	3	33,735	41,000	32,039	41,200
		261,602	283,800	296,766	278,250
Expenses					
Stipends and ministry	4	116,937	125,500	125,291	126,500
Parish expenses	5	106,402	107,200	103,414	107,400
Rectory expenses	6	11,072	10,500	9,768	10,500
Parish fund expenditures	7	33,446	28,000	14,835	27,750
Charitable fund expenditures	8	36,055	37,200	37,528	36,700
		303,912	308,400	290,836	308,850
Surplus (deficit)		(42,310)	(24,600)	5,930	(30,600)
Capital funds					
Revenues					
Church building fund		122,500	151,000	107,935	102,000
Rectory renovation fund		-	-	-	-
Church organ fund		400	5,000	50,680	50,000
Susan Johnson		10,000	-	-	-
		132,900	156,000	158,615	152,000
Expenses					
Church building fund	9	129,491	-	27,693	-
Rectory renovation Fund		-	4,000	-	4,000
Church organ fund		1,566	5,000	1,940	100,000
Susan Johnson		-	-	-	-
		131,057	9,000	29,633	104,000
Surplus (deficit)		1,843	147,000	128,983	48,000

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Notes

	Years ended December 31			Annual
	2024	2025	2025	2026
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1. General revenue				
Parish offerings	168,335	185,000	200,815	205,000
Bequest	3,914	-	10,000	-
Use of space	15,093	-	-	-
York Rectory fund	6,800	6,800	6,800	6,800
MAF grant	20,000	10,000	10,000	-
Faithworks	300	500	45	250
Charitable fund administration	2,578	3,500	-	-
Interest	4,272	-	4,133	2,500
	<u>221,292</u>	<u>205,800</u>	<u>231,793</u>	<u>214,550</u>
2. Parish funds revenue				
Altar Guild	3,215	12,000	17,850	10,000
Olive Smith Memorial fund (note)	600	22,500	13,625	10,000
Rector's discretionary fund	2,760	2,500	1,459	2,500
	<u>6,575</u>	<u>37,000</u>	<u>32,934</u>	<u>22,500</u>
Note: Annual 2024 Budget for the Olive Smith Memorial fund will be used for organist and choir				
3. Charitable funds revenue				
Food ministries	30,171	40,000	30,665	40,000
Other outreach	1,500	-	500	-
Children's ministries	-	1,000	-	-
Choral scholarship	-	-	600	1,200
Other	2,064	-	274	-
	<u>33,735</u>	<u>41,000</u>	<u>32,039</u>	<u>41,200</u>
4. Stipends and ministry				
Rector-full stipend	82,462	84,000	84,564	87,500
Organist and Choir	31,737	35,000	32,948	35,000
Sexton	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Supply clergy	238	4,000	5,279	1,500
	<u>116,937</u>	<u>125,500</u>	<u>125,291</u>	<u>126,500</u>

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

	Years ended December 31			Annual 2026 Budget \$
	2024 Actual \$	2025 Budget \$	2025 Actual \$	
5. Parish expenses				
Church utilities	12,766	15,000	12,269	13,000
Allotment	15,169	21,000	18,855	20,500
Repairs and maintenance	20,889	20,000	16,021	20,000
Parish administration	2,089	1,500	2,034	2,000
Promotion	12,341	12,500	13,706	12,500
Insurance	8,867	9,700	9,689	10,400
Parish supplies and services	14,537	15,000	14,801	15,000
Church telephone	1,572	2,000	1,937	2,000
Professional services	4,500	4,500	6,010	4,500
HST remainder	8,168	3,000	3,957	4,000
Other	1,993	500	1,229	500
Bank charges and interest	3,510	2,500	2,901	3,000
	106,402	107,200	103,408	107,400
6. Rectory expenses				
Rectory utilities	6,362	5,000	4,780	5,000
Rectory repairs and maintenance	1,195	2,000	1,207	1,500
Rectory telephone and internet	2,102	2,000	2,260	2,500
Property taxes	1,413	1,500	1,521	1,500
	11,072	10,500	9,768	10,500
7. Parish fund expenditures				
Altar Guild	8,243	12,000	3,265	15,000
Olive Smith Memorial Fund	9,955	12,500	11,270	10,000
Rector's discretionary fund	1,035	2,500	300	2,500
Faithworks	-	500	-	250
Young Adult Fund	-	500	-	-
Other	14,214	-	-	-
	33,446	28,000	14,835	27,750
8. Charitable fund expenditures				
Food ministries				
Breakfast program	15,331	15,000	18,306	15,000
Emergency food bank	20,224	20,000	18,560	20,000
Choral scholarship	-	1,200	600	1,200
Children's Ministries	500	1,000	62	500
	36,055	37,200	37,528	36,700

9. Church building fund

As the Church is awaiting a plan and quote, no budget has been provided for the remedial work in the basement.

ORGANISATION REPORTS

CHOIR DIRECTOR

CHOIR MEMBERS in the 2024-2025 season

SOPRANO: Margaret Cormier; Sofia Moniz;

Bernadette Domingo, Audrey Franssen-Keenen

ALTO: Rebecca Claborn, Katherine Hill

TENOR: Jared Tomlinson; Greg White

BASS: Jesse Billett

CHORAL MUSIC PROGRAMME:

The choir's main purpose is to serve the liturgy with the most appropriate texts and the most excellent music possible, reflecting the customs and dignity of the Anglo-Catholic tradition.

This year the choir carried out its customary 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 also for an hour before any Sunday or Red Letter Day liturgy.

In addition to our talented and dedicated volunteer singers, we continue to have professional leads in our soprano, alto, tenor and bass sections (Margaret Cormier (Clara Krausse as of September, 2025), Rebecca Claborn, Jared Tomlinson and Jesse Billett, respectively). This

helps to provide balance and stability to our choral programme.

We have been very pleased to welcome Audrey Franssen Keenen as our 2025-2026 Choral Scholar.

The following guest singers joined us on particular Feast Days this year: Clara MacCallum-Fraser; Clara Krausse, Jean-Paul Feo; Jonathan Stuchbery, Joshua McFaul and Jacob Wiens.

Some highlights of our season include the following:

- medieval music and instruments for several Red Letter days (S. Nicholas, S. Lucy, Rorate, May Festival) rarely-heard early-16th-century polyphony by Moulu, Brumel and Compère at the Feast of the Annunciation and All Saints our Christmas Eve Gallery Band (Fr Hannam, Sofia Moniz, Jesse Billett, Katherine Hill amp; seminarian Brian Harris) for carols before mass, and German Renaissance and Baroque choral music for Midnight Mass.
- Gabriel Fauré's famous Messe Basse for women's chorus on Laetare Sunday Wednesday Tenebrae (in its full form) during Holy Week, with the Allegri Miserere and choral responses by White, Byrd, Tallis and Gesualdo, directed by Robert Busiakiewicz

- the performance of the medieval liturgical Easter play ‘Visitatio Sepulchri’ at the beginning of mass on Easter Day
- a men’s Gregorian chant schola for the Feast of S. Luke, directed by Jesse Billett

Some choir statistics for the season:

Liturgies sung: 57

Mass settings sung: 22

Hymns: 140

Motets: 76

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!

More recently, during the renovation of the choir loft and the replacement of the organ console, Fr David has been continuing to play voluntaries, improvisations, choral accompaniments and congregational music brilliantly, even on a piano that is quite past its prime.

ORGAN

NB David’s report can go here if appropriate, but maybe this year we want a separate report because of the project?

David Smith, Parish Organist.

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

I want to thank the members of the choir 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 St. Bartholomew’s Organ Project 2025-2026

The pipe organ is intimately associated with the worship life of the Christian church, especially with the great Anglican tradition of liturgical music. An organ, one of the most complex of musical instruments, requires a significant process of restoration and updating every half century to maintain optimal musical and mechanical health. Our parish organ has for some time been showing imminent signs of collapse, especially in the failure of its mechanical and electronic components. During the past year this rate of failure has increased at an alarming rate that suggests imminent failure.

The present instrument is a somewhat haphazard mixture of second-hand pipework and

mechanism that despite its age, ruinous condition and indifferent quality has served the parish well. However, the time for renewal has come. We have been very fortunate to receive as gift a significant amount of quality pipe work and other mechanical components from redundant local churches through the kindness of our organ builder John Struve. As well, we have purchased a relatively new console and some mechanical components from an organ firm. The organ project has been funded by a most generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

We are ready to begin this project as soon as the necessary structural work on the gallery has been completed. The organ will be designed tonally within the great English tradition of organ building that perfectly complements the Anglican liturgy.

I am confident that when complete our organ will serve this parish with distinction for many years to come. Its renewed voice will be the perfect handmaid for our exemplary tradition of liturgical excellence and congregational participation.

+ Father David.

SIDESPERSIONS

2025 was another excellent year for the S. Bart's Sidespersons' Guild. Guild members Jae Anne Bach Hardie, Jean Giroux, Emmanuel Amibor,

and Greg Robinson, and Jonathan Lofft were all very generous with their time and adaptable whenever scheduling complications arose.

As we proceed into 2026, 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

SYNOD DELEGATE

The 164th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto was held on Nov. 7-8, 2025, at the Sheraton Parkway, Toronto North hotel in Richmond Hill.

In addition to passing financial reports and electing officers to various committees and councils, this year's synod focused heavily on the priorities and plans for 2026 and 2027. These plans emerged from the Cast the Net visioning process and have led to the four axes of the diocese's ministry: Renewing Spirituality,

Inspiring Faith in Action, Reimagining Ministry, and Transforming Diocesan Culture.

In keeping with these themes, Fr. Hannam and I had the opportunity to participate in a large breakout group to brainstorm with others about what is and isn't working in terms of parish growth. (In fact, Fr.'s description of what is working at S. Barts was so persuasive, he

inspired someone to start regularly attending Mass with us!)

It was a pleasure having the opportunity to represent S. Barts at Synod for the first time, and I'd be happy to volunteer myself again.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mackenzie Gilmore